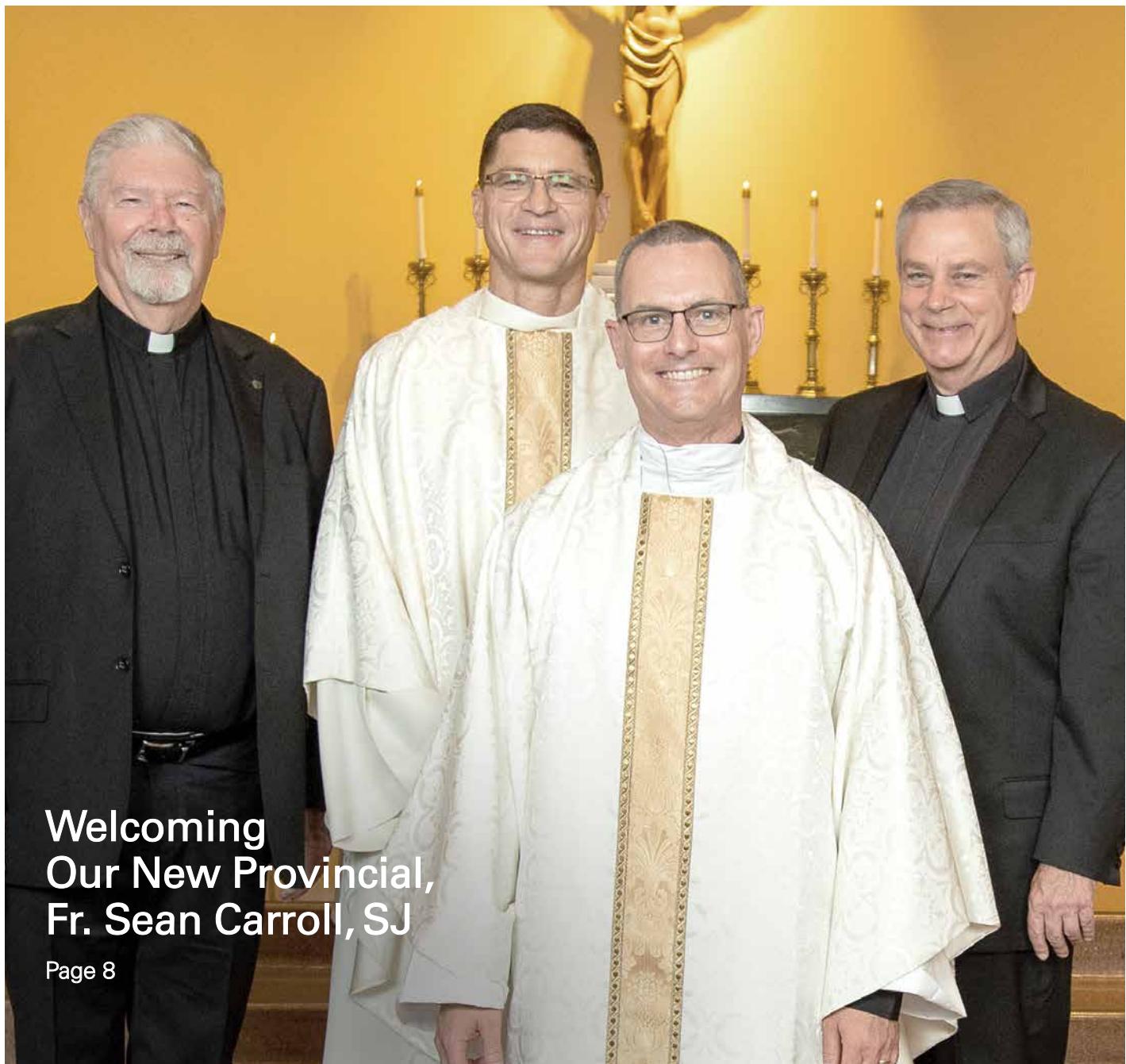




Fall/Winter 2021

JESUITS WEST



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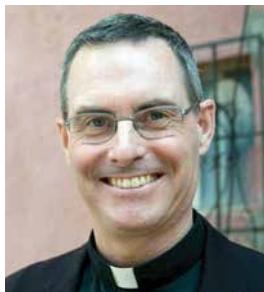
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Provincial's Letter



Dear Friends,

This is the first time I am writing to you in my new role as provincial of Jesuits West. It seems like only yesterday that my predecessor, Scott Santarosa, called me to say that our Superior General, Fr. Arturo Sosa, SJ, was appointing me to succeed him. Scott told me that he had prayed before picking up the phone because he wanted to find the right words to accompany this news. He told me that I would not be alone. He said there would be good people who would surround me, and I have found the truth in his words. These initial months have been an extraordinary experience of grace.

I am grateful to Scott, who led our province with such love and commitment, first as the provincial of the former Oregon Province and then as the provincial of Jesuits West. Always generous, discerning, loving and fun, Scott gave of himself completely, including many months showing me the ropes.

My first day on the job was July 31, the feast of St. Ignatius. We had a small liturgy at St. Ignatius Church in Portland, next door to my new home and the province office. Nearly everyone in my immediate family (I am one of five) was able to be there that day. Looking out at a sea of Carrolls, sitting alongside my brother Jesuits, province staff and friends, I was flooded with emotion and thankful to God for bringing us all together.

Just a few weeks later, I hit the road. Most provincials spend a fair amount of time traveling to Jesuit communities, and my first visit was to Sacred Heart Jesuit Center (SHJC), our retirement/health care facility in Los Gatos, California. You may remember hearing that SHJC was devastated over the holidays when we lost eight wonderful Jesuits to Covid complications, and many others were hospitalized. I did not know what to expect when I arrived at this community, but I should not have worried.

I found joy in Los Gatos—in the liturgies I celebrated there, in the shared meals, in the many one-on-one conversations and, most of all, in the infirmary. Perhaps the most moving part of my week was bringing communion to my brother Jesuits who were bedridden. It was incredibly powerful to look upon these men and see God shining through them—to know that while I was bringing them the Eucharist, they were bringing Jesus to me.

The last 18 months have been a time of unprecedented challenges, yet when we see God in the suffering, in our tireless and devoted health care workers, in the poor who are struggling to survive, we know that we are not alone. None of us are if we look for and recognize the face of God.

As I begin my service as provincial, I am filled with hope in all of you and in God who continues to be faithful to us. I am reminded of the text from the Prophet Isaiah, in which God says, “I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert” (Isaiah 43:19). I look forward to discovering with you that “new thing” God wants to do in us and that path that God is inviting us to walk together.

Thank you for the prayers and support. I am humbled by your kindness and encouragement, which strengthen and console me as I begin this new role.

Gratefully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sean Carroll, SJ".

Sean Carroll, SJ
Provincial, Jesuits West

JESUITS WEST

Fall/Winter 2021

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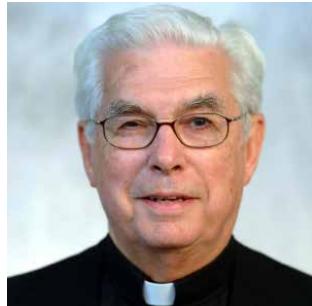
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CELEBRATING OUR JUBILARIANS

Our 2021 Jesuits West jubilarians have served in a variety of ministries at apostolates across the western United States. We asked some of this year's jubilarians to reflect on their milestone moment.



Fr. Charles Phipps, SJ
75 Years in the Society

The brief prayer that captures the spirit of my Jesuit life is *Deo Gratias!* Thank you, God!

Thank you, God, for my loving parents, who first taught me how to pray. Thank you for the good Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary who began my formal religious education at St. Anselm's and St. Cecilia's. And special thanks to the many Jesuit scholastics at St. Ignatius High School who attracted, inspired and encouraged me to enter the Society of Jesus—here at Los Gatos 75 years ago when Sacred Heart Jesuit Center was the Sacred Heart Novitiate.

Thank you, God, for my Jesuit teachers, mentors, models and brothers during formation. Thank you for my brilliant professors at Chapel Hill. Thank you, God, for my 48 years teaching at Santa Clara University, and for my students and lay colleagues. And thank you most especially for my 54 years of living with the Santa Clara Jesuit Community.

On May 1, 2019, I joined the Jesuit Community at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, where I'm experiencing the extraordinary care of the Society of Jesus for its senior members. I am now a very old and very happy Jesuit. Thank you, God!

Fr. Phipps served for many years at Santa Clara University, where he was chair of the English Department and director of the Honors Program, among other positions.



Fr. J. Gordon Moreland, SJ
70 Years in the Society

Seventy years ago when I decided to enter the Jesuits I was hoping to grow in a personal relationship with the Lord. Most of my ministerial assignments have been very focused in that direction.

From 1968 to 1976, I was director of novices for the Oregon Province. There I was essentially helping the young novices to develop a life of prayer and a deeper relationship with God. In 1977, I was assigned to Gonzaga Prep, teaching religion and in charge of religious studies. In 1980, I became director of Loyola Retreat House in Portland. After that I was named director of the House of Prayer for Priests in Orange, California, where I remained for 31 years. Then I worked part-time in spiritual direction as a retired priest in Orange.

On June 1, 2021, I was assigned to a ministry of prayer at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos. A defining moment in my relationship with the Lord came as I realized that the Lord had shared with me his desire for the salvation of all people. This includes those in most need of God's mercy and the "unfaithful departed" for whom I have a special concern.

Fr. Moreland prays for the Church and the Society at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California.

Other Jesuits Celebrating Jubilees this Year

75 YEARS IN THE SOCIETY

Father Fred J. Green, SJ

70 YEARS IN THE SOCIETY

Father E. Louis Bishop, SJ

Father Bernard J. Tyrrell, SJ

60 YEARS IN THE SOCIETY

Father Patrick J. Reuse, SJ

50 YEARS IN THE SOCIETY

Father Jon D. Fuller, SJ

Father John F. Izzo, SJ

25 YEARS IN THE SOCIETY

Father Seán D. Michaelson, SJ

60 YEARS IN THE PRIESTHOOD

Father Thomas N. Gallagher, SJ

Father Leo J. Hombach, SJ

Father Patrick B. O'Leary, SJ

Father Richard W. Rolfs, SJ

Father J. Patrick Stewart, SJ

Father James S. Torrens, SJ

50 YEARS IN THE PRIESTHOOD

Father George J. Dumais, SJ

Father David F. Klein, SJ

Father Donald B. Sharp, SJ

Father Thomas E. Splain, SJ

25 YEARS IN THE PRIESTHOOD

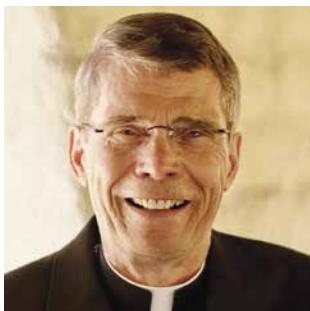
Father Theodore E. Gabrielli, SJ

Father Michael G. Lee, SJ

Father Michael C. McCarthy, SJ

Father Mark D. McGregor, SJ

Father Michael W. Ravenkamp, SJ



Fr. William Rewak, SJ
70 Years in the Society

What has moved me greatly, especially in my later years, is the "Contemplatio," the finale of the *Spiritual Exercises*. I do believe that God is the Creator, but also the Rejuvenator, the Refresher,

the Laborer. As I look out my window, I see a rebirth each year of the life that God surrounds us with the greenery, the finches—the arrival of my new niece. God is Life, and that Life throbs throughout the universe. I believe that God's hands are not only molding the physical world, but through his Son, Jesus, God is laboring to put right our injustice, our blindness. I believe that Jesus is in the midst of the immigrant camps in the South; he is walking through the homeless shelters, embracing their freezing shoulders; he is visiting the Covid-19 patients, giving them strength. Jesus is never at rest. That restlessness is God's gift to us. And God is constantly at work, in Jesus, to help us see how we can be part of that restlessness, to look at our lame but precious world and lend our talents, and our resolve, to build God's kingdom.

Fr. Rewak is chancellor emeritus at Santa Clara University.



Fr. Kevin Waters, SJ
70 Years in the Society

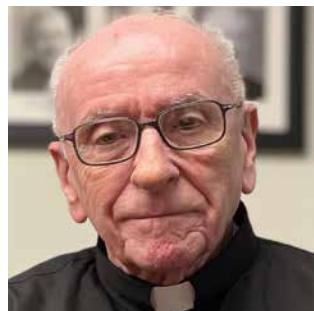
For 70 years I have been chosen and gifted by the Holy Spirit to embrace the Trinity. I have been called to spread the Good News, the Gospel. As a priest, I have been a conduit of God's

love, especially through the sacraments of the Eucharist and reconciliation. I have been a teacher of music and philosophy, sowing in my students listening skills, joy and understanding. I have been a composer of song, dance and instrumental music, engaging listeners at home and abroad. On YouTube you may hear the Wexford Carol: bit.ly/frwaters

For over 50 years (1967-2017) I served as a residence hall chaplain. First, for 17 years in Campion and Xavier, Seattle University, then for 34 years in De Smet Hall, Gonzaga University.

All this because God chose me.

Fr. Waters recently moved to the Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, to pray for the Church and the Society.



Br. Douglas E. Draper, SJ
60 Years in the Society

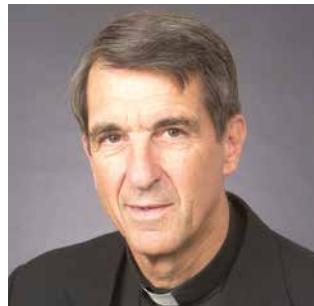
The call to serve.

After 60 years as a Jesuit, I can look back with many fond memories. I was dean of students for 40 years. I am thankful to God for this ministry.

High school years are formative years; as educators, we plant "seeds" of faith and justice in the young people entrusted to our care, and we guide them in developing their talents and gifts to their full potential so they may become persons to and for others.

I am thankful to the many Jesuits and lay colleagues who have walked with me these many years and who have become a part of the fabric of my life.

Br. Draper is the minister at the Jesuit Community at St. Ignatius College Prep in San Francisco.



Fr. Joseph Fessio, SJ
60 Years in the Society

Benedicamus Domino!
September 8, 1961, 5:30 a.m.
at Sacred Heart Novitiate, Los
Gatos, California.

"Let us bless, the Lord."
Those are the first words I heard on that first morning after I arrived at the Jesuit novitiate. And, groggily, I responded, "*Deo Gratias!*," "Thanks be to God!"

Though the alarm on my smartphone has long since replaced the "angel" who wandered the corridors rousing sleep-deprived novices from their slumber, I've begun my day with those words every day for the last 60 years.

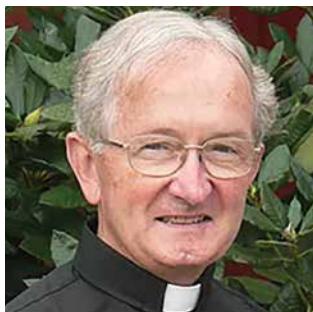
St. Ignatius, in the "First Principle and Foundation" of the *Spiritual Exercises*, tells us that "Man is created to praise, reverence, and serve God our Lord." And he ends the *Exercises* with the "Contemplation to Attain Divine Love." Praise and thanksgiving are the bookends to these core spiritual principles of every Jesuit's life.

What better way, then, to begin each day? What better way to try to live one's life? To praise God who creates us anew each day and to thank him for the gifts he showers upon us so abundantly every moment of our lives.

Benedicamus Domino! Deo Gratias!

Fr. Fessio is director of Ignatius Press in San Francisco.

Jubilarians



Br. Charlie Jackson, SJ
60 Years in the Society

"The word of the Lord came to me thus: Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I dedicated you; a prophet to the nations I appointed you." (Jeremiah 1:4-5)

Sixty years ago, shortly after I began my novitiate, I heard that passage being read at Mass one morning. The experience left me stunned. The passage spoke to me, not only of God's call to Jeremiah, but of God's call to me—and it did so in a manner that continues to call me. We may think of a vocation as God's call to do something, but it's much more than that. Ultimately, it's an invitation to a relationship that is meant to deepen and forever change our lives, and that's certainly been true for me. The God who once grasped me has never let go.

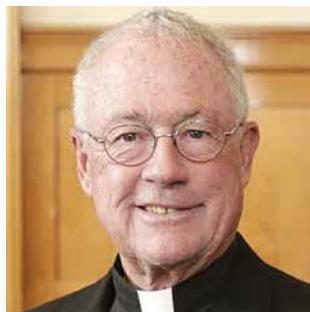
Br. Jackson recently moved from the Center for Ignatian Spirituality at Saint Ignatius Loyola Parish in Sacramento to the Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, to pray for the Church and the Society.



Br. Dan Peterson, SJ
60 Years in the Society

I look back on my six decades of Jesuit life as a brother with gratitude to God. I have found it a wonderful experience, one that has been blessed with singular opportunities for service in many places and works. Memories of my 25 years in a high school library, 21 years (and counting) as province archivist, as well as other assignments, reinforce my sense of gratitude for the support I have received from my brother Jesuits, both in the difficult times and the glorious moments. I have had the opportunity to travel to places I had not expected to visit and experience cultures that were new to me. This has given me a sense of solidarity with Jesuits throughout the world and with the people they serve. I am one lucky guy.

Br. Peterson is archivist for Jesuits West.



Fr. Edward Reese, SJ
60 Years in the Society

Sixty years, I can't really believe it! Only when bending over or getting out of a chair does it seem at all real. I feel grateful and blessed for so much, but most especially that all my active ministry has

been in Jesuit secondary schools. The word that comes to mind is fun. This ministry has truly been fun. The gift of bringing God into the lives of young women and men has been reciprocated over and over again. In addition to serving in all the former California Province high schools, I also spent three years at St. Ignatius College in Sydney, Australia.

St. Ignatius' call to find God in all things is a lesson both taught and learned in high school ministry. Everything from theology classes to lacrosse is an invitation to find God. Sharing that ministry with fellow Jesuits and lay friends continues to motivate me. It is fun.

Fr. Reese is president of St. Ignatius College Prep in San Francisco.



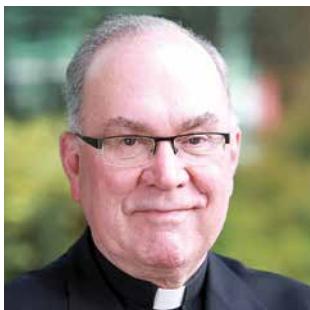
Br. Theodore Rohrer, SJ
60 Years in the Society

I grew up on a farm in central California, and priests would come to the parish to give talks. When I was a senior in high school, some Jesuits came, and I was interested and talked with them. Three months after high school, I joined the Society. I'm from a large family and the last thing my dad told me before I entered the novitiate was, if this is not your life, the door will always be open. He said that 60 years ago.

I've had a variety of jobs. I did maintenance at Sacred Heart Novitiate and the Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Gatos. At Brophy College Prep, I was groundskeeper, mechanic and bus driver. I also taught a mechanics class. When I worked at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, they asked if I could drive a truck, so I got a truck driver's license; I think I was the only Jesuit in California with one. I also spent two years serving with the Kino Border Initiative on the U.S.-Mexico border.

I'm thankful for being a Jesuit. I got to help people and work all the time and enjoyed the jobs. I could be out doing my job, driving a tractor, and I'd spend time praying there.

Br. Rohrer prays for the Church and the Society at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California.

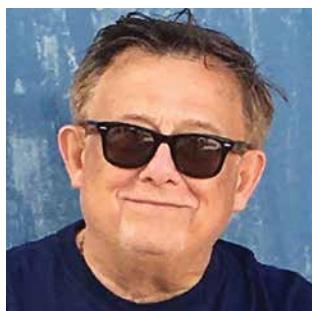


Fr. Stephen Sundborg, SJ
60 Years in the Society

On my 60th jubilee as a Jesuit—stretching from age 18 to 78—I am amazed and so appreciate how the Jesuits have stretched and called upon all my gifts and capacities. When I started,

I had no idea what I would do as a Jesuit, thinking I might work as a missionary back in my home state of Alaska. Instead, the Jesuits found in me an ability for leadership and administration. For the past 35 years as rector, provincial and university president I have served others—Jesuits, students, and lay women and men—using all the gifts God gave me. It is a wonderful thing to have expended myself in this way and to realize, looking back on this occasion of the jubilee, how God's grace has sustained me and flowed secretly through all these years. Being a Jesuit is meant to be primarily a service to others, but it is also a great blessing for the Jesuit himself.

Fr. Sundborg is president emeritus of Seattle University; he served as president there for 24 years.



Br. Michael Breault, SJ
50 Years in the Society

For the first 10 years of my Jesuit life, I was a scholastic. Then, as the time for theology grew near, it dawned on me that I didn't feel a special sense of being "called" to the priesthood. Without God's call,

what was the point of continuing to ordination? And without a priestly vocation, what room for me was there in the Society?

I took my problem to my mentor, C.J. McNaspy. His advice? "God certainly seems to be calling you to life in the Society, but not to the priesthood. The answer is simple. You should be a Jesuit brother."

There's often a moment in discernment when the unruly spirits settle down and the way forward becomes clear. A few months after my talk with C.J., I made the leap. I've never looked back with anything short of gratitude.

As a layman who's also a religious, I can bridge the distance between the clergy and laypeople. By opting out of the clerical power structure and serving entirely through my lay talents, I can work shoulder-to-shoulder with others in my field, as someone equal in ecclesiastical rank. This has been a constant source of enrichment throughout my life as a Jesuit brother.

Br. Breault is a writer and the social media manager for Jesuits West.



Fr. James Blaettler, SJ
50 Years in the Society

In graduate school, I discovered the saint as a *speculum mundi* or mirror of the world. The holy one reflects a freely given gift—shared, transcendent truth that God reveals.

In elementary school, I devoured the *Lives of the Saints*; I found adventure, dedication and mounting integrity calling me to a match. Today, I regularly encounter three saints through our community chapel icons: gesturing emphatically, companions Ignatius and Clare converse; embracing a shared son, Joseph manifests the Shadow of the Father; firmly stepping on the devilish Montserrat sword, regal Mary presides enthroned.

Lodestar haloed Clare had invited followers to place themselves squarely in the "brilliance of Glory"; an electrifying flame of purification hovers over her attentive soulmate, Ignatius. Each contemplative gaze in the chapel holds in silence "the tiny whispering sound after the fire" that Elijah encountered as a surprising divine presence (1 Kings 19:12)—the text chosen for my ordination card, over the Pauline phrase "the life I live is not my own" (Galatians 2:20). Yet, the latter now paints my heart humble. I increasingly hear God's word as the more engaged partner in my daily task to see and reflect, if imperfectly, the world wounded, hearts healing and souls increasingly beautiful (1 Corinthians 13:12).

Fr. Blaettler is the minister of the Santa Clara Jesuit Community.





Fr. Gerdenio Manuel, SJ *50 Years in the Society*

Reflecting on the last 50 years, I am struck now by how grace finds me in the darkness, the light and every shade in between, leading me to God and my true calling—to risk whatever it

takes to find my way home to deep and lasting love.

Especially in my ministry or my personal life when I felt most diminished or defeated by the world's madness or my own, I discovered God is here, God is with us, God is for us.

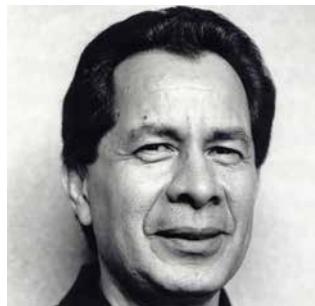
For God did not wait until I became virtuous or saintly. God invites the lost and even sinners home because he recognizes our hunger, our often frustrated and desperate hunger for love.

Something deep inside is transformed or reconciled when we discover what we Jesuits profess—all of us are "sinners called by God." We think of ourselves only as sinners or only called by God—as if we are sinners without a future or saints without a history. I am loved by God for who I am—not for what I do or who I become.

God frees me to love more faithfully in the humanity we inhabit—diminished capacities, afflictions, addictions, passions, joy, wisdom, serenity and peace. When we embrace one another in all that we are, we discover God calling us to love more completely, more unconditionally and more freely than we might have ever imagined possible.

I am profoundly grateful for my vocation and the company of Jesuits, for my ministry and the people of God over these many years—for all I've learned with you and through you.

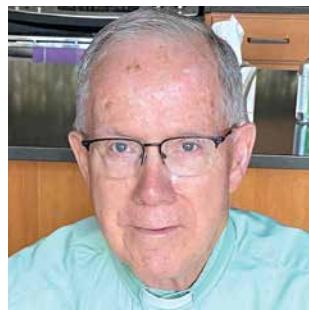
Fr. Manuel is professor emeritus at the University of San Francisco and a staff psychologist at South of Market Health Center.



Fr. Roy Antunez, SJ *50 Years in the Priesthood*

One word: Gratitude!!

Fr. Antunez is a pastoral minister in Los Angeles.



Fr. Kenneth Krall, SJ *50 Years in the Priesthood*

Early on in my Jesuit career I heard the saying "Give freely what you have freely been given." I see words like these meaning that since as a Jesuit I have been freely given many, many things, so

as a Jesuit, I am to give just as freely to others.

As I look back over these 50 years of being a priest—once the shock of the reality of such a statement wears off a bit—I can see time and again how the kindness of others to me has helped me to offer kindness to others.

In my career as a Jesuit, both as a seminarian and as a priest, I have taught both high school and college students. And as a priest, I have worked in parishes. Whether in a school or a parish, I have been blessed by memorable people, generous people, dedicated people, people who continue to show me what generosity truly can be, people who gently challenge me to freely give in return.

And so, as I continue gracefully aging onward, I keep trying to freely give as I have received, since I am convinced now that such a thing is well worth doing and always, always with a sense of humor.

Fr. Krall is assistant rector at Della Strada Jesuit Community at Gonzaga University.



Fr. George Murphy, SJ *50 Years in the Priesthood*

"What shall I return to the Lord for all he has given me?"

Riches, honors, poverty, insults, humiliations, a deeper more expansive sense of who God is, how generous, loving, merciful God is.

God has given me a desire to look for God, to work with God, to enjoy God and God's world and people. In and through the Society, I have met so many wonderful people to share the journey, to experience the joys and struggles of the world and to work with God to fulfill some of God's hopes for us.

Finally, God keeps reminding me "we aren't finished yet."

Fr. Murphy is director of spiritual formation and lecturer in spirituality at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University.



Fr. John Rashford, SJ
50 Years in the Priesthood

As I celebrate 50 years as a Jesuit priest, one virtue that comes to mind is trust. Trust that God was, is, will always be with me. There were special moments when he made it obvious.

The first was my parent's faith and their acceptance of my vocation at age 12 when I shared, "If I am to be a priest, I need to begin by learning to serve Mass." Then, during high school, Father Gene Toner, SJ, was a sign pointing me to apply to be a Jesuit.

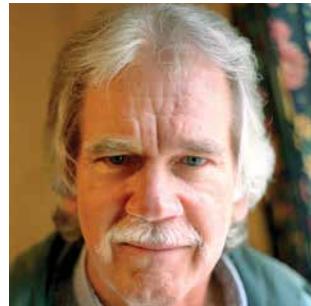
God's hand was with me through many years of studies and formation: Sheridan, Mt. St. Michael's, years of teaching in high school and then approval to study theology in Toronto.

The Lord listened to my prayer as I began my final year before ordination. "If you want me to be a priest it will be, and if not, it will be OK with me. I place myself in your hands."

God spoke through my superiors and special friend, Father Pat Twohy, SJ, with encouragement and support during times that were stressful.

I hope I have lived up with trust to what God called me to be and do. I pray I continue to trust as I live out the rest of my life and ministry as a priest. Much thanksgiving for a journey full of wonders.

Fr. Rashford is chaplain at Providence Regional Medical Center in Everett, Washington.



Fr. Gary Smith, SJ
50 Years in the Priesthood

I converted to Catholicism during college, so there's a line from Scripture that comes to mind: "Out of Egypt I call my son" (Hosea 11:1).

That line has always stuck with me because it explains

a lot of things I've done, from my conversion to some of the decisions I made in terms of studies as a Jesuit, such as going to Toronto, where I was under the influence of some really powerful teachers. It explains why I always felt a call to work with the poor, so I spent a long time in Oakland as a community organizer. I ran a drop-in center on skid row in Tacoma; worked on the streets in Portland for many years and still do; and spent 15 years with the Jesuit Refugee Service in Uganda, Kenya, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Greece.

The person who comes to my mind, relating to my conversion, is Dorothy Day. In her book *The Long Loneliness*, she wrote that she always "felt that sense of being followed, of being desired; a sense of hope and expectation." I've felt during my life—beginning with the decision to become a convert to Christianity—that I was being desired by God, not in a hooray for me sort of way, but in the movement in my heart.

Fr. Smith does street and jail ministry in Portland.



Fr. Anthony Sauer, SJ
50 Years in the Priesthood

When I was ordained in 1971 by Cardinal Manning, the same prelate who had confirmed me in 1946, I cited Lacordaire on the priesthood, so often quoted as I grew up by my longtime pastor, Father Fogarty at St. Brendan's in Los Angeles: "My God, what a life, and 'tis yours O priest of Jesus Christ!"

My God, what a life, indeed! To give the sacrament of the sick, to hear confessions, to preach, to teach, to baptize, to witness marriages: What better life! What a meaningful way to build up the Lord's kingdom even when one doesn't do it very well and when the exclusion of women seems increasingly unfair.

To be a Jesuit priest was Christ's greatest gift to this poor servant who has sought only to imitate the valorous, noble life of the man for others who as God didn't have to redeem us in the way he did, but who chose terrible death out of his compassionate love for us and our world, who came "not to be served, but to serve."

As St. Ignatius challenges us in the "Call of the King" meditation, who would not fail to follow such a brave, selfless, caring leader? "My God, what a life!" is as true today as it was 50 golden years ago.

Fr. Sauer recently moved to the Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, to pray for the Church and the Society. His previous ministries included serving as president at Brophy College Prep in Phoenix and St. Ignatius College Prep in San Francisco. ■

REATER GLORY OF GOD



WELCOMING OUR NEW PROVINCIAL, FR. SEAN CARROLL, SJ

By Tracey Primrose

On July 31, the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, one of his sons, Father Sean Carroll, SJ, the new provincial of the Jesuits West Province, was welcomed at a Mass of Thanksgiving held at St. Ignatius Church in Portland.

The liturgy was opened by Father Scott Santarosa, SJ, who has served as provincial for the last seven years. He had a special message for Fr. Carroll:

"Arturo Sosa, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, sends greetings and wishes the peace of Christ to Fr. Sean O. Carroll. Confident in the Lord with regard to your integrity and prudence, I choose and name you provincial of USA West Province. In doing so, I confer on you all the authority, rights and privileges which belong to this office according to our Institute. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, I pray that the eternal Lord in his wisdom will guide and assist you in all things to his greater honor and glory. Amen."

The feast day of the Society's founder typically marks the first day for a new provincial, and the liturgy had all the hallmarks of an Ignatian celebration. Both the opening hymn — *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam* — which means *For the Greater Glory of God* in Latin, and the Communion song, Take, Lord, Receive, come from the writings of St. Ignatius. That history is even more meaningful as the Society of Jesus is recognizing the 500th anniversary of the conversion of St. Ignatius (May 20, 2021) and the 400th anniversary of the canonizations of St. Ignatius and St. Francis Xavier (March 12, 2022).

Because of Covid restrictions, the Mass was more sparsely attended than might be customary, but among those there to lend support were Jesuit Fathers Pat Lee and Mike Weiler, who both served as provincial prior to Fr. Santarosa being named in 2014. In addition, there was a large livestream audience of Jesuits, lay partners, friends and family participating at home.



Fr. Carroll and his family on the feast of St. Ignatius

In his homily, Fr. Carroll talked about his own vocation story and his decision, 32 years ago, to follow Christ as a Jesuit. He recalled making the decision while sitting in his family's home parish and hearing Jesus ask, "Do you trust me? Do you trust me?" What he did not realize at the time, he says, was that God was also asking, "Are you willing to have your heart broken? Are you willing to get so close to God's people and to your brothers that you are willing to be broken open?"

For his entire vocation, Fr. Carroll has been close to God's people, most recently serving for the last dozen years as the executive director of the Kino Border Initiative (KBI), a binational Catholic ministry serving migrants at

"ARE YOU WILLING TO HAVE YOUR HEART BROKEN? ARE YOU WILLING TO GET SO CLOSE TO GOD'S PEOPLE AND TO YOUR BROTHERS THAT YOU ARE WILLING TO BE BROKEN OPEN?"

—Fr. Sean Carroll, SJ
Provincial, Jesuits West



Fr. Carroll's mother, stepfather and brother brought up the gifts.

the U.S.-Mexico border. The KBI focuses on humanitarian assistance, education, research and social-pastoral outreach and was named in honor of Eusebio Kino, a 17th-century Jesuit missionary who ministered in what is now Sonora, Mexico, and Arizona.

It has been an experience, Fr. Carroll says, of "ever deeper trust." He recalled his first experience "of being broken open" when he was a novice visiting the House of the Poor in Tijuana and then remembered the years walking with people at the border who have left everything behind, "people who have been totally broken open so they might find new life and new hope."

The sense of being broken open, Fr. Carroll says, is one we can all relate to, particularly in this unprecedented year when so many people have lost loved ones and are

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Fr. Sean Carroll *continues*

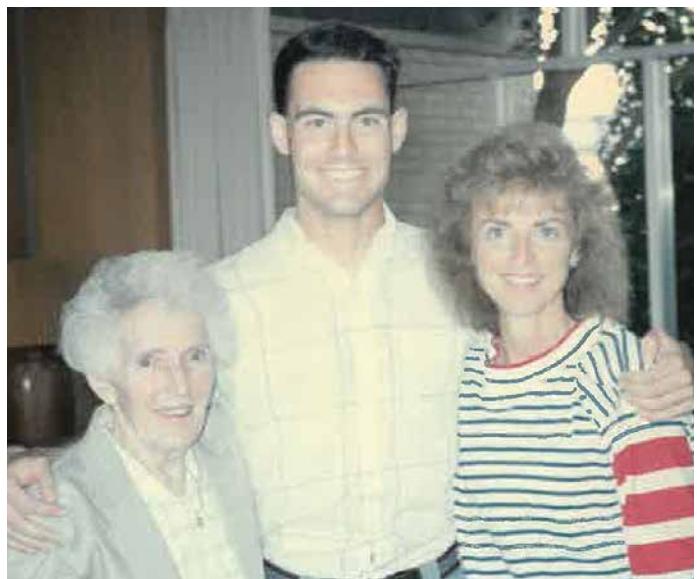
suffering because of the pandemic. "These experiences of being broken open, while hard and while painful and while difficult and challenging, through that whole experience God is bearing fruit ... so that something new may grow."

The something new, Fr. Carroll says, is the innovation that Jesuit parishes, retreat centers and schools have mustered in response to the many challenges brought about by Covid. That extends to families who have been "a sign of encouragement and hope even in the midst of the challenges that we face. We have carried our cross, and we are following Jesus."

Fr. Carroll went on to thank outgoing provincial, Fr. Santarosa, who entered the Jesuit novitiate on the same day as Fr. Carroll in 1989. "Scott, you have been a wonderful leader and a great friend. You have shown us how to follow the Lord and to walk along this journey together. You have done it with grace. You have done it with great wisdom and deeply rooted in a love for God. So we are just really grateful for all you have done for us."

He concluded his homily by taking out a letter that his grandmother had written to him 32 years ago when she learned that he was accepted to the Jesuits. Fr. Carroll read her heartfelt note, his voice choking on this passage:

"I can well conjure in my mind all the hardships you will be called on to bear. Sean, the Holy Spirit will guide you



Fr. Carroll with his grandmother and mother on Entrance Day at the Jesuit novitiate

and guard you. All you have to do is listen. I love you dearly, and my daily prayers for you will take on a new light just like you, dear, when you take on a new life."

With members of his family present, including some who traveled great distances, Fr. Carroll says that he thinks his grandmother has "something powerful to say to us as we begin this new path about listening to Him, and we're going to do that together. And I really look forward to that." ▀



Fr. Carroll with Fr. Santarosa



THE JOYFUL ORDINATION OF FIVE MEMBERS OF JESUITS WEST PROVINCE

By Colette Cooney

In June, members of the Jesuits West Province celebrated as five of their own were ordained to the priesthood on a perfect Southern California day. The sky was blue, the sun was bright and those gathered at Blessed Sacrament Church in Hollywood were downright ebullient. Although Covid restrictions had curtailed the number of friends, family and Jesuits who could be present, there were still 325 people allowed in the church. There were hugs, high fives and lots of smiles—although perhaps difficult to know for sure because masks were in place—but you could still see eyes twinkling. Joy was palpable, for all those who had loved and supported these five men on their long journey to the priesthood.

No one, however, was as excited as Xavier Benavides, SJ; Jack Krouse, SJ; Martin Ngo, SJ; John Guyol, SJ; and Brad Mills, SJ, as they processed down the aisle of the church followed by more than 40 Jesuits and other concelebrants.

In his homily, the Most Reverend Edward William Clark, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, talked about how the priesthood correlates to the cross of Jesus Christ. "To me it's most evident. The cross is made of two beams, one vertical, one horizontal. The vertical one reaches from earth to heaven, adoration, liturgy, prayer, contemplation, spiritual reading. ... The horizontal bar, from right to left and left to right, from hand to hand, is our service to the people of God. Our priesthood, can never be the priesthood of Jesus Christ if it doesn't include reaching out and caring for the people of God."

continued next page

Ordination continues

While Bishop Clark spoke about service from the altar at Blessed Sacrament, directly outside, volunteers including Father Frank Buckley, SJ, with the Blessed Sacrament Food Pantry, were handing out food to a long line of homeless and underserved people, just as they do every Saturday. It was a poignant symbol of the arms outstretched analogy that the bishop discussed in his homily.

For those who have never experienced an ordination, it is a strikingly beautiful Mass with moments unlike any other liturgy. Each ordinand promises the bishop that he will carry out his office in accord with the mind of Christ and of the Church, under the direction of his Jesuit superior and diocesan bishop. Later, the ordinands lay prostrate on the floor of the church in a biblical gesture of humility. The cantor sings a Litany of the Saints—with invocations for the intercession of the Blessed Mother, the angels, and many martyrs and saints.

During the Laying on of Hands and Prayer of Ordination, the gift of the Holy Spirit is conferred. After the bishop lays his hands upon each candidate, the concelebrating priests do the same. The newly ordained are then invested with the priestly stole and chasuble, and their hands are anointed with Sacred Chrism.

The bond shared by the ordinands was easy to see—both for those in the church and by the several thousand viewers who watched the YouTube livestream. Speaking



in advance of his ordination, Martin Ngo, SJ, said, "The joy of us five standing next to each other that day, that means everything. And it points to what we really want at the deepest level: We want to stand next to each other and serve. I think there's going to be this point where we're going to realize during our ordination, 'Oh my gosh, everyone's here. Different worlds are meeting, and this is crazy. It's just going to go by too fast.' ■



Meet Our New Priests

Father Xavier Benavides, SJ



Fr. Benavides with his mother

Hometown: San Antonio, Texas

Education: Bachelor's degree, English and philosophy, Texas A&M University; MBA, University of Michigan; Master's degree, sociology, Loyola University Chicago; Master of Divinity, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry

Highlights of Jesuit Formation:

- Volunteered for a year at an alternative school in Guadalajara, Mexico, whose youngest student was 16 years old and the oldest 72
- Worked as the director of campus ministry at Cristo Rey High School in Sacramento, California, and helped found the school's Social Justice Club

Post-Ordination: St. Leo Catholic Church in Tacoma, Washington

What was one particularly meaningful experience you had during your formation, and why was it meaningful to you?

Verbum Dei High School is an all-boys college preparatory school where students work at a local business to help pay for the cost of tuition, making it affordable for families. Students are required to wear a tie and, often, the school will distribute

donated ones to the students. One morning before school, a student who is being raised by his grandmother came into my classroom and asked if I could help him tie his bowtie. His grandmother did not know how to do it, and he really wanted to wear it for work. It was a small act but one with so much meaning for me. Tying his tie brings back memories of my own dad teaching me to tie a bowtie, and I felt honored to be able to do this for my student.

For me, this memory demonstrates that we are doing more than teaching: We are creating a sacred family at our schools. The traditions that are being passed down not only come through normal family relationships but also through those who see us as part of their family. This is grace in action, sharing our gifts with one another and passing on the care that we have received. "We love because he first loved us." (1 John 4:19).

Father John W. Guyol, SJ



Fr. Guyol with children in Cameroon

Hometown: St. Louis, Missouri

Education: Bachelor's degree, theology and religious studies, Villanova University; Master of Divinity, Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University

Highlights of Jesuit Formation:

- Taught theology and coached volleyball and javelin at Jesuit High School in Portland, Oregon
- Served with Jesuit Refugee Service in Cameroon and worked with kids living on the streets

Post-Ordination: St. Francis Xavier Church and St. Ignatius Mission in Missoula, Montana

What are three words a family member or fellow Jesuit would use to describe you? Do you agree with his or her selections?

One of my cousins describes me as hairy, holy and hilarious. I certainly aspire to the holiness that God calls all of us. I laugh at myself often enough, and I hope I can make other people laugh, too. In addition, I have had a significant amount of hair on

my head and face throughout my formation as a Jesuit.

How has your spirituality changed since entering the Society?

One of the great spiritual lessons I have learned since entering the Society is to allow my spirituality to change. God continues to reveal more and more of who God is through different avenues. I have learned about the creativity of God through music and beauty. I have learned about the love of God through family and strangers. I have learned about the patience of God in prayer. The experiences of my life as a Jesuit have helped me to open myself up to the surprising new ways through which God is trying to teach me. This has granted me a greater sense of freedom, and I await the goodness that is waiting for me wherever I am sent.

Meet Our New Priests *continues*

Father Jack Krouse, SJ



Fr. Krouse (right) with students at Loyola High School of Los Angeles

Hometown: San Jose, California

Education: Bachelor's degree, history and literature, Harvard University; Master's degree, social philosophy, Loyola University Chicago; Master of Divinity, Centre Sèvres, Paris

Highlights of Jesuit Formation:

- Taught at Loyola High School of Los Angeles and at Sacred Heart Nativity School in San Jose
- Studied theology and shared community life with Jesuits from around the world in Paris, the city where Ignatius and the other first Jesuits studied and made their vows together in 1534

Post-Ordination: Will complete a Licentiate in Sacred Theology at Centre Sèvres in Paris

What do you love about the Society of Jesus?

I love many things about the Society of Jesus but one of the things I love most is the story of the Society's origins—born among the friendship and devotion of Ignatius Loyola, Francis Xavier, Peter Faber and the other first companions. Each of them different in his own way, they committed themselves to laboring with Christ at the heart of the world

and to responding to the needs of the church at a crucial time.

Things are no different today. In a world that overwhelms people with a multiplicity of sensations, ideas and images, the Society seeks to keep the fire of its original inspiration alive in a way that offers warmth and light to our contemporaries.

What brings you joy?

One of my great joys in Jesuit community has been the opportunity to nurture a love of hospitality.

I learned a lot from my mom and dad when I was young about the joy of hosting friends and family for a party or celebration. The Gospel stories that show us Jesus enjoying a meal in the company of his friends or even those he just met are all a great reminder of the power of hospitality, conversation and a good meal shared together. Sometimes the table itself is a place of true conversion for someone.

Father Brad Mills, SJ



Fr. Mills taking part in an Easter Vigil in Soacha, Colombia

Hometown: Santa Clara, California

Education: Bachelor's degrees, psychology and environmental science, Santa Clara University; Master of Social Work, Saint Louis University; Bachelor of Sacred Theology, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia

Highlights of Jesuit Formation:

- Migration pilgrimage from Guatemala to California where he learned about the experiences of migrants
- Served at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in San Diego, teaching catechesis, helping people apply for citizenship and accompanying volunteer groups to Tijuana

Post-Ordination: Most Holy Trinity Church in San Jose, California

Who's your favorite saint, and why?

My favorite saint is Alberto Hurtado, a Chilean Jesuit who dedicated his life to working with the poor and with young people. I admire the dedication and energy with which people describe his work. I hope, in my life, to imitate the total gift of self with which he accompanied young people, seeking to inspire in them a sense of meaning and purpose to their lives,

and the tireless energy he dedicated to working with the people most discarded by society.

How has your spirituality changed since entering the Society?

My spirituality has become more authentic, less rigid and simpler. It has become more authentic in the sense that I bring more of who I am to my prayer: my worries, my concerns, my insecurities, my passions, my deepest desires. I have grown more able to bring all of who I am to my prayer, even if on some days all that I can muster is a dry, heavily distracted attempt to listen to God. I trust that God accepts all my attempts at prayer for what it is, just as God accepts all of who I am. Finally, my prayer has become simpler. On many days, my prayer is a simple attention to my breath, my body and the world around me, along with a few words that express my desires, gratitude and hopes.

Father Martin Ngo, SJ



Fr. Ngo with a student at Verbum Dei High School in Los Angeles

Hometown: Westminster, California

Education: Bachelor's degree, computer science, University of California, Irvine; Master's degree, applied philosophy, Loyola University Chicago; Master's degree, digital storytelling, Loyola University Chicago; Master of Divinity, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry; Licentiate in Sacred Theology, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry

Highlights of Jesuit Formation:

- Studied and performed for three years at the Second City Training Center in Chicago
- Interned for a summer at the Jesuit Curia in Rome just when Pope Francis happened to "drop in" for an impromptu visit

Post-Ordination: Will serve in campus ministry at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles

What is one hobby you've cultivated as a Jesuit, and why is it important to you?

Acting. There was a time in formation when I thought that I had to leave the Society of Jesus because I believed that my true calling was to pursue the life of a full-time actor. After three joyful years as a Jesuit, I confessed to a spiritual director saying, "Jerry, I think I have to leave. God is calling me to pursue performing arts."

My director asked, "Why not do it as a Jesuit?"

"I don't think I will be allowed," I responded.

Trying not to sound obvious, he inquired, "Have you tried ... asking?"

Sometimes the evil spirit wins by scaring us away from bringing deep concerns into the light. There was nothing to fear in this situation in asking. In this case, I was surprised with a "yes" from my superior in Chicago, "As long as you do your homework."

"Yes, Mom," I thought, with newfound vocational glee.

God wastes nothing.



EXPLORING THE SACRED SILENCE

By Eddie Ngo, SJ



I fear bringing up this issue, and I can't blame myself for being scared. I have experienced racism and the consequences—from non-action to vengeful outrage—when people of color like myself speak out.

Earlier this year, many AAPI (Asian American and Pacific Islander) Jesuits had noticed the relative silence in our Jesuit communities regarding rising reports of hate crimes directed toward AAPI people. Sometimes—from ignorance to fear of not knowing exactly what to say—many fellow Jesuits said or did nothing. “The silence was deafening,” said one of my friends when describing what it was like to speak and not feel heard by your closest Jesuit brothers. As I prayed with Jesus, the very person for whom our Society is named, I saw the multitude of us comforted and encouraged by him to speak the truth.

AN OPEN EAR

In March, toward the end of my annual conversation with our then-provincial, Father Scott Santarosa, SJ, I asked, “Scott, may I bring up something?”

With his nod, I laid my heart bare: “I don’t know if you know, but all this racism towards AAPIs, over the entirety of the last year since the pandemic began, it has been ... overwhelming.” I paused, trying to find the words.

I fear bringing up this issue, and I can't blame myself for being scared. I have experienced racism and the

“I feel sad, hopeless ...”

I trailed off, damming up the flood of tears as I told the accounts of people who looked like my father, mother, brother, sister, aunt and uncle being cursed at, spit upon, coughed on, shoved, stabbed, slashed, shot and murdered. It had been all too much for me, for my friends and my family to bear.

Scott listened intently and later reached out with a plan. How about if we hold a listening session and invite every Jesuit of the province to attend? That decision opened the floodgates, and on Good Friday, 30 Jesuits including 15 of AAPI descent, convened to hear the firsthand accounts of harassment, intimidation and racism being experienced by members of our community.

FOR OURSELVES AND OUR FAMILIES

The pandemic brought something that was previously hidden in plain sight to the forefront. Although the culmination of anti-AAPI hate occurred in March when Robert Aaron Long gunned down six women of AAPI descent in Atlanta, there are countless cases of AAPI folk, particularly the elderly, being attacked.

In our listening session, one AAPI Jesuit recounted, “My family has had racist threats left at their home. When my parents showed the police a recording of a stranger leaving a threatening message outside their house, the police didn’t do anything.”

Another recalled the fear of being the target of a vicious attack:

“The other day a person—without provocation—started yelling racial slurs while approaching me from across the street. I had to duck into a corner store to hide.”

OUR COLLECTIVE TRAUMA

Despite these egregious examples, some people still ignore or outright deny the racism directed toward the AAPI community, leading a fellow Jesuit to breathe a sigh of relief when finally feeling listened to. This same AAPI Jesuit talked about recent conversations with white people who had not seen the ways in which racism—unconscious, systemic and unrecognized—was directed toward the AAPI community. He said, “Based on my experiences with racism, I’ve learned to keep my head down and not to complain too loudly. White people don’t want to hear how I’m disadvantaged because of their discrimination. They want to hear how grateful I am for having been given the opportunities here in America. They are impressed with how well I’ve learned to speak their language and happy that I’ve been able to raise myself up by my own bootstraps. To most white folks, I will always be a foreigner residing as a guest in their country.”

Feeling the need to prove that we are every bit as American as anyone else is a sentiment shared by many AAPI I know. And no wonder we feel so insecure. Chinese immigrants have been abused from the moment they arrived in America in the mid-19th century. And while lynching is a term most often associated with violence perpetrated against African Americans, in 1871 one of the largest mass lynchings in American history



AAPI Jesuits Lucas Sharma, Mike Manalastas and Eddie Ngo (top row) with James Antonio and Edward Chow

targeted Chinese immigrants. When a frenzied mob attacked the Chinese quarter in Los Angeles, 19 innocent people were slaughtered. A century later, when the U.S. was at war with Germany, Italy and Japan, only Japanese Americans were forced from their homes and imprisoned in barbed-wire internment camps. The impact of this collective and historical trauma has been devastating.

"Growing up, I hated who I was. I was mistreated for being different. I just wanted to be accepted. So, I did everything I could to blend in," one AAPI Jesuit lamented.

Sometimes, this blending in means being the "model minority," a term that is both rooted in disparaging Blacks in their civil protest and used to pit people of color against one another. Politicians have imposed the myth of the model minority on AAPI folk to believe if they worked hard enough, they would be accepted. It is a far cry from God's unconditional love of who we are and discerning who God dreams us to be, two fruits normally experienced for

those making St. Ignatius' *Spiritual Exercises*.

"I am beginning to know more who I am and recognize all the times that people told me who I was because I was Asian. People had told me I was supposed to be quiet or good at numbers, so that's what I believed," another Jesuit recounted.

EVEN AMONG OUR OWN

Not all of us can blend in, even in our own Jesuit communities.

"Jesuit guests at our Jesuit communities have mistaken me for the kitchen staff," an AAPI Jesuit priest remarked. Another recalled, "Newly arrived at a Jesuit university community to begin a teaching assignment during formation, I encountered a few visiting Jesuits who could not believe that I was an academic. I had to assure them that I was actually teaching there."

"While I was visiting a Jesuit community and waiting to be admitted, another Jesuit called the police on me. The police came and

handcuffed me to the curb. I feared for my life. A lot of Jesuits think that racism occurs with other races, in other provinces, in another time, but it happens right here, right now, in our own province, with our own Jesuits."

MORE BY DEEDS THAN BY WORDS

In May, we convened a second listening session, and twice as many Jesuits participated. After listening to the personal accounts shared by myself and my AAPI brothers, there remained in those sessions a different kind of silence, a sacred one, which revealed the goodness of both the AAPI Jesuits and our brothers who came with open hearts seeking to understand. Throughout my time in formation, I have been consoled by non-AAPI Jesuit allies who have welcomed me, understood the situations I have gone through and have made changes for the better. Although separated by distance and using Zoom to connect, I felt that support palpably.

Things can be different. The question is: What we will do in response? Will we do more than just listen? Will we honor these stories by making meaningful change? Will we advocate for those in the AAPI community to make our churches, schools and our own Society of Jesus places of welcome, safety and empowerment?

At the conclusion of the *Spiritual Exercises*, retreatants are propelled to respond lovingly to the love they have received from Jesus. In the final Contemplation, Ignatius writes, "Love ought to manifest itself more by deeds than by words." How will our deeds speak so much that they honor the sacred silence? ■

Eddie Ngo, SJ, a Jesuit of Vietnamese descent, is a third-year theology student at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University. In formation for the priesthood, he was ordained a deacon this fall.

FAITH, FAMILY AND A SHARED DEVOTION

By Tracey Primrose



Bob and Evelyn Dieringer on their wedding day in 1948

In 1938, 16-year-old Bob Dieringer dropped out of high school to run the family business, a modest grocery store at the corner of SE 45th and Woodstock in Portland, Oregon. Taking out a loan to buy his uncle's shares of Dieringer's, the enterprising teen became partners with his father in a store that was, by any estimation, drowning in debt. Working tirelessly to turn things around, Bob earned his high school diploma going to night school before heading off to serve his country on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific Theater. When he returned from war, Bob's uncanny business sense combined with America's historic economic expansion helped put Dieringer's on the map.

While good things were happening at the store, the best thing that ever happened to Bob was in April of 1947 when he met a beautiful blonde named Evelyn Wojcik at a dance. He said that he would never marry anyone in less than a year, but in January of 1948, he broke that promise. Bob had wanted to be financially stable before marrying, but when Evelyn said, "Why can't we do it together?" that set the tone for the next six decades.

Both Bob and Evelyn were deeply committed to their faith and to the Blessed Mother. Bob was raised at St. Ignatius Parish in Portland, where he first came to know the Jesuits, while Evelyn was a graduate of St. Mary's Academy. The couple started a family and had 12 children in 17 years. All of the children went to grade school at Holy Family Parish. When it was time for high school, the boys went to Jesuit High, and the girls attended their mother's alma mater, St. Mary's Academy. The family made novenas together and prayed the rosary faithfully, and there were always Jesuits and religious sisters visiting for dinner. Pat Dieringer says of his parents, "They were just a team, so in sync, so committed to each other, with the same vision and the same love for the Catholic Church and the Blessed Mother."

As the family was growing, so was the business. Bob expanded the original store and opened new ones, and by the mid-1950s he started a development company for the shopping centers he would build. From an early age, the kids were put to work either inside the stores stocking shelves or outside picking up litter in the parking lot. They would earn a wage, but their parents required them to



Bob (right) meets with a salesman

donate 5% of their pay to their parish, 5% to a charity and 80% had to be deposited in their bank accounts. Gene Dieringer remembers being paid \$2 every Saturday for a few hours work, a rate that never increased.

While Bob was busy building the business, Evelyn had the tougher job by far. To this day, her children marvel that their mother could have raised 12 of them with cloth diapers and no dishwasher. On family vacations, which started by praying the rosary, Bob would take the long route down to Disneyland. Always looking for opportunities to teach the children, the family would stop to visit coffee roasters, honey producers and other purveyors along the way.

At one point in the late 1970s, the Dieringer stores were struggling. Bob and his partner, Sam Bernunzio, who was

also deeply committed to his Catholic faith, did not know how the company could weather the storm. They were discussing their nonexistent options when Bob discovered a flier on his desk for Our Lady of Guadalupe Trappist Abbey in Carlton, Oregon. Sam's birthday was on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and both men felt that the Blessed Mother was sending them a sign. They went on retreat, leaving their problems in Our Lady's hands. Bob came home to a message on the office answering machine from a grocery store owner from Washington state who was anxious to expand to the Portland area. "The Blessed Mother works very quickly," Sam said upon hearing the good news. They subsequently sold several stores to the inquiring company.

Bob and Evelyn taught all their children that they have a duty and an obligation to share their many blessings and to be generous with others—to give of their time, talent and treasure. From the start of their marriage, the couple earmarked a portion of the profits from the business for the education and training of Jesuit priests and brothers. Their generosity to the former Oregon Province Jesuits (now Jesuits West) was so instrumental that they were named founders of the Society of Jesus, an honor awarded by the Jesuit Superior General to only a handful of individuals.

In 1988, on a family trip to celebrate their 40th anniversary, Bob and Evelyn informed their children that they had decided to donate their entire estate to charity. Their will, in fact, starts with these words: *In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.* Their foundation has four beneficiaries—Holy Family Parish and School, St. Mary's Academy, Jesuit High School and Jesuits West.

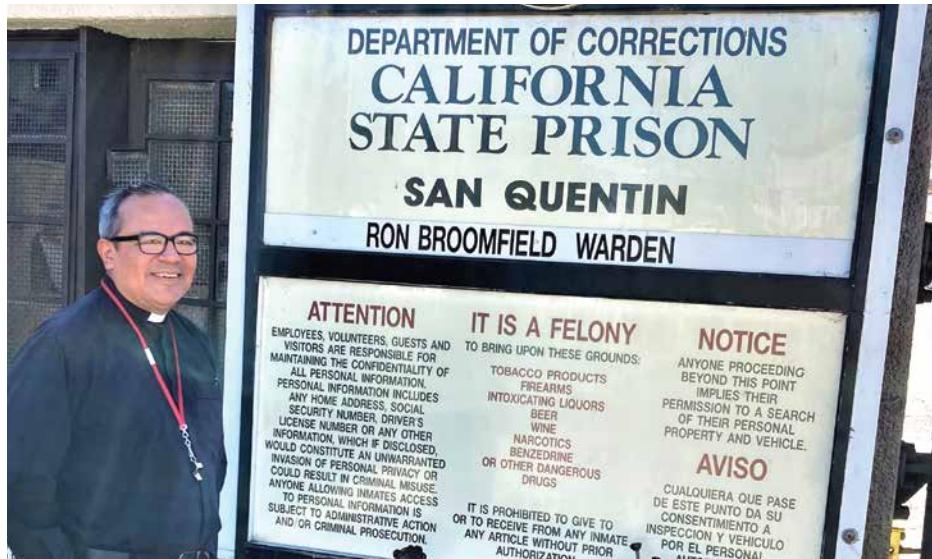
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The Dieringer family in 1988

FINDING JOY AND FREEDOM IN THE “JESUIT INTERNSHIP”

By William Bole



Manuel Chavira, SJ, at San Quentin State Prison

Nearly a decade ago, **Manuel Chavira**—whose past had included serving as a Marine infantryman and working for 20 years in an oil refinery—was at a “Come and See” retreat for those exploring a Jesuit vocation. The weekend program included a visit to a Jesuit ministry—a juvenile detention center in Los Angeles, where the retreatants spent time with detainees who were being tried as adults. Chavira spent an hour talking with one of the inmates, before asking him a question: “Why do you think the Jesuits come here?” The young man responded, “Because they love us.”

Chavira recalls, “I never, ever forgot that.” About a year and a half later, in 2014, he entered the Society of Jesus as a novice in Jesuits West and affixed the “SJ” to his name.

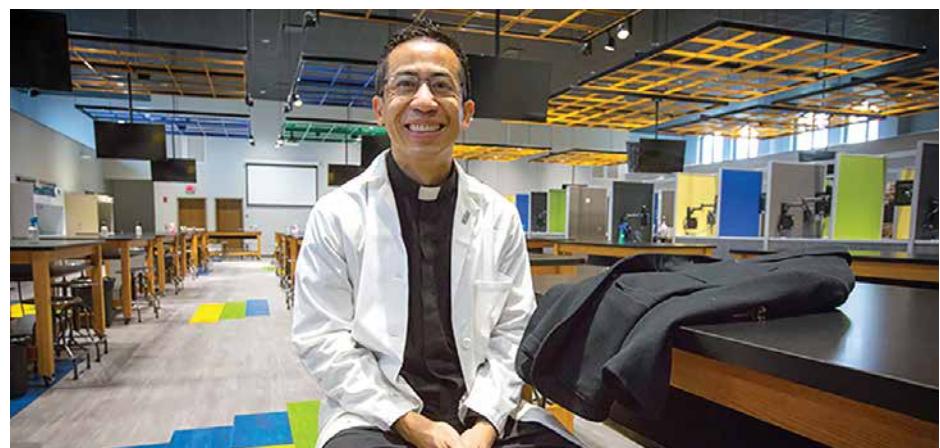
His path since then illustrates not only the decade-long journey of Jesuit formation, but also an especially pivotal turn in that process. Chavira

is in the regency phase of his preparation, the third of five stages in the making of a Jesuit (after the novitiate and first studies, and before theology and tertianship). This is when Jesuits in training leave the highly structured environment of novice life and academic work, and leap into full-time active ministry while living in a community of Jesuits. It’s a typically three-year stretch that has been dubbed “the Jesuit internship.”

During regency, Chavira is serving as the Catholic chaplain at San Quentin State Prison. Although Chavira says correctional ministry was “never on my radar screen” until visiting juvenile hall at the vocation retreat, the experience helped alter his path.

In the past, most regents did their work as teachers in Jesuit high schools, and many still do. What’s evolved is the breadth of regency assignments, along with the profile of these Jesuit “interns.”

Today’s regents are working in homeless shelters and refugee camps, as well as in high schools, colleges and many other apostolates. They also come with experience that Jesuits in the distant past (often going straight from high school into the Jesuit order) rarely had. In Jesuits West, the ranks of regents have recently included ex-Marines like Chavira, artists and musicians, lawyers, a pharmacist, a chef and even a (biological) father, among others.



Pharmacist Dzao Vu, SJ, at a Creighton University lab



Henry William Perez, SJ (holding sign), at Genevieve's Garden in Hollywood

Dzao Vu, SJ, is the pharmacist. He was born in Vietnam and came to the United States at age 15, settling initially in Houston with his family in 1992. After graduating with a bachelor's in philosophy from the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, Texas, Vu set his sights on the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, where he earned his Doctor of Pharmacy degree. "I thought pharmacy would be the path I follow in life," says Vu, who went on to work as a clinical pharmacist with the U.S. Air Force as well as with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Nevada.

Vu was climbing the professional ladder, but whenever he perused the parish bulletin of his church in Reno, he realized how much his day job got in the way of doing all he'd like to do as a parishioner. He began thinking about how he could better balance his professional life and spiritual desires, before taking the further step of contemplating a vocation, possibly as a military chaplain. He discerned with a few religious orders, finally knocking on the door of what was then the California Province of the Society of Jesus, which he entered in 2014.

In his regency, which ended this past summer, Vu remained a practitioner of his craft. He taught in the School of Pharmacy at Creighton University in Omaha, and he dispensed medication at the Magis Clinic, a free clinic for the homeless run by students at Creighton's School of Pharmacy and Health Professions. At the same time, Vu felt pulled to another side of his ministry at Creighton—helping alumni and other members of the university community to reflect on where God is leading them. This fall, he moved on to study theology at Regis College in Toronto.

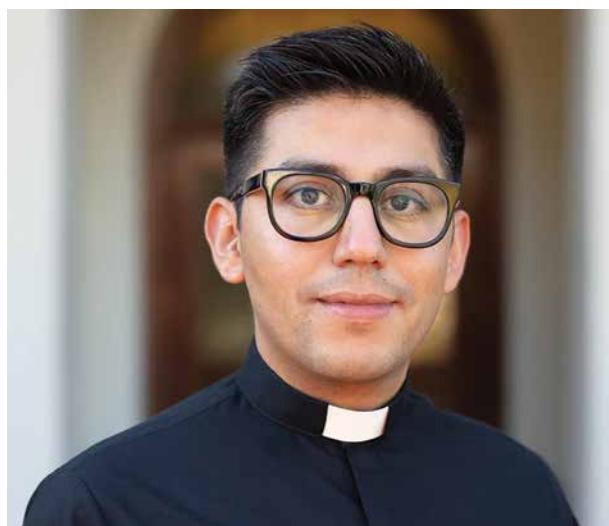
Henry William Perez, SJ, is the chef. He's also a former Marine Corps reservist and advertising professional—as well as a Jesuit brother, which means, for one thing, that he's not on the ordination track. Perez is doing his regency at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Hollywood, California. When he began there in May 2020, he started tackling a particular problem of homelessness in the time of Covid.

"Many people don't realize that when the pandemic happened, a lot of the places that the homeless go

to were suddenly closed off, places like libraries and coffee houses," says Perez, who has a trim salt-and-pepper beard and sported a Loyola High School polo shirt during a FaceTime interview from Blessed Sacrament's former rectory (now housing offices and a library with a working fireplace). Perez and the church community responded by establishing Genevieve's Garden, a refuge for the homeless—essentially, a collection of picnic tables on the west side of Blessed Sacrament, a Jesuit church on Sunset Boulevard.

The Hollywood Food Coalition helps provide sandwiches, healthy snacks and other fare rescued from Hollywood studios. "The food I get is really top-notch," says Perez, who went to culinary school with his adult son a decade ago. But he is quick to add that the real purpose of Genevieve's Garden is to offer the homeless a place to relax, enjoy the company of others (if they so choose) and "hang out with Brother Henry." Even as other venues reopened, the homeless (on average, around 50 a day) continued to seek out this daytime refuge.

continued next page



Artist Daniel Flores, SJ

Perez is continuing his regency at Blessed Sacrament while also beginning studies at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles in clinical psychology and art therapy for youth and families.

And then there's the artist, **Daniel Flores Estrella, SJ**—who comes from a family of itinerant workers from Mexico. Before entering the Society of Jesus in 2014, he spent more than a decade as a multidisciplinary artist and arts educator, helping students use various art forms as a vehicle for social and restorative justice. For example, as part of a Smithsonian fellowship in Los Angeles, he led a project in which disadvantaged students went around their neighborhoods with disposable cameras, documenting their familiar surroundings with fresh eyes.

During his recent regency, Flores lectured in the fine arts department at Loyola Marymount University and worked as an assistant to the dean of students there. At the dean's office, he gained a new awareness of the role Jesuit universities can play on the frontiers of the worldwide Society of Jesus, or "at the periphery," to use Pope Francis' expression.

"When we talk about ministry out on the margins of society, we seldom consider the universities to be on the margins themselves," notes Flores, who was born in Mexico and raised in Inglewood, California. And yet, he came to know plenty of full-time undergraduate students on the social periphery, including those who were undocumented or homeless, and students who were undergoing serious health treatments. Often, the office could help out by keeping an open communication with them or by simply arranging for tangibles like textbooks, rent money or groceries. Flores says the encounters led him to believe that, "If we are to find God in all things, then the ministry

of Jesuit higher education entails being attentive and present to all students, especially those that don't find themselves at home in our institutions."

Usually, Jesuits go from regency to three years of theology—a final step toward priestly ordination. That won't be the precise path for Flores, now done with regency. His new assignment is "special studies" at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, where he has received a fellowship to further study the capacity of art as a conduit for social restorative justice. After getting his Master of Fine Arts degree, Flores will proceed to theology studies, with the possibility of focusing on the theology of aesthetics.

Though casting out toward an expanse of ministries, regents can still be found in their traditional habitats—Jesuit high schools.

"IT (REGENCY) MIGHT BE THE MOST IMPORTANT STAGE OF JESUIT FORMATION, BECAUSE BY THE END, WE HAVE ALL THE DATA WE NEED—ALL WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WHETHER THEY WANT TO GO FORWARD AND WHETHER WE BELIEVE THEY SHOULD GO FORWARD. AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS, YOU CAN SEE IT. THERE'S A SENSE OF FREEDOM AND ENERGY. THEY'RE GETTING TO A PLACE OF FREEDOM WHERE THEY COULD ACCEPT THE OFFER THAT GOD IS GIVING THEM."

—Fr. Tony Sholander, SJ, Jesuits West delegate for formation



Ulises Covarrubias, SJ, at Seattle Prep

Ulises Covarrubias, SJ, recently spent his regency at Seattle Preparatory School teaching Spanish and theology. There, he became practiced in the art of Jesuit-lay collaboration, working with a raft of non-Jesuit leaders, among them the school president, principal and campus ministries director. That is a familiar rite of passage for regents assigned to lay-administered institutions. “Their care, their encouragement, their support for my ministry and vocation,” Covarrubias says gratefully, his eyes wandering off in a Zoom interview—with no need to complete the sentence.

It seems the experience that formed him the most at Seattle Prep was the encounter with students. “You come to appreciate their goodness. You let down your guard, and you allow yourself to be loved by them and to love them in return,” says Covarrubias, who was born in Mexico, came to the U.S. when he was two years old and earned his bachelor’s in international development studies from UCLA, before getting his master’s in public diplomacy at USC.

In a way, all that is par for the course during this phase of Jesuit formation, when regents venture beyond their formation communities, into the wide world of Jesuit ministry. As Covarrubias puts it, “Regency is really a time when you’re able to be in close contact in a very intentional way with the people of God, not just intermittently, like in the novitiate or first studies. It’s a way to grow and confirm your vocation.” He adds, “I was able to share my love of God with God’s people, especially my students.”

This past summer, he became a student again, entering the theology phase of formation at Centre Sèvres, a Jesuit institute in Paris. Covarrubias says he pictures himself in front of a classroom in the future, happily teaching at a Jesuit high school or at the university level.

According to Father Tony Sholander, SJ, the province’s delegate for formation, regency is decisive. “It might be the most important stage of Jesuit formation, because by the end, we have all the data we need—all we

need to know about whether they want to go forward and whether we believe they should go forward,” he explains. “And when that happens, you can see it. There’s a sense of freedom and energy. They’re getting to a place of freedom where they could accept the offer that God is giving them.”

For his part, Chavira—the prison chaplain, in roughly his last year of regency—has been discerning on a number of levels. Is he called to be a Jesuit, to not only carry out good works but also spend his life in community with fellow Jesuits? Is he called specifically to the priesthood, not simply to prison ministry (which he could handle quite well as a non-ordained chaplain), but also to the sacramental aspects of Jesuit priestly ministry?

And those aren’t even his most profound levels of reflection. “The biggest discernment is the discernment with God, with Christ, who will sustain me in this vocation, in this ministry of the priesthood, in the love and joy of this life,” says Chavira—almost giving away the ending. ■

William Bole is a journalist who writes frequently about the Jesuits.

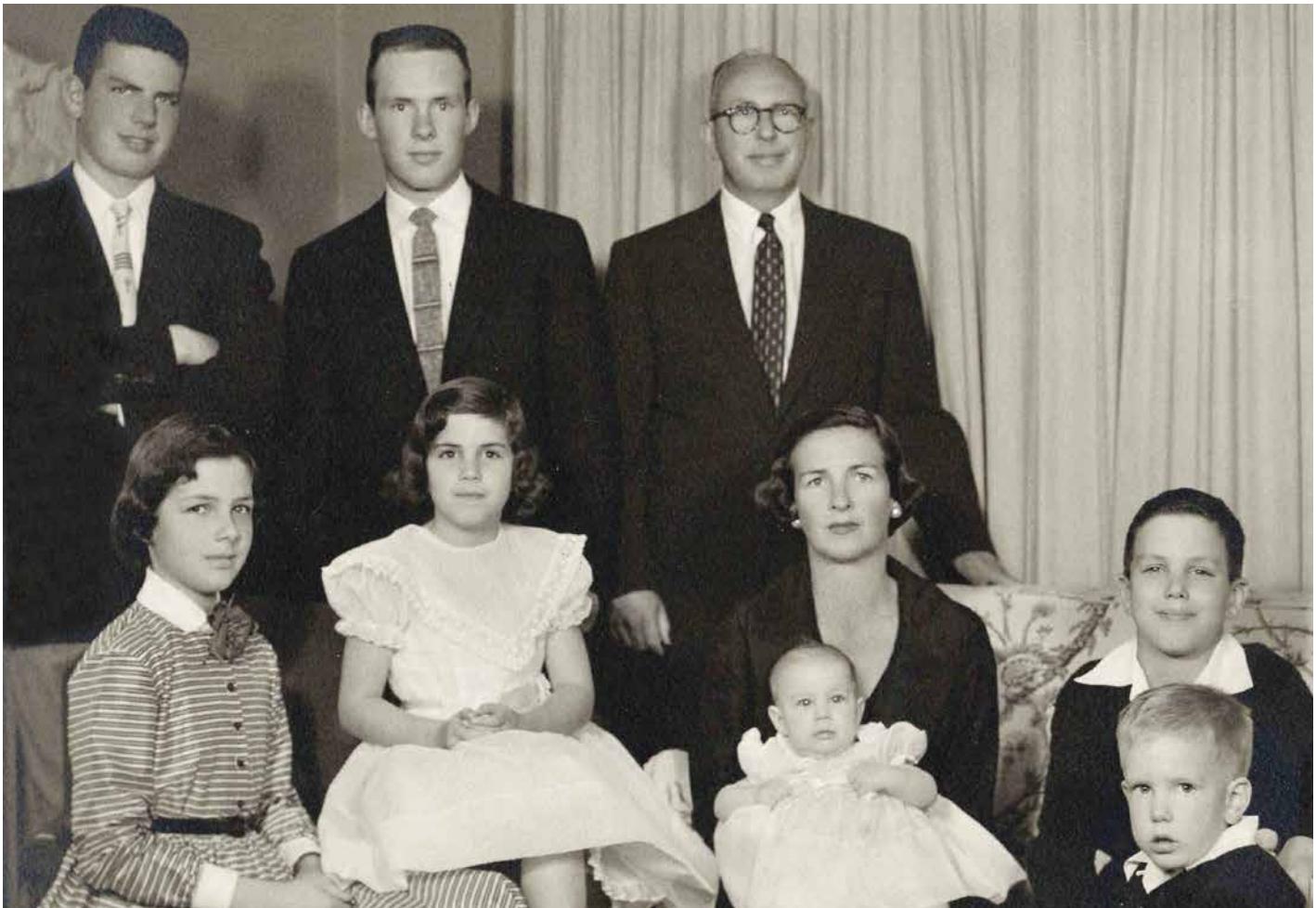
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TWO JESUIT VOCATIONS: THE BEST CASE SCENARIO

By Tracey Primrose



Dick (back row, left) and Frank (back row, center) in a Case family photo from 1956, the year Frank entered the Jesuits

Close your eyes and imagine your childhood home. Even if many decades have passed since you left to forge your way in the world, those memories of shared experiences with parents and siblings are easy to recall. All that history is part of growing up—it is not typically part of growing old.

But Jesuit Fathers Frank Case and Dick Case are enjoying an opportunity not experienced by many siblings. After long lives of service to the Society of Jesus and the people of God, the brothers have come home to Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, the Jesuits West Province's health care/retirement facility high on a hilltop in beautiful Los Gatos, California. While Dick serves in a part-time administrative role at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, Frank's

full-time mission, like every Jesuit in Los Gatos, is to pray for the Church and the Society of Jesus.

The brothers play gin rummy together, watch sports (both are avid Gonzaga basketball fans), read and spend time in prayer. They accompany each other and their fellow Jesuits on a journey that is, for them, practical and no nonsense: They say they are at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center to die, a fact that does not appear to ruffle them in the least.

While it's a quick, two-hour flight from nearby San Jose to Seattle, where the brothers were raised, the Case family has not lived in the bustling house on 37th Ave. in

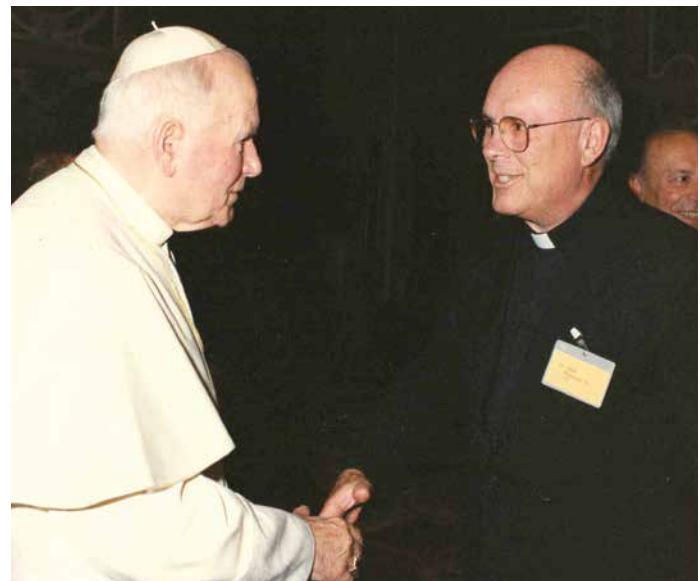
Washington Park for many decades. But the memories of their happy childhood home loom large for Frank and Dick.

Their dad was a Congregationalist, and according to Dick, their mom was a “renegade Catholic who didn’t take priests all too seriously,” a theme echoed by the self-deprecating brothers. Because Elwell Case was not Catholic, he and Helen Danz were married at the rectory of her local parish, not in the church. Seeking a more hospitable environment, Helen found St. Joseph’s, a Jesuit parish, where the growing family of seven children found a home and the boys went to grade school. Frank, born in 1938, came first, and Dick followed four years later. Dick adored his older brother, but he also had something to prove. Their ongoing slugfest was part good-natured fun and part winner-takes-all-fist-to-shoulder combat. And no matter how hard the blow, neither brother flinched.

Frank led the way at Seattle Prep, followed by Dick, Stuart and Ross. Their sisters went to Forest Ridge Convent of the Sacred Heart. Like many who entered the Society during those years, Frank recalls being profoundly influenced by his Jesuit teachers, most just a few years older than their students. He entered the Jesuits after graduating from high school in 1956, one of 10 members of his class to do so. Dick recalls being shocked by Frank’s decision. He got over it—seven years later Dick announced that he too was becoming a Jesuit.

Dick’s vocation was perhaps more surprising than his older brother’s. After graduating from Seattle Prep, Dick attended Seattle University, but he dreamed of becoming a rancher. As a teenager, he had lived and worked on a dude ranch in Eastern Washington and, later, visited ranches in South America with his dad on something of a reconnaissance mission. A pilot at 17 and an instructor at 19, Dick’s plans were upended when he heard God’s call while on retreat at Seattle University. “It hit me between the eyes.”

Meanwhile, Frank was working his way through the long course of academic preparation and training that Jesuits refer to as formation. He earned graduate degrees in philosophy and theology and spent two and a half years teaching and coaching the golf team at Gonzaga Prep in Spokane. He furthered his studies with a master’s degree and a doctorate in economics before beginning an academic career as a professor at Seattle University and, later, rector of the Jesuit community.



Frank meeting Pope John Paul II (now Saint John Paul II)

For his part, Dick was also going through the same rigorous formation program, although his studies took him to the Netherlands. Dick is completely without guile when he says, “Frank is more of an intellectual. I am not a great intellectual by any stretch.” This from a man who learned Dutch for no other reason than to study theology.

In 1974, the Case family was rocked by tragedy. A student in Amsterdam at the time, Dick was listening to his small transistor radio when he learned about a Turkish Airlines crash outside Paris. With deepening dread, he remembered that his sister, Phyllis, and her husband were on their way home to London after vacationing in Istanbul. Dick knew viscerally that they were gone and, after the shock wore off, he cried for three days. Phyllis and her husband left behind two toddlers who were brought to Seattle, to the house on 37th Ave., where seven others had been raised. In their early 60s, the Case parents were beginning again.

When he returned home from theology studies, Dick was ordained and missioned to Gonzaga Prep, where his brother had served, to work in campus ministry. That summer, he left the comfort of Spokane for a remote Alaskan village at the mouth of the Yukon River to fill in for a pastor who was away for six weeks. Always interested in missionary work, Dick began studying the Yup’ik language at the University of Alaska and with a year of instruction under his belt, headed to the villages of Chevak and Newtok along the Bering Coast. His long service in

continued next page

Jesuit Profile *continues*



Dick, a skilled pilot, loved to fly to Alaskan outposts.

Alaska included time in Tununak, Toksook Bay, Nighthmute, Bethel, St. Mary's and Fairbanks, where he held leadership positions with the diocese. Both pastor and pilot, he would routinely shuttle passengers, particularly the Bishop of Fairbanks, to remote areas. He got to know the last frontier from the cockpit of a small Cessna and fell head over heels in love with Alaska and its rugged, faithful, loving people.

Frank's frontier, although not as remote, was just as formidable. In 1986, he was tapped to serve as provincial of the then-Oregon Province Jesuits and, after four years, was missioned to Rome to serve as an assistant to Jesuit Superior General Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, SJ. In addition to his love for going on long walks in the ancient city, Frank greatly admired his boss, Fr. Kolvenbach, who had a "marvelous sense of humor." He spent 15 years in the role of regional assistant for the United States and three years as General Secretary of the Society of Jesus. He returned to the U.S. in 2008 but still dreams in Italian.

In 2008, Dick tied up his plane for the last time. With the exception of a few years as rector of Bellarmine Prep in Tacoma and six years as president of Gonzaga Prep, he had served in Alaska for more than two decades. His next mission took him back to Spokane to be the pastor of St. Aloysius, the Jesuit parish on the campus of Gonzaga University. In 2011, after decades spent on different continents, the Case brothers were reunited when Frank came to Spokane to serve as Gonzaga's vice president for mission and ministry. He was also the chaplain for the men's basketball team, a dream job for the fanatical Zags fan.

After Dick was missioned to serve as assistant superior at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in 2017, Frank moved down

two years later. They are part of a wonderful community of retired and infirm Jesuits who are bonded not only because they answered Christ's call, but because they are preparing for the time when the Lord will call them again. Death is part of life at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, and while the community has suffered tremendous losses in the last year alone, Dick is quick to offer that the First Principle and Foundation of the *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius* is about freedom, so that we ultimately desire only what God wants for us. "I have worked for most of my life to try to be indifferent and let it happen the way it happens."

Frank echoes that sentiment, saying that although Sacred Heart Jesuit Center is where his earthly pilgrimage will end, he has nothing but gratitude and happiness, particularly when he thinks about his vocation as a Jesuit. "Here, where our assignment is to be praying for the Church and the Society of Jesus, I feel like every day I am waking up with God. So, I'm here. It's just the last step."



Dick makes quick work of giving his brother a trim

When Frank became a Jesuit 65 years ago, his father wrote him a letter. He recalls that it said something like this: "Dear Frank, you have chosen to do an important thing with your life. Anything important will have difficulties associated with it. Unless the difficulties become chronic, stick with it because the grass will always look greener on the other side of the fence."

He stuck with it. Why? His voice breaking with emotion, Frank says, "It is a vocation of falling in love." ■

A LIFETIME OF LESSONS FROM A JESUIT EDUCATION

By Samantha Bronson



Growing up in Tacoma, Washington, Mark Wuotila attended Catholic grade school just as his mother had. As he approached high school, it seemed only natural to continue his Catholic education. He enrolled at Bellarmine Preparatory School although he did not know much, if anything, about the Society of Jesus at the time.

That decision, however, paved the way for Mark's future success.

"They planted a seed of giving, of the importance of pursuing and developing your spiritual and mental and academic capabilities," Mark says. "That definitely sunk in."

Mark, who is semiretired, had a successful career in quality assurance and financial systems development. He now focuses on real estate management and has made a planned gift to Jesuits West in recognition of the impact the Society of Jesus has had on his life.

Mark describes himself as a mediocre student when he started at Bellarmine but explains that he internalized the Jesuit approach to education during his time there. Priests treated the young men—Bellarmine was an all-boys school then—with respect and had high expectations of them. Teachers were outstanding, and several were icons in their fields of study.

By the time he graduated, Mark had a burning desire to attend college, a step that he had not previously considered much since neither of his parents had graduated high school. "I realized that Bellarmine definitely wasn't an end in itself, but part of the journey of life—both spiritually and academically," he says. "It was part of the journey to continue to grow and develop and become a better person."

He went on to earn a bachelor's degree from the University of Portland and a master's degree from Washington State University. Still, Mark did not appreciate the full impact of his Jesuit education until years later. He reconnected with Bellarmine through alumni gatherings in California, where he was now living, and began a friendship with the school's president.

"At that point is when I began to realize the value of the Jesuit education I received," Mark says. "I saw how deep and meaningful it was to me, that they had presented this compassionate way of looking at things and the true meaning of the education process. The education I received was critical. It was one of the most important and most inspiring things of my whole life."

Also vital, Mark says, was the approach the Jesuits used in disciplining students, always demonstrating patience, love and compassion. That is an approach that Mark describes as "the finest experience that you can have." And while he did not realize it immediately, it is an approach he has carried with him throughout his life. In his career, for example, Mark says he has depended heavily upon his faith when faced with challenges. He also has worked at treating himself with the same patience, love and compassion the Jesuits demonstrated.

That is not always easy, Mark says, and it is something he continues to work on. Mark is also further developing his understanding and appreciation for the Catholic Church



Michelle Sklar, Mark Wuotila and Father Sam Bellino, SJ

and for the Society of Jesus by exploring documentaries. This passion, he says, reflects his Jesuit schooling not only because he embraces lifelong learning but also because he views the documentaries through a critical lens. Are they being objective? Are they considering pros and cons of different topics?

continued on page 29

NEWS FROM THE PROVINCE

SPOKANE JESUITS APPEAR IN COVID VACCINE PSAs

"Getting the vaccine felt like an act of compassion and empathy," said Fr. JK Adams, SJ, in a recent public service announcement for the Washington State Department of Health. "This is what we had to do for the sake of our elderly brothers, our school. And we wanted to do it together, my Jesuit community. That's how we do things, shoulder to shoulder."

Fr. Adams, who teaches theology and is school chaplain at Gonzaga Preparatory School in Spokane, along with Fr. Tom Lamanna, SJ, pastor of St. Aloysius Church in Spokane, took part in the PSA campaign, where they stressed that science and religion aren't in conflict with one another, but rather are "hand and glove."

There were three different videos that featured one or both Jesuits, and the PSAs on television in Washington state and available on the Washington State Department of Health's YouTube channel.

Fr. Adams said 99% of the feedback he's received has been positive and people appreciated the spots. "In the PSAs, we ask them to reflect, and we give our



reasons for getting the vaccine. It's about service and acts of compassion. It's a great thing to ask yourself how you can be of service."

In one PSA, Fr. Lamanna, who is shot inside St. Aloysius Church, reflects on his hopes for the parish. "With vaccines more widely available, we have been able to open up more," he said. "People coming back have expressed joy. My hope for us is that we can celebrate Christmas as we normally do."

"As Jesuits, we want to encourage everyone to take seriously all the data and all of the science," said Fr. Adams in another PSA.

Many people of faith have wondered what the moral implications of the vaccine might be. Fr. Adams felt that participating in the campaign was a rich opportunity to bring a religious perspective to the initiative.

The Catholic point of view is that science is a theology, examining God's world, he explained. "That's why we teach science in all our schools. The development of the vaccine fits in the understanding that God gave us a mind to do these things."

The PSAs are a request to consider getting the vaccine, said Fr. Adams. "What does it mean for vulnerable people if we choose to get vaccinated?"

THREE JESUITS WEST NOVICES PRONOUNCE FIRST VOWS



José Abrham Oros Ponce, SJ, Chris Castaneda, SJ, and Kevin Lee, SJ

After two years of learning to live, serve and pray as Jesuit novices, Chris Castaneda, SJ, Kevin Lee, SJ, and José Abrham Oros Ponce, SJ, professed first vows of poverty, chastity and obedience on August 14 at Sacred Heart Chapel at Loyola Marymount University.

"We're so grateful for Chris, and Kevin and José. We're grateful for their yes to God. And we're grateful to God who has called them, who has begun this good work in them and who will bring it to completion," said Father Stephen Corder, SJ, director of novices for Jesuits West,

during his homily at the First Vows Mass, which was livestreamed so family and friends who weren't present could watch.

The three newly vowed Jesuits spent the previous two years at the Culver City novitiate learning about the Society of Jesus, participating in local ministries and living in community. They also performed community service and completed the 30-day *Spiritual Exercises* retreat.

"Chris, Kevin and José, we are all moved by your courage and by the faith, hope and love with which you profess your vows today in the Society of Jesus. Thank you for your witness, and thank you for your trust in God," Fr. Corder said.

These three Jesuits will continue their formation in philosophy studies at Fordham University in the Bronx and Loyola University Chicago.

Dieringer story continues



Fr. Sean Carroll, SJ, with the Dieringer siblings Pat (left), Gene and Vicki

When their father turned 85 in July of 2007, the children compiled a litany of the "85 Plus Reasons We Love Dad." At the top of the list was "his strength, his peace, his love and his faith," a faith that sustained the family weeks later when, gathered around him saying the rosary, Bob went home to God. Their dad took his last breath, and son Gene said, "Dad, welcome home." Pat remembers, "We were sad for ourselves, but it was so tremendously beautiful. It was glorious." Bob died at 5:30 a.m., and then the family went to 8 a.m. Mass.

At Bob Dieringer's funeral Mass, there were 27 priests on the altar, not surprising given his lifelong commitment to the education of priests. Two years later, Evelyn was

not quite herself one spring day. She told her daughter Rose, "I am feeling a loneliness that only your father can fill." Several days later, her daughter Vicki rushed her to the hospital where she was found to be suffering from a heart attack. Once admitted, Evelyn was not concerned for herself: Her primary worry was for the housebound woman she drove to Mass and brought communion. "Please tell Mary that I won't be there tomorrow," Evelyn asked her children before joining her beloved husband in heaven.

Upon her death, the Bob and Evelyn Dieringer Family Foundation was established. There have been significant gifts from the foundation and decades of untold corporate and personal donations to the Society of Jesus and to the foundation's three other benefactors. In addition to establishing the foundation, Bob and Evelyn hoped that their family home would be used for charitable purposes; today the house on Henderson St. in southeast Portland where 12 children were raised is being used by Catholic Charities as a home for senior women who might otherwise be homeless.

Although the last store closed in 1996, today the Dieringer property management business continues with sons Gene and Pat at the helm. The brothers say that their legacy is to fulfill their parents' legacy. Gene says of his parents, "They wanted people to be aware of their philanthropy only to serve as an example so that others might also be inspired to be generous. My father used to say that no matter how much he gave away, he could never outdo the generosity of God." ■

Mark Wuotila story continues

While most of his recent connections with Jesuits have been from home, Mark previously attended Mass with Jesuits and regularly assisted Father John Palm, SJ, who was at Mark's church, with computer technology. Every Sunday after Mass, Mark would spend half a day working with Fr. Palm on computer issues, printing out email communications and more. The two forged a friendship and Mark was honored to observe the day-to-day humanity of a Jesuit priest.

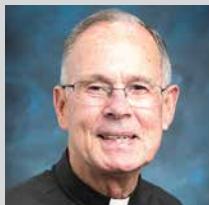
Fr. Palm eventually moved to Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, and Mark began donating more to Jesuits West. Given the impact the Jesuits have had on his life,

Mark knew that the Society of Jesus should be at the top of his list as he planned his estate. His gift, he says, will go toward whatever need the Society deems most important.

"If you really want to do something meaningful and you have the extra resources, this is the noblest cause you can find," Mark says. "The Jesuits will use your donation to better the whole world. If you care about things at that level—if you say to yourself, 'Is this all there is?'—the answer is no. You can contribute to the Jesuits, and you can do better. I believe this is the best thing going right now." ■

IN MEMORIAM

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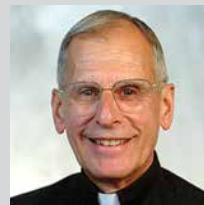
**Father James E.
Flynn, SJ**

August 12, 1942
March 4, 2021



**Father Francis R.
Smith, SJ**

July 14, 1934
March 25, 2021



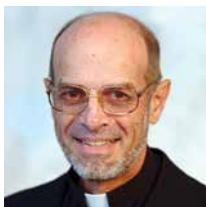
**Father Russell
J. Roide, SJ**

December 10, 1938
April 13, 2021

Fr. James E. Flynn, SJ, died March 4, 2021, in Los Angeles. He was 78 years old and a Jesuit for almost 60 years. After graduating from high school, he attended Santa Clara University for one year before joining the Jesuits in 1961. He was ordained a priest in 1972. Fr. Flynn's ministry included teaching in the classroom, as well as working in administration and counseling offices. He was a teacher and assistant principal for academics at Loyola High School of Los Angeles; chaplain and principal at Jesuit High School in Carmichael, California; and counselor and Jesuit superior at Brophy College Preparatory in Phoenix. He served as director of spiritual formation at St. Francis Seminary in San Diego and superior and retreat director at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos, California. On the university level, he served as assistant to the president for University Mission at the University of San Francisco and assistant to the rector of the Jesuit Community of Loyola Marymount.

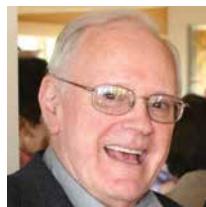
Fr. Francis (Fran) R. Smith, SJ, retired professor of theology and religious studies at Santa Clara University, died March 25, 2021, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California. He was 86 years old and had recently celebrated his 60th anniversary as a Jesuit. A graduate of St. Ignatius College Prep in San Francisco and Santa Clara University, Fr. Smith served in the Army for two years and then attended the University of San Francisco Law School for a year before entering the Jesuit novitiate. He was ordained in 1970 and, after further studies, began his long teaching tenure at Santa Clara University in 1974. The university would be his home for the next 44 years. He was an influential teacher, who taught a variety of theology and religious studies courses. He also established the Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries, which has trained lay church personnel for almost 40 years. His books include *The God Question, a Catholic Approach* and *The World is Charged: The Transcendent with Us*.

Fr. Russell J. Roide, SJ, died on April 13, 2021, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, at age 82. His Jesuit ministry spanned 60 years and included high school teaching and administration and university campus ministry. He graduated from Loyola High School of Los Angeles and Loyola [Marymount] University, and then entered the Jesuit novitiate at Los Gatos in 1960 and was ordained in 1970. He taught at Bellarmine College Preparatory in San Jose, California, and at Loyola High School. At St. Ignatius College Prep in San Francisco, he served as assistant principal for student affairs and rector-president. He was director of campus ministry at Stanford University and director of the Catholic center at the University of Hawaii, Honolulu. He held chaplaincies at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, and Gonzaga University in Florence, Italy. He also served as pastor of St. Agnes Church in San Francisco and St. Francis Xavier Church in Phoenix and led dozens of pilgrimages to the Holy Land and Europe.

**Father Robert
Grimaldi, SJ**

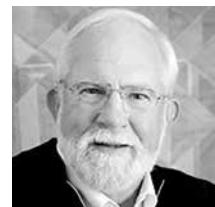
May 17, 1937
May 5, 2021

Fr. Robert Grimaldi, SJ, a missionary who labored in Honduras for over 40 years, died May 5, 2021, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, in Los Gatos, California, at age 83. He graduated from Bellarmine College Preparatory in San Jose, California, and then entered the Jesuit novitiate at Los Gatos. He was ordained in 1968. Fr. Grimaldi taught at Bellarmine Prep before embarking on his lifelong work as a missionary priest in Jalapa, Mexico, and, for, 43 years, in rural northern Honduras. He served in three large parishes in El Progresso, Olanchito and Tocoa. Sometimes he had the help of another Jesuit, but he was often alone, travelling from mountain hamlet to banana plantation by bicycle during the dry season, by foot during the torrential rains. He built, and often rebuilt, chapels and schools, often damaged during frequent hurricanes. In addition to sacramental ministry, he trained people in the villages as lay ministers to assist in faith formation between his visits, recruited teachers for the primary school and led youth retreats that attracted many participants.

**David L.
Thomas, SJ**

March 9, 1939
June 22, 2021

David L. Thomas, SJ, teacher and pastoral minister in Jesuit high schools and parishes in the Pacific Northwest, died June 22, 2021, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California. He was 82 years old and a Jesuit for 63 years. He graduated from Gonzaga Preparatory School in Spokane, Washington, and two years later, he entered the Jesuit novitiate in Sheridan, Oregon. He taught Latin, history, speech and religion at Loyola High School in Missoula, Montana. At Seattle Preparatory School and Mateo Ricci College, he devoted 35 years to Jesuit education. Primarily a history teacher, he also taught photography and later served as dean of students and administrator of the Jesuit community. He then served as pastoral associate at St. Francis Xavier Church in Missoula, where his ministry focused on the elderly in retirement homes and health care facilities and to the homebound, bringing sacraments and companionship. He later did the same ministry at the Jesuit residence in Spokane. He was also an excellent musician and repaired church organs.

**Father Stephen
R. Kuder, SJ**

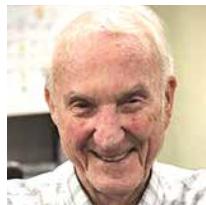
August 1, 1942
August 5, 2021

Fr. Stephen R. Kuder, SJ, died August 5, 2021, in Spokane, Washington, at age 79. A Jesuit for 61 years and a priest for 48 years, he served primarily at Gonzaga University and St. Aloysius Catholic Church, where he began his service in 1977. His Catholic faith was nurtured by his family and education at St. Augustine's Catholic grade school and parish, Gonzaga Preparatory School, Gonzaga University and his Jesuit training. During his many years of ministry, Fr. Kuder was a teacher, administrator, spiritual director and preacher. His intelligence and ability to articulate the mission of Jesuit education was the gift he brought to his students, colleagues, the Gonzaga University Board of Trustees and the boards of the various Jesuit high schools on which he served. Fr. Kuder's gifts extended beyond education to his preaching and pastoral ministry, which affected generations of Gonzaga University students and parishioners of St. Aloysius Church, as well as the wider community. His pastoral ministry, which included many baptisms, weddings and funerals, brought him joy.

**Father Ernest R.
Martinez, SJ**

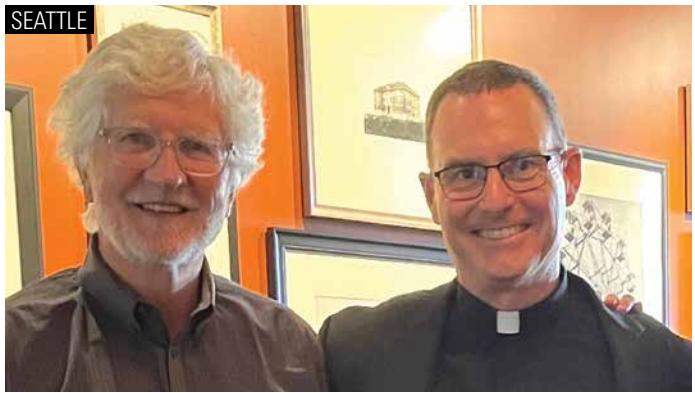
December 12, 1931
August 24, 2021

Fr. Ernest R. Martinez, SJ, Jesuit priest and Scripture scholar, died August 24, 2021, in San Jose, California. He was 89 years old and a Jesuit for 72 years. After graduating from St. Ignatius College Prep in San Francisco in 1949, he entered the Jesuit novitiate at Los Gatos. Before his ordination in 1962, he taught English in Guadalajara and Spanish in San Francisco. After ordination, he served as professor of Scripture and theology at Loyola Marymount University and professor of systematic theology and New Testament at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California. He then went to Rome and taught New Testament at the Pontifical Biblical Institute and New Testament spirituality at the Gregorian University. In addition, he served the Diocese of Oakland as Scripture consultant in the departments of adult education and catechetical ministry. He did regular parish ministry and was a popular presenter at Bible conferences in Bay Area churches and study groups. He authored many scholarly books and articles in his field.

**Father Joseph
W. Morris, SJ**

October 17, 1925
August 26, 2021

Fr. Joseph W. Morris, SJ, former teacher, administrator and pastor, died August 26, 2021, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California. He was 95 years old and recently celebrated his 75th anniversary as a Jesuit. After attending Loyola [Marymount] University, he served for two years in the Navy and then entered the Jesuit novitiate at Los Gatos in 1946. He was ordained in 1959. He spent 15 years at Bellarmine College Preparatory in San Jose, California, where he taught and served as director of admissions. He then began 35 years of pastoral ministry at various locations: Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Santa Barbara; St. Francis Xavier Church in Phoenix; Good Shepherd Church in East Carbon, Utah; chaplaincy at St. Joseph's Health and Retirement Center in Ojai, California; and pastoral ministry in the Santa Barbara area. Early in his training, Fr. Morris learned American Sign Language and ministered to the deaf community. He had an outgoing, gregarious personality and would incorporate a joke or story into his well-received homilies.



Patrick Kennedy and Fr. Sean Carroll, SJ



Michelle Audino and Laurie Gray



Michelle Sklar, Dom Tarantino (proud USF alumnus and grandfather of a Gonzaga graduate) and Fr. John Mossi, SJ



Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ, Jenny Go and Siobhán Lawlor



Barbara Gunning, Siobhán Lawlor, Kathleen L. McCarthy and Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ



Mr. and Mrs. Greg Maxon with Fr. Sean Carroll, SJ



Dan Murphy Foundation board members and staff visit the Jesuit Novitiate in Culver City



Barbara Gunning (left) with Elizabeth and David Mojica

Advancement Director's Letter

Dear Friends,

Looking back now, it is hard to imagine that there was a time in my life when I did not know what a provincial was. I thought provincial was a way of describing someone whose ideas were narrow or unsophisticated as in, "Don't be so provincial, Mom, everyone is wearing high heels to the 8th grade dance." By the way, I never uttered those words to my Irish-born mother because not only were her views worldly, but because I was never going to win an argument with her on dress codes or anything else.

But I digress. When I came to the Jesuits West Province in 2016, I met two provincials in one fell swoop. Father Mike Weiler, SJ, the then-provincial of the California Province, and Father Scott Santarosa, SJ, the then-provincial of the Oregon Province, teamed up to interview me and then hired me as the head of advancement for both provinces. A year later, Fr. Mike finished his term as provincial, and Fr. Scott became the first provincial of the newly created Jesuits West.

These last years have been marked by my growing recognition of the deeply consequential role that provincials play in the lives of the Jesuits of a province and its many affiliated ministries. Fr. Scott often used to say that he felt, in many respects, like a father to the young men being formed for ministry as Jesuit priests and brothers. He was quick to add that he also felt like a son to the many retired and infirm Jesuits who live at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, and elsewhere in the province.

And while that responsibility was very much geared toward concern that each Jesuit is doing well and happy in his life and ministry, a large part of the worry for any provincial is: How can we afford to pay for all of this? Fr. Scott and Fr. Mike were acutely aware that with annual senior care costs at \$12 million and \$6 million plus for formation, the province would have to rely on the generosity of our donors.

Working so closely with the provincials, I understand the many pressures on their time and energy, which is why I was so grateful that they were always so quick to say yes to any opportunity to meet with our benefactors. They enjoyed learning why our donors care so deeply about the Society of Jesus and growing in friendship with all of you, who are inextricably linked to the Jesuits West Province in mission. Our new Provincial, Fr. Sean Carroll, SJ, has ambitiously stepped up to the fundraising plate by already hosting Advancement Days with donors in Seattle and Portland, with upcoming visits to Spokane, Phoenix and San Francisco. Just a few months into his new role, Fr. Sean is demonstrating that same provincial fundraising zeal that I have come to know and love.

Our magazine's cover photo was taken on July 31, the feast of St. Ignatius, when we welcomed Fr. Sean. He is standing with his predecessors, all wonderful former provincials I am honored to know and call friends. I am deeply thankful to each of them and to all of you for the many ways that you make our mission possible.

Gratefully yours,

Siobhán Lawlor

Siobhán Lawlor
Vice President for Advancement & Provincial Assistant



Standing between my current boss and my former boss



With Tracey Primrose and two former provincials, Fr. Pat Lee, SJ (left) and Fr. Mike Weiler, SJ



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—
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Jesuits West welcomes its new novices along with novices from the Central and Southern Province (UCS) to the novitiate in Culver City, California. The UCS novitiate in Grand Coteau, Louisiana, also serves as the province's retirement/health care facility, and as the COVID-19 Delta variant ravaged communities over the summer, there was great concern about the health risks posed to both novices and the senior Jesuits in Grand Coteau. The solution: Send the novices to California! Jesuits West is happy to have a bustling novitiate with 18 novices and grateful for a chance to show off our western hospitality. The UCS Jesuits will return to Louisiana in May 2022.

