Dear Friends,

July 31, the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, marks my first year as provincial of Jesuits West. As I think about all the places I have traveled and all the people I have met in these last 11 months, I am suffused with gratitude. I am grateful to my brother Jesuits, to our many wonderful lay partners who bring Christ’s love to countless students, parishioners, retreatants and people at the margins, to our donors who make it all possible and to so many friends and family members.

Recently, I was in Rome for New Provincial School. While the Major Superiors Colloquium is the official name of the two-week gathering I attended with 14 other newly minted provincials from around the world, it is more commonly referred to it by its nickname. Although I have been a Jesuit for more than 30 years, the seminars and presentations that filled our days reminded me that there is still much for me to learn. At the same time, though, God kept telling me that I am not alone because I had only to look to my fellow provincials from India, China, Peru and so many other places for kinship and inspiration. We share the same questions, the same experiences and the same love for the Church and the Society of Jesus.

Our “school” included some very special experiences, including the Mass that Jesuit Superior General, Fr. Arturo Sosa, SJ, celebrated for our group in the rooms where St. Ignatius of Loyola lived and died. The chambers, which were renovated and curated with great care by one of our own province Jesuits, Fr. Tom Lucas, SJ, are connected to the Gesù, the mother church of the Society of Jesus.

Another powerful memory is the 12 1/2-mile pilgrimage that Fr. Antoine Kerhuel, SJ, who is the secretary of the Society of Jesus in Rome, led for a group of us to seven basilicas and churches around and outside the eternal city. St. Philip Neri, a 16th-century Italian priest, popularized the pilgrimage, and I am told that some of the early Jesuits were known to make this trek.

It was humbling to walk in the footsteps of the first companions, but I know that feeling well. The pages of our magazine are full of stories of Jesuits and lay companions whose work consoles me. I am thinking especially of Arnie Shafer, who headed health care for our province for a decade before his sudden death at the end of last year, and my many Jesuit brothers who have gone home to God in the last several months.

I am grateful to all of them and all of you.

Yours in Christ,

Sean Carroll, SJ
Provincial, Jesuits West
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LETTING GO OF THE ILLUSION OF CONTROL

By James Millikan, SJ

“I firma aquí.” (“Sign here.”)

I glanced over the document written in Spanish legalese. Secuestro (kidnapping) and rescate (ransom) jumped off the page. My eyes bulged and my pulse quickened. Only three days earlier I had professed my first vows in Los Angeles; now I was being asked to make yet another solemn profession: I would seek no ransom for my release in the event of my kidnapping.

Sensing my unease, Guillermo, my new superior in Guadalajara, told me “no te preocupes” (“don’t worry”) and flashed a toothy smile. He explained that the waiver was for my own protection: No ransom, no motivation for the narcos to target a gringo like me. As he said this, memories of equation-covered chalkboards and dispassionate explanations of unintended consequences filled my mind. It is one thing to grasp, on a theoretical level, how hostage payments shift kidnapping demand curves. It is quite another to willfully make yourself a datum in a social experiment. I closed my eyes for a moment, silently prayed the Suscipe, St. Ignatius’ radical prayer of self-giving, grabbed the pen, and signed the waiver.

That effort to cut the risk of a run-in with narcos was no mere formality. In my four years of studies at ITESO, the Jesuit university of Guadalajara, there was a rash of violence in our poor neighborhood on the south edge of the city. A few months after I arrived, a popular teen YouTuber was shot 15 times at a taco stand a stone’s throw away from our humble living quarters. A few months later, a dumped body was found in the dirt lot where our neighbors gathered to play street tennis. Then bodies were found in an alley across the street. Soon, the violence was closer still: Two mangled corpses appeared on the sidewalk outside our community’s door. Late night gunshots began to sound impossibly close. Would we soon be numbered among the nation’s nearly 100,000 missing people?

At the peak of the violence, Guadalajara’s authorities couldn’t keep up with the rate of recovered remains of disappeared persons. Officials resorted to a grim “mobile morgue”—trailer trucks full of corpses driving around the city waiting for their turn to be autopsied and identified. One such semitruck was found to contain 273 bodies. The truck’s refrigeration failed, and a putrid stench alerted the neighbors to its contents before room could be found in the city’s overflowing mortuaries.

While the clergy were less likely to be targeted than the general public, our safety remained precarious. One day a Jesuit working for a Mexico City-based book publisher didn’t return from work. Soon a ransom note surfaced. A hastily convened superior’s meeting was interrupted by a dreadful phone call: The priest’s lifeless body had been pulled from the gutter. Threats of violence are often directed toward Mexican Jesuits working on behalf of human rights at places like the Miguel Pro Human Rights Center or in the remote, subsistence communities of Sierra Tarahumara.

Sometimes the threats struck very close to home. I served as our community treasurer for two years...
and frequently traveled to the bank to make cash withdrawals. Almost all our expenses—groceries, medical bills, auto repairs, maintenance—were paid in cash, since debit and credit cards were viewed as contrary to our vow of poverty. My predecessor, a former systems engineer from Oaxaca, adamantly insisted that I take more frequent (and thereby smaller) withdrawals and urged me to take irregular routes back from the bank to ensure nobody was following me. It wasn’t until the final months of my term that the reason for these precautions came to light: A few years earlier the community treasurer was found hogtied and penniless in our van after an ill-fated bank run.

**A Near Miss**

My closest personal brush with disaster came in the summer of 2020. As the pandemic progressed, job losses and instability plunged many of our already poor neighbors into destitution. Poverty rates reached historic highs, and malnutrition became a real threat. Although our Jesuit community was already operating on a modest budget, we agreed to a sharp spending cut in order to buy and deliver groceries to our neighbors in need.

On one such grocery delivery, a Nicaraguan classmate and I drove the community van to a house that had reached out to us for food assistance. There had been some disconcerting helicopters flying over the neighbor’s street earlier in the morning, but we decided not to delay the trip. We parked on the jagged cobblestone road and began carrying the groceries from our van into the home of an elderly man and his physically disabled adult son.

Suddenly, the quiet afternoon was pierced by revving engines and squealing tires. National guard vehicles sealed off both sides of our street and a dozen soldiers carrying assault rifles charged toward us, chambering rounds and yelling commands. We would later learn that the dimly lit, cinder block residence across from us was a narco hideout actively holding two kidnapped men.

As the soldiers swarmed the door of the hideout, the neighbors dove into houses and yelled for us to take cover. I ran as fast as I could, and nearly crashed into a young soldier crouched behind a parked car. Had I been morenito rather than güerito (had a dark rather than a fair complexion), deciding to charge through a military blockade to flee the crime scene might have been the last mistake I ever made. The national guard crashed through the door of the house, revealing the two missing men. But the narcos had vanished. Had the kidnappers been present, I very well could have been taken hostage or caught in a crossfire as the national guard closed in on their position.

“**ONLY THREE DAYS EARLIER I HAD PROFESSED MY FIRST VOWS IN LOS ANGELES; NOW I WAS BEING ASKED TO MAKE YET ANOTHER SOLEMN PROFESSION: I WOULD SEEK NO RANSOM FOR MY RELEASE IN THE EVENT OF MY KIDNAPPING.**”

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Letting Go of the Illusion of Control continues

The liberated men were bruised and beaten but would make a full recovery. They were lucky. Many others—whose images circulated in frantic WhatsApp texts, whose mothers pleaded for my prayers as they buried their tear-soaked faces into my alb—are still missing today.

Out of Our Hands

“Primero Dios.” (“God willing.”)

This is no vapid platitude. Like it or not, our lives are radically out of our hands. Such nods to our inability to control the future—“There but for the grace of God go I,” “The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away,” “The best laid plans of mice and men...”—have all but disappeared from the English lexicon.

That’s a shame. We are deluding ourselves if we believe we can bend fortune to our beck and call. Paradoxically, the more frantically we grasp after illusory levers of the great social machinery, the more we grow turned inward and detached from that which truly endures. To trust in Providence, by contrast, is to live in a freedom that welcomes each day as a gift. We would do well to recover the language and attitude of impermanence.

I knew none of that on that August afternoon in Guillermo’s office, my eyes darting across the no rescue agreement placed before me, the ceiling fan straining feebly against the noonday heat. With the stroke of a pen, my Jesuit classmates and I affirmed an important truth, a truth too often ignored north of the Rio Grande: We are not masters of our own destinies and no one is saved alone. Jesuits take precautions where possible but refuse to cling greedily to individualistic security. Anything less would render us unworthy to be called compañeros de Cristo—companions of Christ.

James Millikan, SJ, a Jesuit in formation, currently serves as a teacher, soccer coach and the director of the integral ecology initiative at Verbum Dei High School in Los Angeles. From 2017 to 2021, he studied at ITESO, the Jesuit university of Guadalajara.

This article first appeared in The Jesuit Post, a publication of Jesuits in formation. You can find similar work at www.thejesuitpost.org.
The hallmark of the Ravizza and Schott families has always been the power to do good.

That is literally true of Cupertino Electric, which has powered numerous Silicon Valley companies since Gene Ravizza founded the company in 1954. It is also true of the Ravizza Family Foundation, which has funded Jesuit and Catholic causes for decades, including a number of Jesuit schools and universities — Sacred Heart Nativity School and Cristo Rey San José Jesuit High School among them — as well as the Kino Border Initiative, the Jesuit Restorative Justice Initiative, and the Jesuits West Province.

Gene and Mary Dianne (Schott) Ravizza, who passed away respectively in 2019 and 2014, also inspired their three children—Claranne Ravizza Long, Father Mark Ravizza, SJ, and Greg Ravizza—to follow their parents’ example.

Cupertino Electric, in addition to helping build Fairchild Semiconductors, HP and Intel in the early 1970s, has long encouraged its employees to volunteer in their communities and has generously donated goods and services to the Silicon Valley community since its founding. The company provides commercial services to many of the facilities that have come to define Silicon Valley.

“My parents taught us well,” added Claranne, who serves on Cupertino Electric’s board of directors as its retired CFO. “My dad’s motto was to treat people the way you wanted to be treated, similar to the Gospel’s Golden Rule. This is indicative of the way both my parents conducted themselves.”

Her brother, Fr. Mark Ravizza, SJ, is a Jesuit serving as a General Counselor for Formation for the Society of Jesus in Rome. Mark’s father, an active member of the Serra Club, “prayed every day for vocations,” added Claranne. “Although Mark’s journey into the Jesuits was not explicitly influenced by our father’s involvement with the Serra Club, our dad’s daily prayers and those of other Serrans surely helped Mark as they do so many other priests and religious.”

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In addition to teaching in Santa Clara University’s Department of Philosophy and working as a senior fellow of the Bannan Institute for Jesuit Education (now called the Division of Mission and Ministry), Fr. Ravizza also helped to develop transformative study-abroad programs in El Salvador and the Philippines. “It was not until my brother became a Jesuit that our parents fully appreciated the remarkable breadth of the Jesuit mission,” added Claranne. “I was fortunate to travel to the Philippines with Father Sonny Manuel, SJ, to visit Mark and was inspired to see the vision for the college students there.”

When her parents were alive, they worked to help people directly in need. “It didn’t matter if it was a child left homeless because of a typhoon, refugees displaced by war or a woman struggling alone with an unplanned pregnancy. Their hearts were moved by the plight of others suffering.”

The Ravizza Family Foundation focuses on education “because one of its missions is the belief that education can change a person’s future,” Claranne noted. “The foundation allows us to sponsor students from developing nations in their quest for college degrees. I was invited by Father Steve Privett, SJ, when he was president of the University of San Francisco, to his office to meet some of these students. That’s when my eyes were truly opened, and I could see the difference our family foundation was making. That’s where my passion is now—helping young people to be educated so that they, in turn, can make a difference, just as my father had.”

Gene Ravizza, who grew up on his parent’s apricot ranch on Wolfe Road in the South Bay, later attended Santa Clara University, where he earned his bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering in 1950. He fulfilled his ROTC service requirement by building airfields in Morocco and, upon his return to the U.S., purchased Kucher Electric for $12,500 and renamed it Cupertino Electric, helping it grow into today’s billion-dollar construction firm.

Mary Dianne Schott Ravizza also grew up in the South Bay and attended St. Clare’s School, Notre Dame High School in San Jose and San Jose State University.

Claranne recalls spending time as a child on the Schott side with her mother’s parents. “We grew up going to barbecues at St. Clare’s Church, attending Medical Missions Sisters barbecues, and singing at Our Lady of Fatima with my grandmother, who was a big supporter of the Carmelite nuns. She even made fruitcakes for them every year.”

In 1990, Claranne’s mother founded the non-profit Cocoon to meet the needs of pregnant women struggling financially. “She wanted to do all she could to help women who were considering terminating their pregnancies for fear they would not be able to provide for their child. My mother was passionate about helping women who could not afford to keep their babies, and I saw her inspire many good people to support Cocoon. She also made a huge difference in the lives of many women and children thanks to her support of the Juan Diego Society and other organizations.”
Her parents’ devotion to their faith, Claranne added, was also evidenced by the retreats they made at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos and “by my mother’s attendance at daily Mass. Both my folks prayed the rosary daily as well.”

Their faith also powered the family’s tremendous generosity. “They could have indulged themselves, but they chose, instead, to support education and the poor. I think my parents felt fortunate in their lives and wanted to give back. Thanks to the foundation they established,

I can continue their legacy along with my brothers. My children—Jenna Johnson, Matt and Chris—and Greg’s children—Elena and Luke—can do the same. We will all continue to support organizations that my parents felt passionate about.”

Gene and Dianne’s generosity “also came about thanks to the relationships they formed with so many Jesuits. Whether it was studying at the school of engineering at Santa Clara University or attending the annual fiesta at Sacred Heart Nativity School, the friendships they made and the vision they shared helped them see that their reach could be global. That’s what we will always try to do—create opportunities for people to make a difference for the future of us all.”

The family is known for its low-key philanthropy. “My parents never wanted their name on a building, and my mother said that she hoped she would get her wings in heaven,” Claranne recalled. “But they made one exception. Some years ago, my parents made a large donation to the province to benefit Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, the community for retired Jesuits in Los Gatos. The gift came with a naming opportunity, and my parents wryly chose our family name to appear on a plaque in the dining room. When asked why, they said they selected that spot because they knew that someday, many decades in the future, my brother Mark would be living there, and they wanted him to think about them at least three times a day.”

THE FOUNDATION ALLOWS US TO SPONSOR STUDENTS FROM DEVELOPING NATIONS IN THEIR QUEST FOR COLLEGE DEGREES. THAT’S WHERE MY PASSION IS NOW—HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE EDUCATED SO THAT THEY, IN TURN, CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.”

— Claranne Ravizza Long
REMEMBERING A DEAR FRIEND, ARNIE SHAFER

By Becky Sindelar

In the fall of 2020, there was a great deal of excitement at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, the Jesuits West Province’s health care/retirement community in Los Gatos, California. After years of hoping for new vans to transport Jesuits to doctors’ appointments and outings, the Clark Foundation’s generous donation paved the way for the purchase of two brand new vehicles. When it came time to christen and bless the vans, there was never any question that the larger of the two would be named Arnie in honor of someone who was the very picture of a man for others.

For the last decade, until his sudden death at 57 in December following a brief illness, Arnie Shafer served as the provincial assistant for health care for the Jesuits West Province. Although he worked on-site at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, Arnie managed the health care needs of Jesuits in the province’s 10-state region. A trusted colleague and friend, Arnie was known for his unflappability, his good humor, and his fierce devotion to the Jesuits and to his extraordinary team.

Sometimes Arnie had the difficult task of helping smooth the way for Jesuits reluctant to move to Sacred Heart Jesuit Center when their health care needs required them to do so. Each and every time, he managed transitions with care and grace. And for the last two years, Arnie had the extremely challenging task of helping the province navigate the coronavirus pandemic. While his decisions, including long months of quarantine and lockdown for the Sacred Heart Jesuit Center community, were not always popular, there was never any question that his actions were motivated by one thing: his deep love for those he referred to as “my Jesuits.”

Born in Yerington, Nevada, Arnie served as a medic and an EMT in the U.S. Navy for several years before earning a bachelor’s degree from the College of the Holy Cross and studying nursing at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts. For many years, he served as a nursing home administrator in various care facilities in California before beginning his long tenure with Jesuits West. We asked some friends and colleagues who knew Arnie well to share their reflections:

Fr. John Privett, SJ, former superior, Sacred Heart Jesuit Center (SHJC)
I worked with Arnie Shafer for 10 years and have never, in my 82 years, enjoyed working with anyone as much
as with him. His care for all of us was honest, kind, respectful and professional. He clearly loved us all—"in sickness and in health." I am extremely grateful for the time we worked together. He taught me a lot about "care" and "service," two things we Jesuits like to trumpet in our posters and publications. I will miss him very much!

Fr. Sean Carroll, SJ, provincial, Jesuits West
While, sadly, I did not get to work with Arnie for long, even in the last few months I developed such deep admiration and trust for this wonderful person who cared so deeply about the Jesuits of our province. Truly, it was humbling to see him do his job, which was a vocation in every sense of the word. God blessed us when he sent Arnie Shafer to serve the province 10 years ago, and may God now bless Arnie in his eternal rest. He has the prayers and gratitude of us all.

Fr. John P. McGarry, SJ, president, Jesuit High School Sacramento
I was sad to learn of Arnie Shafer’s death. He was a wonderful person. One of the last things I did when I was finishing my term as provincial of the Jesuits of the then-California Province was to hire Arnie Shafer as provincial assistant for health care. Arnie impressed me in the interview process, and I was moved by his wholehearted dedication and commitment in his work over the last 10 years. He cared deeply for the Jesuits at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, whether a Jesuit was missioned there or visiting for a time of healing. Though I never had the opportunity to work with Arnie as provincial after I hired him and then completed my term of service, I certainly have benefitted from his care, concern and wise health care advice over these years in dealing with my own personal health issues. Well done, dear Arnie, good and faithful servant. Godspeed. Enjoy eternal life with God whom you loved and served so well. Thank you for all that you did for the province, for so many Jesuits and for me. I am forever grateful.

Rita Kebebe, director of nursing, SHJC
I was shocked to learn of Arnie’s passing. Arnie was compassionate and a wonderful leader. It was a great privilege and opportunity to work with him. May his soul rest in peace!

Fr. Dick Case SJ, assistant superior, SHJC
When I first arrived at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos some five years ago, I did not know the community or the surroundings. Arnie and John Privett, who served as superior for 14 years until very recently, had been working together for about five years at that time. They both knew all about the men at Sacred Heart, and they knew the local area. I was always impressed with how well Arnie knew what was happening with the medical needs of the men and how well he knew the men. He was very patient with me, especially during those times when John Privett was away, and I was left as acting superior. I loved working with Arnie in so many different ways. May he rest in peace.

Julie Johnson, director of recreation services, SHJC
I am still processing the shock I felt when I first heard the news of Arnie’s sudden death. I pass by Arnie’s office every single day, multiple times per day, and he was always so kind to hear me out if I needed to run some ideas or questions by him. He was a good boss, he taught me a lot. Arnie will indeed be hard to replace and yet lives on in our 10-seater vehicle known as “The Arnie”—dedicated to the man who worked hard to get the right van for our Jesuits to travel in on their various outings. I am thankful to know that he didn’t have to suffer long through his illness. We will miss you very much and are eternally grateful to all you guided us through over the years. May you be at peace and in God’s presence. We will continue to work hard with “your Jesuits.”

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Remembering a Dear Friend, Arnie Shafer

Lisa Bishop-Smith, RN, acting provincial assistant for health care, Jesuits West Province
I’m so saddened by Arnie’s unexpected death; the province has lost someone very special. Ten years ago, I can remember sitting on the interview board when we were looking for someone to serve as the provincial assistant for health care. We interviewed a couple of other candidates but once we spent time with Arnie, we knew he was the perfect fit. Arnie was always available and supportive in situations that could prove to be very challenging. His courageous leadership through the pandemic will always be remembered. I will miss my trusted colleague and my partner for the occasional perfect martini!

Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ, former provincial, Jesuits West Province
Arnie loved us Jesuits like his own brothers, fathers, uncles, grandfathers. He treated all with great respect and compassion, and yet he was not afraid to make a recommendation or decision for the good of a man, even if the man might not like it. I know many Jesuits trusted him because he was so easy to confide in and he was discrete. I looked forward to visiting with him and laughing with him long into the future, but that was not to pass. I know many Jesuits are throwing a party for him in heaven. We love you, Arnie! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Fr. Mike Gilson, SJ, socius, Jesuits West Province
Jesuits West is blessed with so many wonderful lay companions, women and men who wholeheartedly embrace our shared mission. Arnie was a devoted companion who embraced his mission with joy and heart. He lovingly cared for the Jesuits throughout the province, and especially for the men at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center whom he often referred to as “my Jesuits.”

Well done, good and faithful servant. We miss you terribly. Rest now in peace.

Fr. Natch Ohno, SJ, delegate for senior Jesuits, Jesuits West Province
As we marked the one-year anniversary of so many who died at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center due to Covid, the news of Arnie Shafer’s death leaves even more of a void. Arnie—a professional, competent, caring colleague and friend—cared for all of us. I will miss Arnie in meetings and in trips; in his humor and in the goodness he shared as he went about the task of living he saw before him. May Arnie rest in peace from the labors of a life well lived.

Winie Tungcono, accounting and finance director, Jesuits West Province
I am terribly shocked by this news. I have always thought of Arnie as a very friendly, kind and wonderful colleague and friend. A few years ago when my mother was battling cancer, Arnie came to my office to help ease my concerns. He was so knowledgeable and calming, and he put me completely at ease. He assured me that my mom would be fine, and she is.
He was a wonderful colleague. He was very open, helpful, supportive and collegial. I will miss him dearly. Rest in peace, Arnie.

**Claribell Revelez, associate for formation and international ministries, Jesuits West Province**

What a tribute to the human soul. We were blessed with Arnie’s kindness, strength and perseverance, leading and guiding the Jesuits and staff for so many years and especially through the pandemic. In the train ride of this challenging life, Arnie reached his destination a little early, but his spirit will always be present.

**Fr. Joe O’Keefe, SJ, administrator, SHJC**

Arnie and I met many times over the years, but we only became colleagues and friends since I started working at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in the summer of 2021. In these past months, we had reason to be in contact many times a day. I knew of his legendary care for the Jesuits of the West, and it was a privilege to work alongside him if only for a far too short period of time. May he be cared for now with the same gentleness that he cared for so many; may he be greeted in paradise by the many Jesuits he guided there during their own final years, months and days. Thank you, Arnie Shafer, for your humility, humor and compassion.

**Fr. Sonny Manuel, SJ, province safety delegate, Jesuits West Province**

I am grateful to Arnie for speaking the truth, often the truth we did not want to hear—about diminishment, health guidelines, safe travel, etc. In my various roles in the province, I was also grateful that Arnie listened well and let the truth others spoke challenge him and help him find the wisest path forward for all parties.

When I wanted to join frontline workers during the pandemic, Arnie let me plead my case and supported my deployment as long as I took appropriate precautions when I returned. He understood and cared for our deepest desires in ministry and in our personal lives.

I remember him as a genuinely humble man who put others first and somehow found God in all of us. Thank you, Arnie!

**Fr. Tom Smolich, SJ, international director, Jesuit Refugee Service**

Arnie was always terrific. I knew him in two guises. One was as a member of the province living overseas. He was always helpful, connecting me with who I needed to see when I was home, etc.

Last summer I was a resident of Sacred Heart Jesuit Center for almost three months, recovering from spinal surgery. He was even better in that role—listening, pushing gently, reminding me that it would get better … as it did!

Arnie’s dedication to all of us made a huge difference for the province. RIP.

**Tracey Primrose, provincial assistant for communications, Jesuits West Province**

Over the course of the last few years, I have had the great privilege of working closely with Arnie. The one thing I can say is that if you’re in the trenches, navigating a global pandemic, there is only one person you want by your side and that is Arnie Shafer. Arnie was the calm in the storm. What an exceptional leader, the very epitome of grace under pressure. I will miss everything about you, Arnie, your smile, your laugh, your friendship, the way you always did the right thing.

**Siobhán Lawlor, vice president for Advancement & provincial assistant, Jesuits West Province**

Arnie’s sudden passing was such a shock. Caring for the senior Jesuits was not just a job for Arnie, it was a calling, and he was really wonderful at what he did. It was obvious he truly cared about the men, and that was reciprocal. I repeatedly witnessed Arnie going above and beyond for his guys to make sure they had the best care. When Covid hit Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, Arnie was there 24/7 doing all he could during a terrible time. He loved these men and had a gentleness about him that will be hard to replace. I will miss him—he was a friend! May he rest in peace.

**Fr. John Mossi, SJ, director of benefactor relations, Jesuits West Province**

Arnie was remarkable in his dedicated and professional quality care of Jesuits entering their senior years at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, as well as throughout the entire Jesuits West Province. Arnie set the health care bar at the highest level.

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Arnie was presented with a Jesuits West ministries quilt last spring in honor of his heroic contributions during the pandemic.
FIRST AND FOREMOST A JESUIT

By Michael Breault, SJ

Here’s a startling fact: By the time of St. Ignatius’ death—a mere 15 years after the founding of the Society of Jesus—Jesuits had established 74 colleges on three continents. How did those hard-driven black robes, whose resources seldom matched their lofty ambitions, accomplish so much, so quickly? The simple answer is they didn’t do it by themselves. Jesuit brothers did much of the heavy lifting. Ignatius swiftly realized the need for non-ordained members who could supply essential support for the Society’s burgeoning apostolates. He began to admit men as brothers: laymen who, as consecrated religious, would share the same vows and community life as priests and scholastics (students training to be priests). Because they weren’t heading for ordination, the brothers didn’t need the long formation required of priests; they were ready for work sooner, and the rapidly growing Society put them to good use. They were bricklayers and farmers, skilled artisans and tradesmen; men who could build a house, stable a horse, cook for 50, run a vineyard or operate a printing press. They sailed to Brazil and helped to found São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. They crossed the Hindu Kush from India to China, canoed the waterways of the Great Lakes and trekked the passes of the Himalayas. Most Jesuit brothers lived far more quotidian lives than their missionary companions, but whatever their work, it was always in support of the mission. Over time, however, a faint whiff of classism arose, a subtle bias that tended to characterize the brothers solely by the menial tasks they performed. Brother Daniel Peterson, who entered Sacred Heart Novitiate in 1961, a time when the entire country was locked in a struggle to dismantle discrimination, felt dissonance. He recalls thinking, “At a time of such upheaval and stratification, am I jumping into what amounts to a segregated society? Not discrimination based on race, but on the differences between vocations?” His classmate, Brother Douglas Draper remembers, “We lived in the same building as the scholastic novices but in separate wings; we didn’t socialize with them. We had a different novice master. We were destined to do trades. You know, a cook, a baker, a bookkeeper, whatever.”

All that was about to change. Vatican II called for—among many other things—a renewal of the religious orders. For the Jesuits, this included a multi-year reevaluation of the brothers’ vocation. Father Pedro Arrupe and successive Jesuit Superior Generals stressed that brothers were essential to the Society’s identity. Various...
General Congregations, while not doing away with a constitutional ban that excludes brothers from governance positions, promoted their full integration into the Society’s apostolates, encouraged them to pursue advanced degrees, and authorized them to work in their field of expertise outside the community.

“Vatican II opened the doors and windows for us,” says Br. Draper, who soon benefited from the Society’s reevaluation of the brothers. In 1966, he was missioned to St. Ignatius College Prep in San Francisco, to assist the dean of students. “I guess I made an impact,” he says with characteristic modesty, “because I was named the dean of students in 1969.” Br. Draper remained in that capacity for 42 years, the longest reign of any Jesuit high school dean in the country. His novice classmate, Br. Peterson, remembers, “Brothers started to be assigned more frequently to various apostolates. Those who didn’t have a college degree were encouraged to go after that. I already had my bachelor’s, so I went to San Jose State and obtained a master’s in librarianship.” Armed with the appropriate tools, Br. Peterson spent 25 productive years at St. Ignatius College Prep and then was appointed province archivist, a position he continues to hold.

Opening the door for more active apostolic engagement sometimes yielded surprising results. Brother Norbert “Biz” Korte went from typing invoices for the Jesuit Novitiate Winery to suddenly becoming its principal salesman and public face. His image adorned countless national ads that carried the catchy slogan “Heavenly Wines, Devilishly Good.” Br. Draper remembers Biz with fondness. “He felt that the brothers were treated like second-class citizens, so he always fought for us.” When Br. Draper had doubts about continuing as dean of students, Biz urged him to carry on, arguing that the brothers needed to be out in the forefront where people could see them and emulate their lives. “Br. Korte was a real role model for me,” says Br. Draper.

Diversity of work has become something of a hallmark for today’s Jesuit brothers. Brother Ryan Mak has just completed medical school and will soon begin his residency at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine. He is pictured on the cover of this magazine with Zosia Zdanowicz, a friend and fellow medical student. “Orthopedic surgery was my dream for years,” he says. “But one day I realized that I want to do more than operate on hands for the next 40 years. So, I made a switch to family medicine. I get to do a little bit of everything, from cradle to grave. And family medicine is known for social justice and advocacy. I think that makes perfect sense as a Jesuit.” Although Ryan’s way of being a Jesuit brother differs from the brothers of previous eras, he feels spiritually connected to them and finds beauty in their dedication to serving their fellow Jesuits. “Guys will joke that I’m going to wind up taking care of them at our retirement center in Los Gatos. I laugh about it, but, you know, I would love that. To be like the brothers back in the day who built the houses and did the plumbing and cleaned and cooked. It’s such a beautiful expression of care,” he says. “Being a brother gives me the freedom and intentionality to be, first and foremost, a Jesuit.”

Br. Norbert “Biz” Korte, SJ, in an undated ad for Novitiate Winery

Br. Henry Perez, SJ

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Brother Henry Perez entered the Society after a 30-year career in advertising and raising a son. His life as a Jesuit is no less busy. While working on a master’s in marriage and family therapy, Henry created Genevieve’s Garden at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Hollywood. The Garden offers a safe place for the housing challenged to relax and have lunch. Henry admits to the occasional nightmare about his life in advertising. “Some mornings I wake up and I think, oh my God, I don’t have any clients. I don’t have any jobs in line. How am I going to make payroll this quarter? And then I realize, wait, I’m not in sales anymore.” Henry now spends his weekdays in shirtsleeves, preparing food, organizing volunteers and welcoming guests to the Garden. It’s challenging work. “I mean, it doesn’t get any dirtier than here at the Garden,” he says. “It’s on the front line. But we’re supposed to feed his sheep and take care of his sheep and love his sheep. And that’s what we’re doing here. So yeah, I’m very happy to be a brother.”

In some aspects, Jim’s vocation story mirrors my own. I was a scholastic through most of formation. I, too, picked up a master’s along the way and worked professionally in my field of expertise. It took us both a long time to come to the same realization, that—even though we are not called to ordained ministry—the brother’s vocation is an authentic apostolic way of answering God’s call to religious life and contributing to the ministry of the Society.

Brother Michael Breault, SJ, is a Peabody-winning writer, producer and director, focusing primarily on the stage and television. He is currently writing and producing a six-part series with Tellux Film Group and Loyola Productions. For the Society, Br. Breault has served as the director of vocation promotion for the Jesuits of Canada and the United States, the minister of the Culver City novitiate and the social media manager for Jesuits West.
FR. PAT TWOHY, SJ: ENCOURTING THE HOLY

Jesuit Profile

By Tracey Primrose

Father Pat Twohy, SJ, 82, calls himself “an uncomfortable elder.” While he accepts and even embraces the passage of time, he does not feel worthy of the respect and reverence traditionally given to tribal leaders in the communities where he has ministered for the last half century. How could his Native brothers and sisters call him an elder when he is still learning from them?

When he arrived on the Colville Indian Reservation in eastern Washington in 1973, he was just “a skinny kid with long hair driving a borrowed Pontiac Catalina.” Before he could stretch his legs from the long ride, an older woman told him, “Don’t just stand there. Help me with these pies.” The community was burying a 9-year-old boy who had been beaten to death, and Fr. Pat walked right into a sea of pain, suffering and unfamiliar faces, carrying pies.

His vocation story started at the Jesuit high school in Yakima, Washington, where he grew up. If the yearbook at Marquette High School had a category called, “Most Unlikely Future Jesuit,” Pat Twohy would have been pictured. A mediocre student and the class cutup, he had dreams of becoming a professional baseball player, but God had other ideas.

On a retreat, he had a profound experience of Christ, one that knocked him to the floor. His classmates figured that Pat was goofing around, as usual. But more than six decades after that encounter, he can still see Christ’s face and can still feel his love, overwhelming and indescribable.

As he began to consider the significance of that episode, Pat was also worried about a situation at home. He went to his aunt, who told him to pray the rosary every night, which he did for four years without anyone knowing it. By the time he had finished his senior year, whatever struggles his family had were resolved. “This was an important event for me. It taught me the power of prayer.”

His mother, an educator, was deeply interested in other faith traditions, and Pat was captivated by a publication of his mother’s that had a photo of an Indian holy man. “I wanted to know everything about this man: What does he have inside? What does he know? How does he understand the holy? I grew up in a time in the church when there was only one real church. And not only that, but you were also on your way

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to hell if you weren’t following the Catholic faith. And I quickly realized that was total nonsense. Nobody owns the holy. Nobody owns Jesus and the Spirit.”

At 18, he entered the Jesuit novitiate in Sheridan, Oregon. He earned his undergraduate degree in English and a master’s in English literature from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington, and a Master of Divinity degree from Regis College at the University of Toronto. At some point during his 13 years of Jesuit formation, Fr. Pat spent a summer assisting Jesuits who were working in Native ministry. After ordination, while serving as the director of campus ministry at Gonzaga, he asked to go back to the reservation for a month or two in the summer.

That month or two turned into 11 years on the Colville Reservation. Fr. Pat says it is still “mysterious how I got on the rez. The driving force is the Spirit. It came from the Spirit, and it did fit with the times as Father Pedro Arrupe, the Superior General of the Jesuits, was talking about going to the margins to be with the people.”

Fr. Arrupe’s call reinforced what the Jesuits in the Northwest had been doing since 1841, when, at the invitation of a delegation of Bitterroot Salish and Nez Perce, Fr. Pierre-Jean De Smet, SJ, established the first Jesuit mission in Montana. Before long, the work of the Rocky Mountain Mission had expanded to include parts of Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

By the time Fr. Pat came to the Colville Reservation in the early 1970s, change was in the air. Native culture, music and dance were slowly being incorporated into Catholic liturgies. “For so long, Catholic Native people were taught that their sacred traditions were not allowed in church, so when we began opening up that possibility, it was very painful. The main thing was to let them guide us.”

After his time on the Colville Reservation, Fr. Pat was missioned to western Washington’s Swinomish Reservation, where he also served the Tulalip, Lummi, Upper Skagit and Stillaguamish Native people. On Sundays, he would celebrate Mass at the historic mission church in Swinomish and then drive 40 miles to Tulalip for another liturgy.

From the beginning of his ministry, Fr. Pat’s deepest desire has been to accompany people, in their joy and in their sorrow. The hardest days, he says, are the funerals for young...
people lost to the opioid epidemic or senseless violence. Once, struggling for words when trying to comfort a grieving mother, Fr. Pat said that he did not understand God in such a moment of unimaginable sorrow. The mother’s reply, “God is goodness and nothing else,” was humbling. Recalling that moment, he says, “I came to learn, and that’s a pattern that has continued. It binds us so deeply when we can be with people during the hard times. There has been a lot of heartbreak, but it’s the most intense love I have ever experienced.”

During his two decades on the Swinomish Reservation, Fr. Pat made a concerted effort to learn the Native language. In the beginning, when he tried to speak, he says, “The grandmas were complaining, it hurt their ears.” But now, when asked to speak in Coast Salish, he does not falter. It is a language he loves because it comes from the people he loves.

In 2005, Fr. Pat left Swinomish to begin a new role as the director of the Rocky Mountain Mission, where he is proud to serve alongside Jesuits who share his love for Native ministry. Although he has lived in the dorms at Seattle University for the last 17 years, Fr. Pat’s heart is firmly planted on Native soil. On Sundays, he says Mass for Native homeless at the Chief Seattle Club in downtown Seattle and then travels to say Mass for Native people at St. Leo Parish in Tacoma. He also drives once or twice a week to one of the neighboring reservations, visiting the sick, burying the dead, and joining Smokehouse ceremonies and family gatherings.

The author of Finding a Way Home and Beginnings: A Meditation on Coast Salish Lifeways, both available on Amazon, he is busy working on a third book.

“My greatest joy is being with the people. I find that if I go on a trip somewhere, I miss them so much. So why would I do that, especially as I know that with my growing years, I am in the end zone? I want to spend all of the time I can with them. They are my extended family. It’s a bond of the heart!”

Editor’s Note: There are currently eight Jesuits working full time with Native people in the Northwest: Fr. Brian Pham, SJ, at Gonzaga University Law School; Fr. Jake Morton, SJ, and Fr. Joe Fortier, SJ, on the Colville Reservation in Washington; Fr. Michael Fitzpatrick, SJ, on the Umatilla Reservation in Oregon; Fr. Peter Byrne, SJ, on the Coeur d’Alene Reservation in Idaho; Fr. Craig Hightower, SJ, and Fr. Victor Cancino, SJ, on the Salish-Kootenai Reservation in Montana; and Fr. Patrick Twohy, SJ, with tribes on the Northwest Coast. Fr. James Torrens, SJ, and Fr. Tom Colgan, SJ, work part time with Native people in Spokane and with neighboring tribes.
In a few months, like so many parents, Father Frank Buckley, SJ, will say goodbye to his pride and joy with a long embrace and a few last-minute admonitions to be safe, have fun (but not too much fun) and remember how much I love you. The college drop-off is never easy, particularly freshman year, and perhaps even harder if you never set out to be a dad but gave your whole heart to a child anyway.

Fr. Frank will turn around and leave his girl on the campus of Boston College, practicing St. Ignatius’ sage advice, *age quod agis*, loosely translated as “do what you are doing.” Giving yourself fully to the moment has been the bedrock of his parenting journey, but it is only part of his story.

Frank Buckley grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area. His parents, both natives of New Orleans, had met at church and put down roots in Atherton, California, specifically because they wanted their children to attend the Catholic grammar school in town. Their decision suited Frank perfectly because the school was across the street from the horses at the Menlo Circus Club, and before long, he was skipping Little League practice to spend time in the stables. He took riding lessons and begged his parents to allow him to attend the high school that bordered the club, but his father refused. He was going to the Jesuits’ Bellarmine College Prep in San Jose.

At Bellarmine, his senior service project was at the Catholic Worker in San Jose, which helped plant the seeds for a lifelong devotion to social justice. A senior-year psychology elective also had a profound influence, as Frank finally knew what he would study the following fall at Cal Berkeley. There was so much about human behavior that fascinated him, but a college course on animal psychology really sparked his imagination.
Wild Animal Tamer Turned Jesuit

After graduation, Frank was accepted to an elite two-year animal training and management program at Moorpark College in Southern California. “It’s a teaching zoo, one of the only programs in the world like it,” he recalls. “Literally, lions, tigers and bears.” After finishing the program, he worked at the Los Angeles Zoo for a year before moving to Dallas for his dream job. “I went from putting on a bird show at the zoo to training the best show horses in the country.” Recruited next to Lexington, Kentucky, Frank arrived just in time for Star Trek’s William Shatner to buy the farm where he was working. For the following year, he trained and showed horses alongside Captain Kirk.

Frank’s next job took him back to the place where his horse passion began, the Menlo Circus Club. He returned to Atherton to serve as the facility’s head trainer and stable manager. Business was booming, and his services were so in demand that when recruited for another job, he threw out a ridiculously high salary only to be hired away again.

Everything should have been perfect, but something was missing. Frank remembered how much service had meant to him all those years ago at Bellarmine, and he signed up to do the AIDS ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles. He began attending Mass at the Mercy Center in Burlingame with Father Tom Hand, SJ, and volunteering at the AIDS Hospice at San Francisco General. “There was a turning point, an existential moment where I began questioning, ‘How many blue ribbons can you win?’”

He became sober in 1990. The horse show circuit was “a fast world, and when I got into recovery, my life got really good, really quickly.” After observing Father Tom Weston, SJ, lead an Al-Anon retreat, Frank sat in the chapel at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos and thought, “Wow, I could see myself being a Jesuit like Tom Weston.” The next day he told himself, “That’s the weirdest idea I’ve had in ages.”

The thought of a vocation kept bubbling up, so Frank decided to move forward with an application to the Jesuits, influenced, in part, by the wonderful Jesuits he had met along the way. When he was accepted to the Society in 1998, he was ecstatic.

Frank loved being a novice, in part because the novitiate was in the Los Angeles area, which meant that he could spend more time with his sister, Musette, who was climbing the ranks at Warner Brothers. His time as a novice also included several months serving as a counselor in the detox unit at Brotman Medical Center in Culver City, California. He remembers feeling that “this is what I want to do for the rest of my life. I was on fire.”

His Jesuit formation included master’s degrees in philosophy and social work from Loyola University Chicago and a Master of Divinity degree from the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in Berkeley. Wanting to do “a deeper dive on addiction, trauma and recovery,” he earned a Doctor of Psychology degree from the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco. A certified

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yoga instructor, he has taught vinyasa to a wide range of pupils—from Bellarmine College Prep students to San Quentin inmates.

In December of 2003, Frank was overjoyed to become an uncle. Although his sister had not met her soul mate, she did not let that stop her from fulfilling her lifelong dream of having a child. The infant was named Musette, just like her mother, grandmother and Parisian great-grandmother. When little Musette was 7, her mother, by then the senior vice president of product placement for Warner Brothers, was diagnosed with breast cancer, a challenge she undertook with typical resolve. For his part, the now-Fr. Frank was doing what he loved, providing counseling services to homeless people served by Blessed Sacrament Parish in Hollywood.

Uncle Turned Father
Although Musette’s cancer was in remission for several years, it came back with a vengeance. Frank and his sister never had the talk where she handed over the care of her beloved daughter to her brother. Convinced that she would beat cancer, Musette refused to have that conversation. Instead, Frank received an email from her that said that if she did not make it, he was responsible for Musette. She added, with humor, that he would have to manage the trust left for her daughter until she turned 30, “which will make you 70, so good luck with that.” Musette died on December 17, 2014.

Devastated but determined, Frank moved into Musette’s home to take care of his 10-year-old niece. While living in community is very much part of the Jesuit charism, Frank says that his Jesuit brothers have been extremely supportive of his life with Musette. He stays connected to the community and attends weekly get togethers.

A year ago, he started a new job as the clinical director of Homeboy Industries, the largest gang rehabilitation and re-entry program in the world, headquartered in East Los Angeles. His spends his days counseling men and women who are desperately trying to change their lives for the better, and he says that he has never been happier.

If you look at Frank Buckley’s Facebook page, you will find quotes from Thomas Merton, Pope Francis and Dorothy Day and posts celebrating the work of Homeboy Industries and the food pantry at Blessed Sacrament. But like any proud parent, the feed is almost exclusively about the light of his life: Musette. There are photos of her first horse ride; uncle and niece dressed as pirates for Halloween; the two beaming at her middle school graduation; Musette in a stunning red dress on her way to the prom; her Boston College acceptance letter taped to the refrigerator.

Fr. Frank has experienced the same joys and fears as any parent. On some days, he says that he can do it with his eyes closed, and on other days, he says that he never got the manual. The two will drive cross-country together later this summer before Musette begins this next chapter without her uncle. Bright and beautiful, she is the image of her mom, and Frank tells her that “as long as you are alive, your mother will never be gone.” He says that their life together, “though unconventional, just works. This is how God works with me. She is the best thing that ever happened to me.”

Age quod agis.
I recently accompanied my seven-year-old to a classmate’s birthday party. One of the parents asked what I do for a living, and I shared that I work in higher education. I looked for signs of connection and interest in the eyes of my new acquaintance as I explained that I am a scholar of theology; I direct a center dedicated to Catholic social thought and serve as chief mission officer. Finally, when I mentioned the University of San Francisco (USF), there was a palpable moment of connection and she said, “Oh! That’s a Jesuit school, right?”

Though anecdotal, this experience confirmed how impactful and far-reaching the Jesuit tradition is. Once we shifted toward our mutual love for Jesuit education, the conversation took on new depth. The other mom shared her desire for her child to find meaning and live with purpose and compassion. I talked about my hope for my child to experience belonging, community and faith that would get him through life’s challenges. Jesuit spaces cultivate these kinds of conversations. This is one of the things that makes Jesuit education distinctive and transformative.

As the University of San Francisco’s chief mission officer, it is my job to promote that distinctively Jesuit way of accompanying students, faculty and staff as they encounter this educational tradition and discover how it might resonate with their own experiences. To be sure, there is no single way to do this. The international network of Jesuit universities reveals diverse ways of embodying the Ignatian tradition in higher education. Yet, there is a way of proceeding that is recognizable, even for those who have not had a direct encounter with Jesuits or Jesuit education—something that made my conversation partner at the birthday party light up.

Thankfully, mission officers do this work within a discerning community and with a process and guide. In 2016, the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) and the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States launched a process by which each university discerns and names three or four mission priorities that will keep their Jesuit, Catholic identity at the center of their work for the next seven years. The University of San Francisco was in the first round of AJCU schools that completed the Mission Priority Examen (MPE) in 2016, resulting in a reaffirmation of our Jesuit and Catholic identity by Father Arturo Sosa, SJ, Superior General of the Society of Jesus. We reflected on our previous mission priorities and focused on emerging priorities during the second MPE cycle in 2022. After the first cycle, a joint committee representing the AJCU presidents and Jesuit provincials revised “Some Characteristics of Jesuit Higher Education: A Guide for Mission Reflection” to guide a university-wide self-study and review by peers from other Jesuit institutions.

Through highlighting seven observable characteristics, the document paints a picture of what a Jesuit university looks like and the Examen process brings it into focus through the lens of a particular context. True to the spirit of the Ignatian Examen, we invited students, faculty, staff, leadership and trustees to consider the ways USF embodies our mission and pay attention to the thoughts that bring them joy and gratitude, as well as their longings and hopes for the university. The joys and hopes are rooted in concrete experiences. Everyone can expect a Jesuit university to manifest a public commitment to

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**ENVISIONING THE JESUIT UNIVERSITIES OF TOMORROW: A REFLECTION ON THE MISSION PRIORITY EXAMEN**

By Erin Brigham, Ph.D.
**APPOINTMENTS**

Julie H. Sullivan, Ph.D., has been named the 30th president of Santa Clara University. Sullivan, who will assume her new role on July 1, 2022, will become the university’s first layperson and first woman president.

As the long-serving president of the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota, Sullivan is highly regarded for her role in the university’s transformation from a small liberal arts college to a comprehensive urban university. During her tenure, the University of St. Thomas campus experienced a physical transformation with new facilities and renovations; established the Morrison Family College of Health and the new School of Nursing; launched the Dougherty Family College, a new two-year pathway with progression toward a bachelor’s degree for historically underrepresented students; raised more than $100 million in new scholarships; and completed the university’s transition from Division-III to D-I athletics.

A nationally recognized leader in Catholic higher education, she was recently elected to serve as the board chair of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities for the 2022-2024 period.

Fr. Michael C. McCarthy, SJ, a member of Jesuits West and former vice president for mission integration and planning and associate professor of theology at Fordham University, has been named dean of the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, effective July 1, 2022.

A distinguished theologian and teaching scholar and experienced university administrator, Fr. McCarthy brings more than 30 years of academic, administrative and ministerial experience to his new position. Most recently, he advanced university-wide mission integration and strategic planning in his role as vice president at Fordham. In this capacity, he collaborated with all university divisions to strategically promote and cultivate Fordham’s Jesuit, Catholic mission and provided oversight for multiple programs and departments, including campus ministry, the Fordham Center on Religion and Culture and the Fordham Center for Community Engaged Learning, which he founded in 2018.

Fr. Travis Russell, SJ, has been named the next president of Verbum Dei High School in Watts, California. Fr. Russell succeeds current president Fr. Stephen Privett, SJ, in June 2022.

Fr. Russell brings broad experience to Verbum Dei, including working with the Jesuit Refugee Service in Malawi, Africa; as an associate pastor at St. Ignatius Parish in San Francisco; and most recently as a senior policy advisor for the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States’ Office of Justice and Ecology in Washington, D.C. In addition, Fr. Russell served at Verbum Dei High School from 2014 to 2016 as a teacher, director of Adult Faith Formation and in mission advancement. Most recently, Fr. Russell has been completing his Executive MBA at the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University.

Andria Bengtson has been named the next principal of Cristo Rey San José Jesuit High School. Currently an associate superintendent of schools for the Diocese of San José, she led professional development for diocesan principals and teachers, supported schools with curriculum, instruction and culture as well as facilitated collaboration among Catholic high schools.

Prior leadership roles have included principal for Downtown College Preparatory and vice principal for instruction at Presentation High School, both in San José. Bengtson received a bachelor’s degree and a master’s from Santa Clara University, as well as a World Class Schools Fellowship from Innovative Public Schools.

Rosemarie El Youssef has been hired as the new principal at St. Andrew Nativity School in Portland, Oregon. She received her bachelor’s degree in English at Portland State University, followed by her master’s degree in teaching at the University of Portland and school administrator license from Portland State University. El Youssef has enjoyed a long career as an educator beginning as a high school English teacher in 2001. She spent many years as a middle school teacher in language arts, leadership, and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination).

Currently, El Youssef is the principal at St. Therese Catholic Elementary School in Northeast Portland, where her three sons have attended over the years.

Donna Gray was recently appointed to serve as the Jesuits West Province’s regional director of advancement for Southern California and Arizona.

A veteran fundraiser and Southern California native, Gray brings more than two decades of Jesuit university focused philanthropy experience to her new role.

A former long-serving and senior member of the advancement office at Loyola Marymount University (LMU) in Los Angeles, Gray served most recently as the senior director of development for the university’s Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts. Her 20-year career with LMU also included positions as the university’s director of donor relations, the interim director of annual and special campaigns and the associate director of annual support, among other roles. She received her bachelor’s degree in psychology and her MBA in management and entrepreneurship from LMU.
EIGHT MEMBERS OF JESUITS WEST ORDAINED AS DEACONS

Over the past several months, eight members of the Jesuits West Province have been ordained to the diaconate.

Timothy Breen, SJ, was ordained a deacon on Sept. 18, 2021, by Most Reverend Mark O’Connell, Auxiliary Bishop of Boston, at St. Ignatius Church in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. He is currently a student at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry.

On Oct. 23, 2021, five members of Jesuits West were ordained as deacons by the Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, SJ, Bishop of Oakland, at the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland, California: Joseph Kraemer, SJ; Daniel Nevares, SJ; Edward Ngo, SJ; Lucas Sharma, SJ; and Matthew Yim, SJ. They are currently studying theology at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in Berkeley, California.

On Feb. 5, 2022, Michael Manalastas, SJ, was ordained a deacon at Parroquia San Francisco Javier y San Luis Gonzaga in Madrid, Spain, by Cardinal D. Carlos Osoro Sierra, Archbishop of Madrid. Manalastas is currently studying theology at the Pontifical Comillas University in Madrid.

Manuel Chavira, SJ, was ordained a deacon at St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Portland, Oregon, on April 5, 2022. Most Reverend Kenneth Steiner, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Portland, was the ordaining prelate. Chavira is currently serving as a chaplain at San Quentin State Prison.

For Jesuits in formation, ordination to the diaconate is the final step in preparation for priestly ordination in the Society of Jesus. As ministers of sacraments, deacons proclaim the Gospel, baptize, witness marriages and conduct wake and funeral services. Six Jesuit deacons will be ordained to the priesthood this summer.

Eleven Jesuits were ordained to the diaconate in Boston on Sept. 18, 2021, including Timothy Breen, SJ (second row, far right), from Jesuits West.

Nine Jesuits were ordained to the diaconate on Oct. 24, 2021, in Oakland, California, including five from Jesuits West.

Michael Manalastas, SJ (far right), was ordained to the diaconate on Feb. 5, 2022, in Madrid, along with seven other Jesuits.

Manuel Chavira, SJ, pictured with family and Bishop Kenneth Steiner, was ordained to the diaconate on April 5, 2022, in Portland, Oregon.

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JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TAKE PART IN ADVOCACY DAY

Students from Jesuit high schools in California came together in the state’s capital in March to advocate for social issues they’re passionate about. About 75 students from five high schools took part in the second advocacy day co-sponsored by the Ignatian Solidarity Network and CORE (Collaborative Organizing for Racial Equity), a Jesuits West initiative launched in September 2020.

“We wanted to put students at the center of the work, allowing them to lead and pick local issues,” explained Annie Fox, provincial assistant for justice and ecology organizing for Jesuits West. The advocacy day fit in well with CORE’s goals, which are to “think, pray, learn, organize and advocate together for racial equity, believing that we can be more impactful for justice when we work together,” Fox said.

Jesuit High School in Sacramento hosted the event, and other California Jesuit high schools that took part included Loyola High School of Los Angeles, Verbum Dei High School (Watts), Bellarmine College Prep (San Jose) and St. Ignatius College Prep (San Francisco). Three Jesuit parishes—St. Agnes (San Francisco), St. Ignatius (San Francisco) and Most Holy Trinity (San Jose)—also helped plan the advocacy day.

Students began meeting online in February and came up with three issues to focus on after listening to the concerns of their communities: homelessness and housing equity; youth mental health; and youth criminalization.

“After they identified these concerns, we looked at how we move from a problem to an issue. We know we care about this problem, but how do we find a tangible policy or issue that we could act on to make a change?” Fox said. To do this, students met with advocates from PICO in California, a national network of faith-based community organizations, founded by Father John Baumann, SJ.

PICO staff advised the students to focus on tenant legal aid because several eviction protections and rental assistance programs were about to expire in California.

On March 27, the student advocates gathered at Jesuit High, kicking off the event with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Jaime Soto of Sacramento. During the homily, Bishop Soto told the students that the Eucharist is commissioning all of us toward action and advocacy.

After Mass, students participated in training and workshops, examining topics such as conflict resolution, breaking biases and creating a more inclusive campus; they also took part in an immigration simulation to better understand the refugee experience. Then students spent time preparing for their advocacy meetings.

The next day, students held a public witness at the capitol, calling for action on their three issues of focus. Father John McGarry, SJ, president of Jesuit High in Sacramento, and Father Brad Mills, SJ, associate pastor at Most Holy Trinity Church, both spoke at the public witness as well.

Mia Aaronson, a senior at St. Ignatius College Prep in San Francisco, spoke about her work as a volunteer with the Gubbio Project, which provides homeless guests a safe space to sleep and daily supplies. By volunteering, Aaronson said she was able to hear stories from real people who are experiencing homelessness in the city. “In making personal connections with many of our regular residents, I realized the importance of giving voice to those on the margins and internalizing their struggle.”

After the public witness, students held individual meetings with their respective legislators, asking them to take action to support the issues.

“Students sometimes feel alone in their work for justice,” Fox said. “And I think they feel fed coming together and getting to learn from each other—and being inspired by each other and the Jesuit mission for justice.”
IGNATIAN PILGRIMAGES: EXPLORATIONS OF FAITH AND LANDSCAPES

By John Mossi, SJ

Have you ever wondered what a pilgrimage is? We know pilgrims came to the New World centuries ago on the Mayflower in search of freedom and opportunity. Are there still pilgrims searching for something new? A pilgrimage is a journey, often to a foreign place, where one goes in search of expanded understanding of self, others or God. Pilgrimages can lead to transformation and discovery, and both certainly happen during our Jesuits West pilgrimages.

Our pilgrimages are always complex, probing, exciting adventures of inward and outward journeys, and last fall’s Camino Ignacio pilgrimage was no different. Accompanied by 15 determined Jesuits West pilgrims, tour organizer and fellow chaplain, Fr. Sam Bellino, SJ, and I led a 17-day trek across Spain. Our pilgrimage route followed the footsteps of pilgrim Ignatius across northern Spain, visiting the shrines, vistas and cities associated with the saint who, with his companions, founded the Society of Jesus.

We began in Madrid with visits to the Shrine of St. Ignatius, Our Lady of Aranzazu, the Cathedral of Navarrete, Our Lady of Pillar Basilica in Zaragoza, the Black Madonna of Montserrat and the Cave of the Spiritual Exercises at Manresa. We concluded our camino with a final Mass celebrated in the crypt of Antoni Gaudi’s inspired Sagrada Familia in Barcelona.

Although the entire route stretches 430 miles, our portion was a significant 100 miles. A colorful, chatty and happy assortment of pilgrims, we hiked an average of 10 miles per day through lush vineyards, olive groves, corn fields, small artisan villages, desert flatlands and mountainous, rocky terrain. To walk with Ignatius during a global pandemic and in an Ignatian Year, where we commemorate the 500th anniversary of St. Ignatius’ wounding at Pamplona and his subsequent conversion, was a special grace.

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IN MEMORIAM

LORD,

WE ENTRUST THOSE WHO HAVE DIED TO YOUR MERCY.

WELCOME THEM INTO YOUR PRESENCE.

Fr. Andrew L. Maddock, SJ, who served as pastor at parishes in Montana, died December 15, 2021, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California. He was 78 years old and a Jesuit for 59 years. He entered the Jesuit novitiate at Sheridan, Oregon, as a Jesuit brother in 1962 and joined the Jesuit brothers’ construction crew in 1966, which traveled to Jesuit ministries in the then Oregon Province renovating old buildings and constructing new ones. Discerning a call to the priesthood, Fr. Maddock made his theological studies and was ordained in 1985. He taught religion at Seattle Preparatory School (1986-1993) and then went into parish ministry. He was pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Fairbanks, Alaska (1993-1998); the Coeur d’Alene Sacred Heart Mission in De Smet, Idaho (1998-2001); and St. Ignatius Mission in St. Ignatius, Montana, on the Flathead Reservation (2001-2017). True to his original training, Fr. Maddock headed up remodeling projects in every parish he served.

Fr. Anthony P. Sauer, S.J, who served for four decades at St. Ignatius College Preparatory in San Francisco, including 27 years as president, died November 28, 2021, in San Jose, California. He was 87 years old and a Jesuit for 61 years. He graduated from Loyola High School of Los Angeles in 1952 and Santa Clara University in 1956 before serving in the Army. He entered the Jesuit novitiate at Los Gatos, California, in 1960, and was ordained in 1971. Fr. Sauer spent 40 years at St. Ignatius College Prep (SII), serving as English teacher, counselor, rector of the Jesuit Community and president. His years as president saw the school’s growth, the transition to coeducation and the building of the endowment for tuition assistance. When SI opened a full scholarship middle school in 2017, it was named the Fr. Sauer Academy in his honor. He also ministered in Phoenix as rector (1974-79) and president (1978-79) of Brophy College Preparatory and as associate pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church (2013-2021).

Fr. Michael R. Pastizzo, SJ, retired professor of religious studies at Jesuit universities in the United States and Rome, died December 16, 2021, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California. He was 87 years old and a Jesuit for 61 years. After earning a degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Buffalo, he worked for four years with the Northrup Corporation in Los Angeles before entering the Jesuit novitiate at Los Gatos in 1960. He was ordained in 1970. Fr. Pastizzo held academic positions in religious studies at Gonzaga University (1975-1981), where he also served as spiritual director to Jesuit seminarians; the Gregorian University in Rome; the Rome Center of Loyola University Chicago; and Canisius College in Buffalo, New York (1996-2017). For some years he taught and was spiritual director at the Jesuit novitiate in Santa Barbara, California, and he later served as senior priest at the relocated novitiate in Culver City, California. He moved to Sacred Heart Jesuit Center to pray for the Church and the Society in 2019.

Fr. William J. Fulco, SJ, retired professor of ancient Mediterranean studies at Loyola Marymount University, died November 28, 2021, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, at age 85. Fr. Fulco graduated from Loyola High School of Los Angeles, entered the Jesuit novitiate at Los Gatos in 1954 and was ordained in 1966. A scholar of the ancient Near East, he taught a wide spectrum of courses ranging from archaeology and ancient Semitic languages to the Greek and Roman classics. He held positions at the University of California, Berkeley; the Graduate Theological Union; École Biblique and Pontifical Biblical Institute in Jerusalem; the American Center of Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan; the University of Judaism; and the University of Southern California. Fr. Fulco used his linguistic abilities and historical knowledge as a consultant for Mel Gibson’s film The Passion of the Christ, providing accurate dialog in various ancient languages. He participated in many archaeological digs and curated a museum in Jerusalem as well as a collection of ancient coins.

Fr. Robert L. Erickson, SJ, whose parish ministry served Native American people in Washington, Idaho and Montana and the Bemba people of Zambia, died December 22, 2021, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California. He was 80 years old and a Jesuit for 57 years. Fr. Erickson graduated from Gonzaga University, entered the Jesuit novitiate at Sheridan, Oregon, in 1964 and was ordained in 1974. Parish ministry was the focus of his work. He served at St. Luke Parish in Woodburn, Oregon (1974-78), and then was assigned to the Jesuit mission in Kabwe, Zambia, serving in parishes. Returning to the United States in 1984, he was parochial associate at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Church in Spokane, Washington, before starting in Native American ministry, which would occupy the rest of his active years. He was pastor of St. Mary Mission in Omak, Washington (1988-98); Sacred Heart Mission in Nespelem, Washington (1997-2001); St. Paul Mission in Hays, Montana (2002-12); and Sacred Heart Mission in De Smet, Idaho (2012-18).
Fr. John C. Endres, SJ, emeritus professor of Scripture at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, died January 26, 2022, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California. He was 75 years old and a Jesuit for 53 years. Fr. Endres graduated from Bellarmine Preparatory School in Tacoma, Washington, and the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, and then entered the Jesuit novitiate in 1968. He was ordained in 1976. He joined the faculty of the Jesuit School of Theology in 1982, teaching a variety of courses and received emeritus status in 2020. Fr. Endres loved being part of the faculty, where he was involved with both the academic and spiritual formation of students. He also led student tours and pilgrimages to the Holy Land. He wrote extensively, using his knowledge of nine modern and ancient languages to publish books and articles in his field. He also ministered in parishes in the Oakland Diocese and at the federal prison for women in Dublin, California.

Fr. James W. Felt, SJ, professor emeritus of philosophy at Santa Clara University, died February 17, 2022, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, at age 96. After graduating from Loyola High School of Los Angeles, he entered the Jesuit novitiate at Los Gatos in 1943 and was ordained in 1966. Fr. Felt spent his entire professional career at Santa Clara University, from 1965 until 2013, when he went to Sacred Heart Jesuit Center for a ministry of prayer. He achieved emeritus status in 2007. He taught a variety of courses, but his specialty was metaphysics and the philosophy of science. He published several books and dozens of articles in scholarly journals. In 2005, he received Santa Clara’s Award for Sustained Excellence in Scholarship, an honor he greatly prized. Fr. Felt was a railroad aficionado and travelled by train whenever possible, and he built his own model railroad in the Jesuit community at Santa Clara. He also enjoyed painting and sketching.

Fr. Richard W. Rolfs, SJ, emeritus professor of history at Loyola Marymount University, died March 7, 2022, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, at age 98. He attended Loyola High School of Los Angeles, graduating in 1941. After learning to play the drums as a youth, he became a professional drummer while still in high school and worked with top jazz musicians of the Big Band era. He entered the Jesuit novitiate at Los Gatos in 1948 and was ordained in 1961. Fr. Rolfs served as dean of students at Loyola Marymount University (LMU) in Los Angeles for four years before pursuing graduate studies in history, focusing on the Third Reich, the Holocaust and World War II. He then returned to LMU as a professor of history (1974-2016, emeritus in 2008). He also served as chair of the history department, a member of the LMU board of trustees and on several academic committees. He moved to Los Gatos for a ministry of prayer in 2016. Over the years, he maintained his drumming skills and picked up the harmonica.

Fr. Robert J. Egan, SJ, longtime faculty member at Seattle University, died March 12, 2022, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, at age 90. He attended Gonzaga Preparatory School in Spokane, Washington, where he was a prominent debater. After graduation, he entered the Jesuit novitiate at Sheridan, Oregon, in 1949 and was ordained in 1962. Fr. Egan began his long association with Seattle University in 1964, teaching there until 1993, when he retired from the classroom. He then took up the ministry of chaplaincy at the Bessie Burton Sullivan Skilled Nursing Residence (1995-2007), served as superior (1996-2002) and administrator (2002-06) of a Jesuit community in Seattle, and engaged in pastoral ministry with women religious and others. He retired to a ministry of prayer in 2014, first in Spokane, and since 2016, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, where he organized periods of prayer in the chapel. He enjoyed the humorous give and take of a Jesuit recreation room and was known to lob a Groucho-like zinger into a conversation.

Fr. Leo J. Hombach, SJ, teacher, retreat director and chaplain, died March 22, 2022, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, at age 91. He attended Bellarmine College Preparatory in San Jose, California, and after graduation in 1948, he entered the Jesuit novitiate and was ordained in 1961. Fr. Hombach taught biology at Santa Clara University (1966-1979) and then served as a retreat director and superior of the Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos (El Retiro) until 1986. He moved to San Francisco and for two years was a Catholic chaplain to AIDS patients at San Francisco General Hospital and throughout the city. He then served in campus ministry at Santa Clara University. In 1995, he became superior of Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, the retirement and health care facility of the Jesuits in California. He moved in 1999 to the Jesuit novitiate in Culver City, California, where he helped prepare Jesuit novices for their ministry. In 2003, he returned to Los Gatos as editor of the province newsletter.

Fr. Thomas J. Reilley, SJ, a retired priest residing at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, died April 11, 2022, at age 73 after a long battle with Parkinson’s disease. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Loyola University Chicago in 1971 and then worked in newspaper advertising and with the U.S. Catholic Conference in refugee resettlement work. He moved to California, where he was active at Christ the King Parish in San Diego before entering the Jesuit novitiate in Santa Barbara in 1984. He was ordained in 1995. Fr. Reilley taught history and social studies at Loyola High School of Los Angeles (1988-1991, 1995-2002) and served as assistant director of novices at the Jesuit novitiate in Culver City, California (2002-2004). He then returned to Loyola High School as chaplain to faculty and staff (2004-2006) and served in the same capacity at Verbum Dei High School in Los Angeles (2005-2009). In 2009, he moved to Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, where he remained as active as he could.

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St. Ignatius was our patron saint and guide. Result? No one got lost. No accidents. Nothing stolen. We all returned home Covid-free. Before our evening pilgrim meal, we prayed our Blessing Prayer. And while on route to the hiking site via bus, selections from the *Autobiography of St. Ignatius* pertinent to the day were read and discussed. Daily, and prior to dinner, Fr. Sam or I, with pilgrim Deacon Peter Hodsdon proclaiming the Gospel, would celebrate the Eucharist. Mass was followed by a welcome social gathering to unwind and recount the triumphs and blisters of the day. Dinner, always delicious, was accented with flowing Spanish vintage. Exposed to abundant fresh air and sunshine, we went to bed exhausted only to rise the next morning ready and happy to put on our hiking boots again.

A unique road to navigate on this camino was the Covid protocols. Prior to boarding our flights to and from Spain, we had to have proof of a negative Covid test. The wearing of specially created Jesuits West masks became standard practice on airplanes, in hotels and in public gathering spaces. The hotels, which had been experiencing a reduced number of guests, were delighted to welcome us. Regularly, we had our own private dining room, which kept our bubble community intact. An outdoor hiking pilgrimage was certainly the ideal Covid exercise since we were in the countryside, seldom encountering other hikers.

Fr. Sam, who meticulously plans each pilgrimage, describes them this way: “We blend educational cultural immersions and prayer, pilgrim friendship-building with Jesuit history and spirituality, daily Mass, quality hotels with expert guides, all in a comfortable and enjoyable package.”

Our pilgrims are always a diverse group from all walks of life. Our *Ignaciano* pilgrims were no different and included a doctor, a lawyer, a deacon, younger singles, married couples, an engaged couple, a father and son, siblings, a tour guide named Ignacio, and Martin, our expert bus driver. We enjoyed one another’s company and engaging conversations. This was especially true at the end of a challenging stage when we stopped for a snack or beverage and treated one another as a close-knit family. St. Ignatius was truly assisting us as companions on the journey.
Pilgrim Tom Frame summarized his takeaway, “I felt more connected to Ignatius’ humanity having walked his walk, seen the things he saw, prayed where he prayed. Although I have to admit I ate a little better than he did!” Pilgrim Anna Marie Barlett commented, “I gained a real sense of the true history and life of St. Ignatius Loyola, not only by following in his footsteps, more importantly through his detailed writings as we traveled his route.” Pilgrim Mark Ohstrom added his perspective, “The Camino Ignaciano was an amazing experience, including the beauty of nature, the culture of the region, the history of Ignatius’ journey, the companionship with fellow pilgrims, and time for spiritual discernment and growth.”

As this publication goes to press, 33 pilgrims from Jesuits West will take off for Austria and Germany for the sold-out, spectacular Jesus Christ Passion Play performed in the Black Forest village of Oberammergau. For nearly four centuries, this hamlet has kept its promise to stage a Holy Week play. The Mozart city of Salzburg, the Sound of Music site of Mirabell Gardens, a stopover at the world-famous Neuschwanstein Castle, and Munich’s stunning palaces, museums, Marienplatz Square Glockenspiel, and St. Michael’s Jesuit Church—built in classic Renaissance style—add their own magnificent cultural flare to this special pilgrimage.

Looking ahead to 2023, our next pilgrimage takes us to the world-empire city of London. Along with daily Mass, the poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins, SJ, and excerpts from famous English Jesuits will provide Ignatian spirituality bonuses. In contrast to the Camino Ignaciano, walking and stair climbing are moderate, approximately three-plus miles a day, rather than 10.

If you have ever considered a pilgrimage, there is no better time to say yes to a Jesuits West adventure. Buen Camino! For more information, please visit www.jesuitswest.org/pilgrimages.

Fr. John Mossi, SJ, is the director of benefactor relations for the Jesuits West Province.
From Our Archives

A 400-YEAR-OLD MEDAL SHOWS UP JUST IN TIME

By Tracey Primrose

During the last 22 years that Brother Dan Peterson, SJ, has served as archivist for the Jesuits West Province, he’s stumbled upon some compelling and historic Jesuit keepsakes. But about a year ago, when he opened a long-forgotten box at the province’s headquarters in Portland, Oregon, Br. Peterson hit pay dirt. Inside the box of relics and other objects, he found a small silver medal, less than two inches in diameter. Before long, Br. Peterson determined that the five figures adorning the medal are all saints: Ignatius of Loyola; Francis Xavier, the great Jesuit missionary and beloved friend of Ignatius; Teresa of Avila, reformer of the Carmelites; Philip Neri, founder of the Congregation of the Oratory; and Isidore of Madrid, a devout farmer and the only lay person in the group. The five were canonized together on March 12, 1622.

Because the medal had no accompanying information, Br. Peterson consulted with the Jesuit Archives in Rome so he could learn more about this special object. The Archives believes that the medal is 400 years old and was made to commemorate what 17th-century droll Romans referred to as the canonization of “four Spaniards and a saint.” Philip Neri, a native of Florence, Italy, is the only non-Spaniard in the group.

Given the prominence of St. Isidore in the center of the medal, the Archives posited that the object might have been forged in Madrid, birthplace of Isidore. In addition, the back of the medal contains the IHS, the first three letters of the name Jesus in Greek. And although the IHS is not exclusive to the Jesuits, there are both straight and wavy rays emanating from the center of the medal, which is reminiscent of the rays in the seal of the Society of Jesus. So perhaps, the medal originated at the Imperial College, a Jesuit institution founded in the late 16th century in Madrid? Or perhaps not?

The mystery of the medal’s provenance may never be solved, but it puts a perfect coda on a special year being celebrated globally by the Jesuits. Beginning last May with the 500th anniversary of the wounding of St. Ignatius in 1521 at the Battle of Pamplona, the Ignatian Year includes the commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the canonizations of Ignatius, Xavier and the other three saints. Four hundred years later and thousands of miles from its country of origin, the small medal showed up perfectly on time.
Envisioning the Jesuit Universities of Tomorrow continues

mission (characteristic 1) and demonstrate institutional integrity (characteristic 7). However, what an Ignatian campus culture (characteristic 4) looks like at USF, situated in a context marked by multiple ways of relating to faith, might look differently from a university in another region. At the same time, there should be something meaningful and recognizable about being a Jesuit university that transcends regional particularities.

In the past, one might have looked solely to the Jesuits on campus to cultivate the Ignatian character of the university. While Jesuit presence remains important, it cannot be reduced to the size of the Jesuit community. As fewer Jesuits are available for university work, those of us who work in the area of mission integration today are invited into intentional reflection on Jesuit identity. The Characteristics document asks us to reflect on what it means to be in relationship with the Society of Jesus with questions like: How is the university partnering with the Jesuit community, the AJCU, the provincial and with other Jesuit apostolates in the region?

I appreciate the emphasis on relationship and connection within the international community of Jesuit works. My own sense of what makes Jesuit universities unique is rooted in concrete friendships with Jesuits, as well as lay people who model the freedom that flows from the Spiritual Exercises—a dynamic retreat designed by St. Ignatius of Loyola in the 16th century. I first encountered the Jesuits at St. Francis Xavier parish in my childhood home of Missoula, Montana, and they cultivated in me a love of theology that later blossomed during doctoral studies at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California. There, Jesuit and lay companions inspired me to do a version of the Spiritual Exercises called the 19th Annotation, in which I saw my life as a story of God’s constant, unmerited love unfolding all around me. Most people at the university will not have a direct encounter with the Spiritual Exercises, and increasingly few will benefit from concrete friendships with Jesuits. However, I am convinced that our universities can be spaces that foster the fruits of this spiritual tradition in ways that resonate with people of diverse backgrounds and experiences of faith.

The mom at the birthday party, now a friend, knew there is something special about the Jesuit approach to education. Maybe our dreams for our kids will lead them to a Jesuit university in the next decade. My hope is that they remain laboratories for meaning, purpose, belonging and depth. The MPE speaks to this hope and the aspiration of those of us who believe in Jesuit education. With a discerning community, rooted in friendship with Jesuits past and present, I believe these universities will remain distinctive and transformative in the years to come.

Erin Brigham is the chief mission officer of the University of San Francisco and the executive director of the university’s Joan and Ralph Lane Center for Catholic Social Thought and the Ignatian Tradition.

Father J. Patrick Stewart, SJ
September 27, 1929
April 27, 2022

Father John F. Foster, SJ
July 15, 1933
April 27, 2022
Fr. John F. Foster, SJ, who taught at Catholic schools for over 40 years, died April 22, 2022, in San Jose, California, at age 88. He entered the Jesuit novitiate in 1957 and was ordained in 1968. He taught English and served as director of curriculum at Seattle Preparatory School and joined the team that started the Matteo Ricci College program at Seattle Prep and Seattle University, combining high school and college curricula into a six-year program leading to a bachelor’s degree. After a decade, he then taught and served as campus minister at Eastside Catholic High in Bellevue (1983-88) and chaplain at Forest Ridge High School in Seattle (1983-88). In 1988, he returned to Matteo Ricci College in a variety of positions, including professor and chaplain. After retiring from academic life in 2016, Fr. Foster served as chaplain to a monastery of Trappistine nuns in a remote redwood forest in northern California.

Father Denis E. Collins, SJ
November 8, 1938
May 2, 2022
Fr. Denis E. Collins, SJ, former assistant professor of education at the University of San Francisco, died May 2, 2022, at age 83. After graduating from St. Ignatius College Prep in San Francisco in 1956, he entered the Jesuit novitiate and was ordained in 1969. Fr. Collins was director of education for the California Province, overseeing the academic programs of Jesuits in formation (1973-1981) and next served as secretary for personnel development for the Jesuit Conference in Washington, D.C. (1981-1986). Starting in 1987, he taught and mentored graduate students in the University of San Francisco’s School of Education until his retirement in 2005. He then served as associate pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Santa Barbara, California (2006-2012), while also teaching at the parish and colleges in southern California and Mexico. In 2016, he moved to Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, where he directed silent retreats.
JESUITS WEST HAPPENINGS

SEATTLE

Laurie Gray, Fr. Sean Carroll, SJ, and Siobhán Lawlor with members of The Frost and Margaret Snyder Foundation, Chris Gavin, Mary Cunningham Smith and Mario Paredes.

PORTLAND

Mike Buck, Fr. Sean and Janet Buck

SAN FRANCISCO

Helen Lee, Joe Kraemer, SJ, and Michelle Sklar

LOS ALTOS, CA

Fr. Sean with Kristi Markkula Bowers from the Markkula Foundation, and Emma Bowers

LOS GATOS, CA

Susan and Bill Carter with Fr. Sean

LOS ANGELES

Mike Smith with Fr. John

LOS ANGELES

Fr. Sean with Peter Ver Halen

PHOENIX

Fr. John, Lisa and Howard Bell and Fr. Sam Bellino, SJ
Dear Friends,

The text above is excerpted from an email from Fr. George Wanser, SJ, the superior of Sacred Heart Jesuit Center (SHJC) in Los Gatos, to our community of retired and infirm Jesuits and staff. Because my office is in the SHJC building, I receive Fr. George’s daily emails, which are chock-full of news, updates, prayer requests and, invariably, one or two zingers. For the record, Fr. Gordon Moreland, SJ, 89, is no worse for the wear.

Here is another one, sent on Fat Tuesday, concerning proper conduct at Testarossa Winery, SHJC’s next-door neighbor.

Testarossa Winery begs the wild men of Infirmary West to please keep the Mardi Gras celebrations under control. The Infirmary West/Testarossa shuttle stops at midnight Tuesday. Anyone wandering around after the curfew may be cited for WUI (Walking Under the Influence).

I share these Wanserisms because I have been thinking lately about the importance of joy, particularly during these dark days when so many are suffering. The spiritual writer Anne Lamott calls laughter “carbonated holiness,” and if that is true, SHJC is a very holy place.

That holiness comes not only from the extraordinary men who comprise this community, but from the spectacular staff who take care of the Jesuits like they are family.

Take Julie Johnson, who has served as SHJC’s director of recreation services for the last six years. A former cheerleader for the Rams and the Clippers, Julie considers herself the “Team Mom” of the approximately 80 Jesuits at SHJC. The mother of three adult children, Julie plans museum visits and dinners out, lectures, exercise classes and, as any Team Mom would do, she always brings the snacks.

During the pandemic, her job was made more difficult because she had to keep up morale at a time when outings were suspended, and no visitors were allowed. So how do you entertain a housebound group of seniors? Realizing that most boys like cars, Julie organized an elaborate Pinewood Derby complete with prizes. Two years ago, Fr. John Privett, SJ, SHJC’s long-serving former superior, was the winner. Fr. John is known for his sense of humor and calm-in-a-storm demeanor, but no one knew that he is also a ruthless competitor. I am not saying that he elbowed the other guys out of the way, but last fall with Fr. John on sabbatical, Fr. Dick Rolfs, SJ, 98, pulled out the win.

Since December, SHJC has said farewell to our beloved head of health care, Arnie Shafer, and 12 wonderful Jesuits who have gone home to the Lord, Fr. Rolfs among them. While each loss affects us and we grieve these remarkable men who spent their lives serving others, our community moves forward with grace, joy and laughter.

On behalf of everyone at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center, thank you for all you do to partner in the mission of Jesuits West.

Gratefully yours,

Siobhán Lawlor
Vice President for Advancement & Provincial Assistant
MEET OUR 2022 ORDINANDS

This June, six new priests will be ordained from the Jesuits West Province. Please keep our ordinands and those they will serve in your prayers.

Manuel Chavira Jr., SJ
Joseph Kraemer, SJ
Michael Manalastas, SJ

Daniel Nevares, SJ
Lucas Sharma, SJ
Matthew Yim, SJ