



JESUITS

USA MIDWEST PROVINCE | FALL/WINTER 2021

AMDG Meets STEM

Students at Cristo Rey
Jesuit High School-
Twin Cities Embrace
Technology

Also in This Issue:

- Nine Midwest Jesuits Pronounce First Vows
- Ignatian Sites across the Midwest
- Spirituality Holds Strong as Retreat Centers Evolve



Dear Friends,

One of the central goals of Jesuit pedagogy is a desire to form “men and women for others.” From the beginning, Jesuit schools sought out those who lacked access to education, were left at the margins, and who, because of economic poverty, did not have a hope-filled future. I am pleased to share the good news that innovative Jesuit education is thriving today in many places, including the Twin Cities (see cover story, page 13), and it will soon take deeper root with a new school initiative in Cincinnati (page 12).

In my work as a school president and later as a parish priest, I took consolation in accompanying individuals on their spiritual journeys. Each had a different path, but I saw commonalities. People asked: What’s the point of my life? Is there a God? How do I encounter God? While the devout are drawn to the practice of retreat and reconciliation, others describe themselves as “spiritual but not religious.” Led by the teachings of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the retreat ministries of the Midwest Jesuits help answer these questions. Our retreat centers have emerged from the pandemic (page 7) with renewed programs, facilities, and staff. I invite you to consider a retreat to renew your own faith life.

Speaking of St. Ignatius, this year we Jesuits are celebrating the 500th anniversary of his conversion. On May 20, 1521, Ignatius (then a Spanish nobleman) was wounded at the Battle of Pamplona when a cannonball crushed his leg. The event became a grace-filled moment for finding God and ultimately discovering God’s path for him. In this Ignatian Year, we reflect on that moment, and in doing so, look at our own lives. What life-changing moments have we had? How can we use them to encounter God? I hope you’ll consider making a virtual pilgrimage (page 18) to the sites in the Midwest which trace their origins back to the Society of Jesus.

I can’t think of a better legacy for St. Ignatius or a more fitting response to a “cannonball moment” than a man answering the call of a religious vocation. Saint Ignatius steeped his followers in the Spiritual Exercises, instilling in them rigorous academic capabilities and well-honed pastoral and preaching skills, in a process now known as formation. He wanted Jesuits to relate to each person’s journey to God. This past summer we were blessed with successes in our formation program: eight men were ordained to the priesthood, nine men pronounced first vows (page 6), and 10 men entered the novitiate (page 4). Our annual formation timeline (center insert) is a testament to those who have heard God’s call and dedicated themselves to living “for others.”

Finally, I thank you for your gifts that allow men to answer their vocations and for your continued support of their formation. Furthermore, I thank you for your support of those who toil in our schools and retreat centers, bringing others to God. Without you, our work would not be possible. We are very, very grateful!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Karl J. Kiser, SJ'. The signature is stylized with a large, flowing 'K' and a distinct 'J'.

V. Rev. Karl J. Kiser, SJ
Provincial, USA Midwest Province

V. Rev. Karl Kiser, SJ, was the homilist
at the 2021 first vows Mass.





JESUITS[®]

USA MIDWEST PROVINCE

Fall/Winter 2021



ON THE COVER

Cristo Rey Jesuit High School-Twin Cities student Hanna Hoskin sets up an embroidery machine in the new Ken Melrose Technology Lab.

Photo: David Hrbacek

"Hidden Gems" of Ignatian Significance in our own Backyard

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Inspiring Jesuit-related monuments and sites, such as The Heritage Center at Red Cloud Indian School, can be found in unexpected places throughout the Midwest Province.

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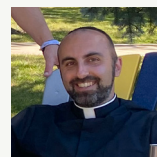
- Daily Scripture, Ignatian reflection, and Ignatian prayer
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- Submit a prayer request
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Introducing the 2021 Novices

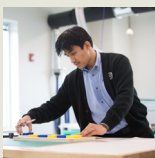
Ten new novices entered the Midwest Province at the Jesuit Novitiate of St. Alberto Hurtado on August 21, 2021.



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Finding God on the Quad

Andrew Cera, SJ, finds his heart filled with joy during his regency at John Carroll University.



Page 13

Success STEMs from a Jesuit Education

The Ken Melrose Technology Lab enables innovation and creativity for students at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School-Twin Cities.



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Sister-Builders

Women religious played a large role in the growth of Catholic education in Chicago.

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The Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust Health Sciences Building in Phoenix

Creighton University Opens New Phoenix Health Science Campus

Creighton University School of Medicine students now have the opportunity to live and learn on two campuses—one in Omaha and one in Phoenix. On September 9, Creighton officially opened the university's new \$100 million Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust Health Sciences Building at Park Central in midtown Phoenix. The 195,000-square-foot campus will be home to nearly 900 students by 2025.

The modern facility—which features cutting-edge technology, equipment, and spaces—enriches Creighton's Jesuit education. On campus and in the community, students have a wide variety of opportunities to develop skills and transform health care. Phoenix is also home to several residency and fellowship programs through the Creighton University Arizona Health Education Alliance.

Creighton's infusion of health professionals comes at a crucial time for Arizona, which faces a boom in population and a shortfall in physicians, nurses, and other medical professionals. By 2030, the state is expected to have just one primary care doctor for every 1,900 people and a projected shortage of 50,000 nurses.

The recently released census data shows Phoenix is the fastest growing city in the nation. Nearly 200 people per day are arriving in Maricopa County, driving rapid growth in Phoenix and the state of Arizona. The state needs more compassionate, well-trained professionals to meet the growing health demands of an aging population as well as new generations of Arizonans.



Joe Murray, Jesuit Academy's new principal, previously taught fourth grade at the school.

Jesuit Academy Welcomes New Principal

This school year, Jesuit Academy in Omaha welcomed Joe Murray as the school's new principal. Murray, who officially became principal in July, has extensive experience in elementary education. He most recently served as the assistant principal at Omaha's Nelson Mandela Elementary. Prior to his role as assistant principal at Nelson Mandela, Murray taught fourth grade at Jesuit Academy for six years. Before teaching at Jesuit Academy, he taught fifth grade at Minne Lusa Elementary School. Murray earned his bachelor of science in elementary education from Northwest Missouri State and holds a master's in educational administration from University of Nebraska Omaha.

Jesuit Academy president Mike Masek says, "I am very excited for Joe to rejoin our community and am confident he will build upon the strengths of our school. Joe has demonstrated a commitment, not only to Catholic education, but also to the unique Jesuit charisms that make our school special. Joe is excited to join Jesuit Academy in making a difference to help enrich the lives of these young men."

Jesuit Academy opened its doors in August of 1996 and is currently undergoing renovations as it enters its third decade of operation. After leaving Jesuit Academy, 99% of graduates go on to earn their high school diploma.



Br. Mark Mackey, SJ

Br. Mark Mackey, SJ, Serves as Ecojesuit COP26 Delegate

Brother Mark Mackey, SJ, has been chosen as an Ecojesuit delegate for the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as COP26, in Glasgow, Scotland. Ecojesuit is the global ecology network of Jesuits and partners. The goal of Ecojesuit is to facilitate dialogue and engagements to reconcile with God, one another, and Creation, addressing the broad call for action of *Laudato Si'* and the urgency of a just global transformation in care for the Earth and the most vulnerable.



Within the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States (JCCU), the Office of Justice and Ecology and Ignatian Solidarity Network have launched the Renewing the Earth: Living *Laudato Si'* in the Year of Ignatius campaign.

Brother Mackey is currently in formation as a second-year regent and missioned to Loyola University Chicago's School of Environmental Sustainability. While completing first studies at Loyola, he received his master's degree in Christian spirituality with an emphasis in ecospirituality, studied how Ignatian spirituality and ecology intersect, and helped teach the course Ecospirituality for Action. Additionally, Mackey developed and led the Green Team for the Jesuit community at Loyola and is a member of the JCCU Jesuit Ecology Network.



Jesuits Matthew Donovan, Eric Immel, and Stephen Molvarec were among 11 men ordained as deacons.

Four Midwest Jesuits Ordained as Transitional Deacons

During their final year of theology studies, Jesuit scholastics are ordained as transitional deacons. The ordination to the diaconate is considered one of the last steps in the long, rigorous process of Jesuit formation. This fall, four Midwest Jesuits in theology studies were ordained to the diaconate, and they will be ordained as priests in June 2022.

Jesuits Matthew Donovan, Eric Immel, and Stephen Molvarec—who are completing their theology studies at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry—were ordained as deacons alongside seven other Jesuits and one Franciscan by the Most Reverend Mark O’Connell, auxiliary bishop of Boston, on Saturday, September 18, at Church of Saint Ignatius of Loyola. Aaron Bohr, SJ, who is completing his theology studies at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, was ordained to the diaconate at Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland, California, on October 23.

Jesuits typically serve as transitional deacons for six months to a year. They are now members of the clergy, but they will continue their theology studies. As deacons, they are able to proclaim the Gospel, preach in the name of the Church, and minister sacraments. Following their priestly ordination next summer, the Jesuits will receive assignments to full-time apostolic work or continue onto specialized studies.



Carmel Loud

Hometown: Fairbanks, Alaska

Schools: Creighton University and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (nurse anesthetist student)

Profession: ICU nurse at Catholic Health Initiative (Omaha) and traveling COVID-19 ICU nurse (California and Arizona)

Why did you choose Creighton University?

My older brother attended Gonzaga University, so I was familiar with the excellent, well-rounded education a Jesuit university provides. My high school chemistry teacher was a Creighton graduate, and her passion for the university greatly influenced my decision to attend Creighton. Although my hometown in Alaska is very different from Omaha, Creighton fosters a strong sense of community that made me feel like I belonged immediately, even though I had never toured before classes began.

What impact did your experience at Creighton University have on you?

Creighton did an excellent job of integrating Jesuit values in and out of the classroom. The idea of *cura personalis* especially resonated with me—the care for the whole person. I apply this philosophy to my patients today. This value is what led me to pursue higher education in nursing.

Working at the desk in Degelman Hall allowed me to work alongside many Jesuits,

and as I got to know them, I was often struck by their kindness. I frequently collected one-minute reflections from students for them. I was fortunate to be influenced by many Jesuits, but one lay professor that I will never forget is Thomas Kiefer. I was not too fond of philosophy at first, but through Professor Kiefer’s teaching, I came to see that it has everything to do with life, with decision-making, with work, and with my growing worldview.

How did you come to be a traveling COVID-19 nurse?

When the pandemic hit, I was working for a CHI Health hospital in Omaha and spent some time on the COVID-19 floor there. I volunteered to be a COVID-19 crisis ICU travel nurse because I felt called to serve; I was fortunate to live alone, so I did not fear endangering my family. It was the most emotionally challenging work I have ever done. My friend Jason Lakis, a Gonzaga University alumnus and an experienced travel nurse, provided me with guidance to begin travel nursing when the first wave subsided in Omaha. I worked at hospitals in California and Arizona. Currently, I am taking time off while pursuing my doctorate to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. I look forward to continuing my nursing career and making contributions to improve patient care. ✝



The Midwest Jesuits welcomed 10 new novices to the Jesuit Novitate of St. Alberto Hurtado on August 21, 2021. Front row, from left: Scott Fox, Solomon Liebl, Leonardo Rander Asse Jr., Aaron Calton, and Benjamin Rogers; back row: Joseph Ertle, Carl Caceres, Brian Kemper, Ryan Cruise, and Michael Bauer

Meet the Midwest Jesuits' New Novices

Michael Bauer, 22, is from Brainerd, Minnesota. He recently graduated from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota with a bachelor of music degree. Bauer, along with his mom, older brother, and younger sister, converted to the Catholic faith during his freshman year of high school. Bauer was inspired by his parish priest, and he developed a deep love for his faith. He was actively discerning religious life throughout his college years, learning about different religious orders. He ultimately decided to apply to the Jesuits after reading *With God in Russia* by Fr. Walter Ciszek, SJ, and *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything* by Fr. James Martin, SJ.



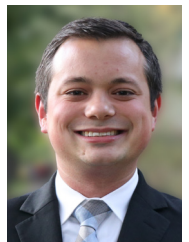
He also attended a "come and see" weekend and a weeklong silent discernment retreat at the Jesuit novitate in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Carl Caceres, 32, grew up in Teaneck, New Jersey, not far from New York City. He earned a bachelor of arts in philosophy and theology/religious studies from the University of Scranton and a master of science in student affairs in higher education from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He has worked in residence life, campus ministry, and most recently, academic advising. Caceres became acquainted with the Society of Jesus as part of the Special Jesuit Liberal Arts



Honors Program at Scranton. He has been profoundly influenced by Jesuit spiritual directors and by getting to know the Jesuits on campus while working at Xavier University in Cincinnati and Creighton University in Omaha. Caceres is a former collegiate tennis player.

Aaron Calton, 29, is from Cleveland. A graduate of the University of Notre Dame, he received a bachelor of arts in theology and Italian language and literature and his master of arts in theology through the Echo Graduate Service Program. He spent the past few years teaching theology to high



school and middle school students, introducing them to the Catholic faith in the classroom and on retreats. Calton first encountered Jesuit life and Ignatian spirituality when he attended Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland and is excited to follow in the footsteps of the Jesuits who formed him there.

Ryan Cruise, 26, was raised in Bettendorf, Iowa. Cruise graduated from Upper Iowa University in Fayette with a degree in financial management. He worked in the agriculture industry for four years as an agronomist's intern and in supply management at John Deere. Cruise first heard about the Jesuits through the fantastic stories told by his grandfather, who attended Creighton Prep in the 1940s.



Joseph Ertle, 22, is the youngest of six kids and a proud native of the greater Cleveland area. He graduated in 2017 from Saint Ignatius High School where he came to know the Jesuits. Ertle continued learning under Jesuits while studying English at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts. His time at Holy Cross exposed him to various ministries that allowed him to work inside a hospital and jail, encounter men and women experiencing homelessness, lead peers on retreat and in liturgical ministries, and provide academic and mentorship programming for elementary students of low economic means.



Scott Fox, 34, grew up in Lisle, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. He studied education at Illinois State University and spent several years teaching. After a brief foray into the world of web development, Fox experienced a strong call to work for



God. Following this call led him to a position as a laborer with the Catholic Cemeteries of the Diocese of Joliet and eventually back to his home parish of St. Joan of Arc, where he served as a liturgy coordinator and website manager. He first encountered the Jesuits when a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City inspired him to read the story of Blessed Miguel Pro. While discerning his vocation with the Jesuits, he was particularly inspired by Fr. Mitch Pacwa, SJ, and Fr. Robert Spitzer, SJ, at EWTN (Global Catholic Network) and found himself deeply attracted to the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola and the history of the Society of Jesus.

Brian Kemper, 23, was raised in Cincinnati, where he attended St. Xavier High School. The second oldest of four brothers, Kemper stayed in his hometown and attended the University of Cincinnati, earning both a bachelor of business administration and master of science in finance. During college, he interned for the Kroger Company and Delta Air Lines, was involved in the Greek community, and enjoyed working with students in the Lindner College of Business. During his fourth year in college, he began to seriously discern his call to the Society of Jesus and revisited the spirituality and teachings from his time at St. Xavier.



Solomon Liebl, 23, grew up in Fertile, a small town in northwestern Minnesota. After high school, he entered minor seminary and studied for the Diocese of Crookston. He attended Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota for two years before discerning out of formation. He proceeded to complete his bachelor's degree at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, majoring in finance and philosophy. He was first introduced to Ignatian spirituality by his



philosophy professors and friends toward the end of college. After graduation, while working as a business intelligence analyst for an industrial supply company, he continued to discern the Society of Jesus.

Leonardo Rander Asse

Jr., 27, was born and raised in Belo Horizonte, Brazil's sixth-largest city. He graduated from the pharmacy school at the Federal University of Minas Gerais in 2017. He continued his studies in Minneapolis at the University of Minnesota, earning a master of science in chemistry in 2020. A convert to Catholicism, Asse had a Jesuit priest as his RCIA instructor, who was a great witness to the Society of Jesus. After further discernment, Asse's decision to join the Jesuits was rooted in a deep desire to follow in the footsteps of St. Ignatius of Loyola, accompanying people and helping them make life decisions.



Benjamin Rogers, 25, was born and raised in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He attended Creighton University where he majored in economics and played on the golf team. While studying at Creighton, he was first introduced to the Jesuits and Ignatian spirituality. Rogers spent the spring semester of 2021 living on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota as a *donné* with the Jesuit community.



SECOND-YEAR NOVICES AT THE JESUIT NOVITIATE OF ST. ALBERTO HURTADO:

Brennan Dour, nSJ	Brian Martindale, nSJ
Patrick Fenner, nSJ	Michael Rushka, nSJ
Austin Kleman, nSJ	Kyle Vieth, nSJ



Front row, from left: Jesuits Brian Burtka, Ryan Serfas, David Herr, and Min Keun Park; back row: Jesuits Noah Banasiewicz, Benjamin Jansen, John Wahlbrink, Thomas Doran, and Nathaniel Cortas

Photo: Don Doll, SJ

On Saturday, August 14, at Saint Thomas More Catholic Church in St. Paul, nine Midwest Jesuits pronounced their first vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. These vows are the culmination of the two-year period spent at the Jesuit Novitiate of St. Albert Hurtado in St. Paul, Minnesota, where these men further discerned their vocation and were introduced to various aspects of Jesuit life, including living in a community.

The nine Jesuits, listed with their hometowns, are:

- Noah Banasiewicz (Virginia Beach)
- Brian Burtka (Farmington Hills, Michigan)
- Nathaniel Cortas (Louisville, Kentucky)
- Thomas Doran (Omaha)
- David Herr (Fontanelle, Iowa)
- Benjamin Jansen (Greenwood, Indiana)
- Min Keun Park (South Korea, then Des Plaines, Illinois)
- Ryan Serfas (Omaha)
- John Wahlbrink (Cincinnati)

All the Jesuits this year have chosen to pursue the priesthood (as opposed to becoming a Jesuit brother), so after pronouncing first vows, these Jesuits are now “scholastics” and will begin the first studies stage of their formation. First studies is typically a three-year period of graduate coursework in philosophy and theology at a Jesuit university, though some younger Jesuits use this time to complete their undergraduate studies and others choose to pursue other advanced degrees, such as a master’s in social work. This year, each man will continue his studies at either Loyola University Chicago, Saint Louis University, or Fordham University.

The video and program of the 2021 first vows Mass can be found at JesuitsMidwest.org/First-Vows-2021.



Photos above: David Hrbacek

Ignatian Spirituality for All:

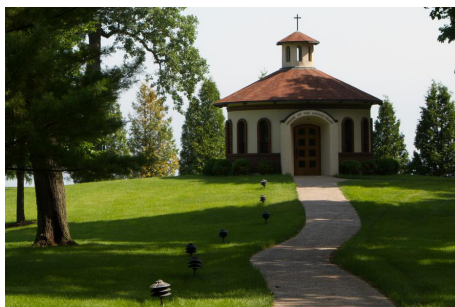
Jesuit Retreat Centers of the Midwest Province

By Thomas Drexler and Nora Dabrowski

The ministry of retreat work is often referred to as one of listening, reflection, and silence. In the Midwest Province, it is that and so much more.

The province is home to six retreat centers that bring Ignatian spirituality and the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola to life for thousands of retreatants each year. Following the challenges of COVID-19, the Midwest Jesuits' retreat centers have emerged stronger as retreatants return.

Four of the retreat centers have new executive directors to carry on and grow this important ministry: Bill Hobbs at Jesuit Retreat Center in Parma, Ohio; Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM, at Manresa Jesuit Retreat House in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; Fr. Mark Carr, SJ, at Jesuit Retreat House in Oshkosh, Wisconsin; and Stephen Poat at the Spiritual Center at Milford in Ohio.



All retreat centers share the goal of bringing people closer to God, and with diverse offerings, each center has something for everyone.

This year, Fr. Francis Daly stepped down as executive director at Manresa Jesuit Retreat House to focus on implementing a special program for Jesuit tertians at the retreat center. Tertianship is the stage in Jesuit formation before final vows where Jesuits revisit the foundational documents and history

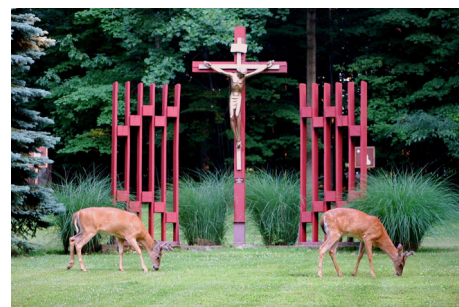
of the Society of Jesus and make the Spiritual Exercises in the 30-day silent retreat.

Manresa has also renovated various indoor and outdoor spaces for reflection and prayer. A robust slate of programs includes spiritually focused yoga, couples' retreats, evenings of prayer, book studies, and individually directed retreats. There is also an internship in spiritual companionship—training laypeople to be spiritual leaders, retreat directors, and spiritual companions.

Jesuit Retreat Center in Parma, Ohio, is focused on what the next 100 years will look like for their guests. With a new chapel, a remodeled kitchen, more than 70 guest rooms, and beautiful grounds, Jesuit Retreat Center offers a welcoming and comfortable space for reflection and prayer. They reach a diverse crowd: programs for Jesuits in formation from around the country, retreats for women and men experiencing homelessness, student retreats, retreats for couples, and retreats supporting those in recovery.

The Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago is continuing the rich tradition of Ignatian spirituality and reflection and aims to help their retreatants to become "contemplatives in action." Through 12-step recovery retreats, weekend retreats, five-day silent retreats, and the traditional eight-day silent retreat with personal spiritual directors, Fr. Carr and the staff at the Oshkosh retreat center invite others to become companions of Jesus and friends in the Lord.

Whether you seek to deepen your relationship with God, renew your spiritual life that has grown weary, or are simply drawn to the quiet—the staff, programs, and environment will welcome you and give you the opportunity to live and learn through Ignatian spirituality. ✠



Thomas Drexler is a major gifts officer for the Midwest Jesuits and former executive director of the Ignatian Spirituality Project. He is a graduate of Marquette University High School, Creighton University, and Washington Theological Union.



Nora Dabrowski is the regional advancement director for the Midwest Jesuits in Michigan and northern Ohio. She is a graduate of Loyola University Chicago and has worked with the Jesuits for over 26 years.

Andrew Cera, SJ, gathers with students on the quad at John Carroll University in University Heights, Ohio.

Photo: Mark Grabowski

Finding God on the Quad

By Andrew Cera, SJ

In *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis says, “We achieve fulfillment when we break down walls and our heart is filled with faces and names” (EG 274). Those words emerged while I meditated during my most recent eight-day silent retreat at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Parma, Ohio. I realized, as I begin my seventh year as a Jesuit and my second year of regency at John Carroll University, that I could not count the number of times I have said to myself, to God, and to others, “THIS WAS SO FULL,” after reflecting on some experience or encounter. And in that retreat’s silence, I understood that my vocation—my heart—has been formed and filled by so many names and faces!

I thought of my three years at Fordham University in New York (first studies)—doing master’s studies in philosophical resources and Christian spirituality (concentrating in spiritual direction)—and all the professors, fellow graduate students, brother Jesuits, residents in Finlay Residence Hall (where I was a resident minister), students on the

retreats I was present on, and all those I chatted with at Starbucks and Rod’s Coffee, as well as on the quad!

Most immediately, though, my reflection lays on the names and faces that are filling my heart at John Carroll. Here, I am involved in various parts of campus: teaching Ignatian spirituality in the theology and religious studies department and serving as an instructor in the Ignatian Spirituality Institute, a two-year spiritual direction training program in the Ignatian tradition, as well as directing student retreats for campus ministry. Throughout this, the words of Caryl Houselander have held close to my heart: “One never knows when the loveliest moment of life is striking.”

I feel these lovely moments striking most palpably in what has become one of my greatest joys at John Carroll—sitting in an Adirondack chair on the quad and being attentive to God’s revealing presence. I cannot predict or control this; it’s something that I can only receive and be surprised by. It comes in

the form of smiles and waves across the quad and conversations and encounters centering around anything from prayer, organic chemistry, secondary causality, and Spikeball to whatever gives life meaning or the desire and search for meaning. But behind all of this are individuals who not only show me something more of God, but who break down walls and fill my heart.

And so, as I circle around the quad every evening on my walk back to the Schell House Jesuit Community, I find myself uniting my prayer with George Herbert, saying, “O Lord, who has given me so much, give me one thing more—a grateful heart.” How else could a heart that is filled with so many names and faces respond? ✠



Andrew Cera, SJ, is a second-year Jesuit regent at John Carroll University in University Heights, Ohio. He entered the Society of Jesus in 2015.

The Second Founder:

Fr. Donald Rowe, SJ, Transformed Saint Ignatius College Prep

By Grace Rice

Many of us grow out of our childhood career aspirations, but for Fr. Donald Rowe, SJ, those career aspirations were a vocation. Father Rowe recalls, "I remember coming to my mother after school one day and saying, 'Mom, I want to be a priest,' and my mother said, 'That's nice, dear.' And she would have said the same thing if I said I wanted to be a fireman or a spaceman." But after spending time with the Jesuits while attending Loyola Academy in Wilmette, Illinois, he took this vocation more seriously. Father Rowe graduated high school in 1958, entered the Society of Jesus in 1959, and was ordained as a priest in 1972. His childhood aspirations had come to fruition.

Of course, Jesuits' works extend to teaching, administration, research, and work in missions and social apostolates. When it came time for Fr. Rowe to attend graduate school, he chose architecture. After receiving his master's from Columbia University, he went to Loyola University Chicago for his regency, where he taught art and architectural history and helped establish the school's new art department. After ordination, Fr. Rowe returned to teaching at Loyola and was settling into a profession he enjoyed. He says, "I was enjoying teaching and working well with the students, offering Mass and counseling, and writing articles and a book."

He certainly didn't expect to receive a call from the chairman of the search committee for Saint Ignatius College Prep's next president. "That just came out of the blue." He had no background or experience in secondary education or administration, but

he was grateful, citing "a fine grace where opportunities open to you." And despite his inexperience, he got the job. "I went in cold," Fr. Rowe says. "I hadn't been in a high school since I was a boy."

It was sink or swim, with rough waters for a first-time president. The Chicago high school was falling apart, with dilapidated buildings and poor finances. Father Rowe jumped in. "I'm very entrepreneurial, and I like to try things," he says. "And I'm open to change, so I said, 'I think I can do that.' I didn't know what 'that' would involve in particular, but I knew it would involve getting the building fixed up and then getting to the students and making sure the curriculum was up-to-date and incorporating Jesuit values."

Father Rowe made sure each student received support as an individual. For example, he got copies of about 250 report cards after each term and hand-wrote personal praise and encouragement on the pages and mailed them to the students at home. He also noted their involvement in sports and clubs and the personal, social growth he hoped for each student.

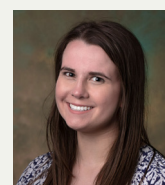
During his 17 years at Saint Ignatius College Prep, Fr. Rowe worked 90–100 hours a week and went from being the green first-timer to being named "Second Founder" by the board of trustees. By the end of his tenure, the bankrupt institution he inherited had an endowment of over \$54 million. Additionally, he renovated the historic buildings and constructed two new buildings in the historic style; expanded the campus from four to 21 acres; developed a board of trustees;



Starting in 2001, Fr. Rowe personally landscaped the grounds of Saint Ignatius College Prep, and the City of Chicago awarded the school "Best Institutional Landscaping" three times over the next eight years.

established pastoral ministry, computer, and service programs; and upgraded the resources of every department, as well as salaries and benefits. To do all of this, he was very involved in asking for the help of friends, parents, alumni, and faculty/staff.

After leaving Saint Ignatius College Prep, Fr. Rowe spent time as a part-time chaplain at the Little Sisters of the Poor and worked part-time for Loyola's School of Education as a consultant to Catholic schools. For health reasons, he moved to the St. Camillus Jesuit Community in 2016, where he has enjoyed more time for prayer and reading. The change of pace is well deserved, and it becomes his aging. "Those were graced years at St. Ignatius. I am very grateful for the priestly opportunities they offered." ✠



Grace Rice is a journalist based in Chicago and a graduate of Boston College, where she was editor-in-chief of *The Rock*. Currently, she works as assistant director of communications for the Midwest Jesuits.



'The Family University

Three Families Support Creighton, Xavier, and John Carroll across Generations

By Michael Austin

This past July, moments after Paul Hulseman walked his oldest daughter down the aisle at her wedding, he turned to the groom.

"I said, 'Matt, I have three wishes for you,'" Hulseman says. "'The first is that any tears be tears of joy. The second is that since laughter is a gift from God, may you be blessed abundantly with laughter. The third is that if you ever have any children, they attend John Carroll.'"

It's tradition for the Hulseman family. To date, 18 immediate and extended family members call John Carroll University their alma mater, including Hulseman ('82), his wife

DICKHUTE'S FATHER GREW UP IN SMALL-TOWN IOWA DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION AND WAS ONLY ABLE TO ATTEND CREIGHTON DUE TO A SCHOLARSHIP. ROOM AND BOARD WERE COVERED BY AN OMAHA MORTUARY, WHERE HE LIVED IN EXCHANGE FOR DRIVING AROUND TOWN TO PICK UP THE DECEASED.

Patrice McCauley Hulseman ('80), and five of their 13 kids—a sixth is a JCU freshman. There's also McCauley Hulseman's father, John McCauley ('50), a native New Yorker who took advantage of the GI Bill with the encouragement of a Jesuit priest who was a family friend.

Paul Hulseman—who recently accepted a job as special assistant to the president at John Carroll—and his wife Patrice, have made several treks from their Chicago-area home to Cleveland. Though six of the Hulseman children chose different Jesuit universities, it's possible the early visits had something to do with the others' choice to attend JCU.

The Hulsemans hold the lead at JCU, but they have competition at two other Jesuit schools in the Midwest.

Tom Partridge, one of 20 Xavier alumni in his family, says, "I think it's fair to say that upon my father's return to Xavier, it became my immediate family's university—even though it had already been in the family." Partridge's daughter is scheduled to graduate in 2023.

The Partridges' story began with Tom Partridge's maternal grandfather, who grew up in Cincinnati and graduated from Xavier in 1929. Partridge's parents later met at a Xavier basketball game. His mother, Joy Partridge (née Glueck), was an undergrad at Cincinnati's Edgecliff College (before it merged with all-male Xavier in 1980) and went on to earn a master's from Xavier in 1988. His father, the late Milton A. Partridge, also graduated from Xavier and then taught in Cincinnati public schools and at Marquette University before returning to Xavier, where he taught from 1966 to 1991.

Additionally, there have been sisters, a brother, nieces, uncles, cousins—including Jo Ann Osterkamp-Henderson ('84), the first Xavier women's basketball player to have her jersey retired—and, of course, Partridge's daughter, who represents the family's fourth generation of Xavier students.

"She felt very at home on that campus," Partridge says. "To have another Partridge walk the grounds where I once walked, my siblings walked, and my father once worked, made a big difference."

Nancy Lawler Dickhute also returned to her alma mater to teach. She graduated from Creighton University—one of 23 family members to do so—in 1974, returning to earn her law degree ('84) and eventually teach

in the law school, where she is currently a professor emerita.

The Lawlers' connection began with their father, Matthew P. Lawler Jr., who began



undergraduate studies in 1942 and graduated from the medical school five years later. Nine of his children graduated from Creighton, many with multiple degrees, and in 1982,

THE FACT THAT I HAD BROTHERS AND SISTERS ON CAMPUS WAS A PLUS. I NEVER FELT LIKE A "NUMBER." EVEN IN LARGER CLASSES, MY PROFESSORS KNEW ME.

six of them were enrolled at once. Five of their spouses and eight of their children also graduated from Creighton, as recently as 2021.

"I think my dad's experience positively influenced each of his children's decision to attend," says Dickhute, who grew up in Des Moines, Iowa. "When we went to Omaha as children, Dad would always want to visit the campus to see what had changed."

Dickhute's father grew up in small-town Iowa during the Great Depression and was only able to attend Creighton due to a scholarship. Room and board were covered by an Omaha mortuary, where he lived in exchange for driving around town to pick up the deceased.

The Creighton experience was drastically different for Nancy Lawler Dickhute, who met her husband Mark Dickhute (BA '80, JD '83) while in law school. The size of the school and the personal attention she received from her professors suited her. But the family connection helped, too.

"The fact that I had brothers and sisters on campus was a plus," she says. "I never felt like a 'number.' Even in larger classes, my professors knew me."

When a university is so much a part of the fabric of a family, the literal fabric is everywhere. Dickhute has three Creighton T-shirts, a jersey, a winter vest, and a couple scarves. Partridge sheepishly admits to owning eight Xavier pullovers, seven baseball caps, five polo shirts, two T-shirts, three wall hangings, and three flags. One of his brothers-in-law has a giant "X" painted on a basement wall, and another owns a piece of the original scoreboard from the Cintas Center, home of Xavier basketball and volleyball.

Recently, Paul Hulseman hosted a Chicago send-off party for incoming JCU freshmen. As a thank you, the admissions office sent a logo-embazoned blanket with a note that read, "We think you have everything else!" ❖



Michael Austin is a freelance writer based in Chicago, a national James Beard Award finalist for magazine feature writing, and a former nationally syndicated columnist for the *Chicago Tribune*.

Addressing the Need:

Jesuit Education to Take Deeper Root in Cincinnati

By Quentin Maguire

The Midwest Jesuits and Catholic Inner-City Schools Education (CISE) have announced the creation of a Catholic middle school in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati to serve boys in third through eighth grade. Located on-site at the Church of the Resurrection, this new school will serve families in the heart of Bond Hill and other nearby neighborhoods in the African American community.

Eligible students from families of modest economic means will qualify for enrollment. Once established, the school is expected to expand the pool of boys who qualify for admission to area Catholic high schools. Through a rigorous academic program and robust faith formation, graduates of this new school will be prepared to thrive at all of the excellent Catholic high schools in Cincinnati. While the name was not finalized by press time, supporters are hopeful it will closely reflect the Jesuit traditions in the area. The opening is scheduled for August 2023.

"The Midwest Jesuits are pleased to join with CISE in this vital undertaking," said V. Rev. Karl Kiser, SJ, provincial of the Midwest Jesuits. "Like CISE, the Jesuits have extensive experience working in resilient communities impacted by historical disinvestment as well as deep roots and a commitment to educational excellence in Cincinnati."

The school will join the 10 CISE schools

currently serving more than 2,300 students in pre-K through eighth grade in Cincinnati. The Jesuits have eight other schools serving approximately 1,000 pre-K through eighth grade students throughout the Midwest.

African American boys continue to be a focus of growth, as they are in CISE's other schools serving families of limited means.

Data suggests that an all-boys configuration enables a curriculum with instructional approaches tailored to gender learning differences and highlights fraternity formation, service, and responsible growth into adulthood.

"CISE thrives in our care for students from poverty

throughout Cincinnati, and we need to redouble our efforts to ensure the success of African American boys who, despite great promise, drop out of our schools at a higher rate than the overall peer group," said Mabe Rodriguez, executive director of CISE. "We need another solution in our CISE network of schools. The Jesuits have a proven model." Rodriguez also noted, "We know if we can get our CISE graduates into and through our Catholic high schools, the trajectory of success skyrockets. African American graduates of our Catholic high schools break the cycle of poverty for their families and



From left: Deacon Royce Winters, Mabe Rodriguez, and V. Rev. Karl Kiser, SJ

become excellent fathers, husbands, and leaders in our Cincinnati community. The Catholic community of Cincinnati needs to come together to address this need. We are betting on this as the answer."

Deacon Royce Winters, director of African American evangelization for the archdiocese and pastoral administrator at the Church of the Resurrection further explained, "We need this school. We are losing our boys. We are losing the incredible gifts they can offer our community, city, and Church. Our Catholic school system is missing too many of them. This unique school will make a tremendous difference."

The inception of the school came from a generous donor seeking to make a transformational gift to provide opportunities, particularly for boys. CISE was able to identify the Bond Hill neighborhood as an ideal locale, and the project commenced. Next steps include settling on the name, hiring the first president, and raising funds to prepare the school for the students. ✠



Quentin Maguire is director of communications for the Midwest Jesuits. He has worked with the Jesuits for over 12 years.

Success STEMs from a Jesuit Education

The Ken Melrose Technology Lab Enriches the Curriculum At Cristo Rey Jesuit High School-Twin Cities

By David Hart

When you think of the Society of Jesus, the first four-letter acronym that comes to mind is likely AMDG, which stands for *ad maiorem dei gloriam*, “for the greater glory of God.” The phrase, attributed to St. Ignatius of Loyola, has been known as a cornerstone of the Society of Jesus for centuries.

This year, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School-Twin Cities is incorporating another four-letter acronym that complements their Jesuit mission: STEM. The Ken Melrose Technology Lab, which opened October 2021, includes every type of state-of-the-art technology imaginable. The \$1.7 million addition features

3D printers, an embroidery machine, CNC routers, drones, robots, large format printers, a vinyl cutter, video equipment, and a “Whisper Room,” a sound booth for recording and editing audio clips.

The planning for a technology lab for the school began in May 2020, inspired by the work that the students have been doing at their Corporate Work Study Program placements in recent years. “When we first opened in 2007, students in our Corporate Work Study Program moved paper,” recalls the school’s founding principal and current president, Jeb Myers. “They filed, scanned, and moved paper. Now, they move electrons; they’re running databases and 3D printers. We wanted to start them even earlier by embedding those skills into our curriculum.”

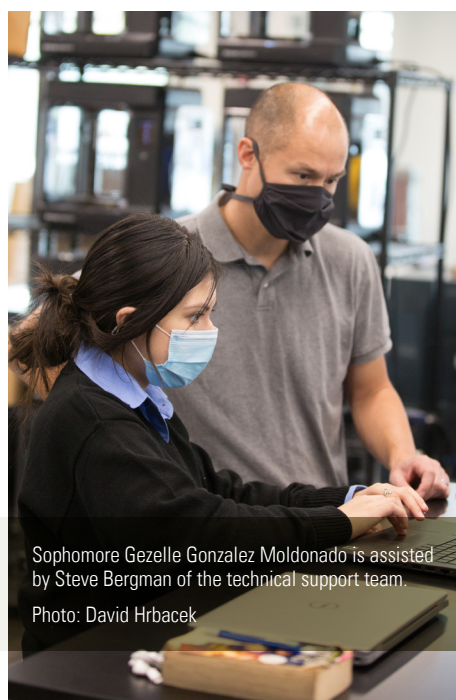
Myers sees the space expanding the way that all courses—not just math and science—are taught. Rather than a traditional assignment in which students would write a paper on the civil rights movement for history class, the technology lab gives students the opportunity to present their knowledge in creative, innovative ways. Some might record the stories they have heard from their grandparents in the Whisper Room sound booth; others can use the large-format printer to construct a pictograph that tells the story.

“When you look at our space, you’ll see band saws and chop saws next to laser systems that etch glass, paper, and metal, and you kind of wonder how that fits in with a Jesuit education,” says Myers. “*Cura personalis*, care for the whole person, is

really about helping people feel good or feel successful. This technology lab is another way to demonstrate your God-given skills in a way that really fits you.”

The technology lab was fully funded by Ken Melrose, a longtime donor to Cristo Rey Jesuit High School-Twin Cities who sadly passed away before the lab opened. Speaking about Melrose’s generosity, Myers says, “God works in wonderful ways when you have a mission. At Cristo Rey, we say, ‘we’re here to serve others.’ We want others to be successful. In reality, Ken Melrose felt a deep bond to our mission; that is really what made it happen. It is a mission that really spoke to him and what he believed in.”

And the mission continues to grow. When the first Cristo Rey school was founded in the Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago in 1996, its goal was to provide high school diplomas to an underserved community. From there, the Corporate Work Study Program helped evolve the mission of getting students to graduate from college. The mission has evolved yet again to incorporate Cristo Rey alumni entering fulfilling careers after college. As Myers states, “Care for the whole person doesn’t stop at grade 12; it doesn’t stop at college. It keeps going throughout life.” ✠



Sophomore Gezelle Gonzalez Moldonado is assisted by Steve Bergman of the technical support team.

Photo: David Hrbacek



David Hart is an intern for the Midwest Jesuits and a senior at Loyola University Chicago, where he is majoring in advertising and public relations.



Fr. David De Marco, SJ, gives a blessing at the Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine.

Where Scholarly Pursuits Begin

Jesuit Academics Reflect on Their Most Influential Teachers

By Ann Power Greene

Most everyone has a favorite teacher, or at least an instructor who was particularly formative. Students are encouraged and inspired by their teachers. We asked a few Midwest Jesuits whose vocations led them to academia to reflect on teachers who made a difference in their lives. Some teachers pushed their students to excel; others stood out for the way they empowered and inspired while teaching. These Jesuits share stories of those whose gift for teaching continues to influence their

lives as academics.

Father David De Marco, SJ, MD, is an assistant professor of medicine at the Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. He names Dr. David Mason and Dr. Elizabeth Powelson—whom he encountered at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio—as being most influential. “They nurtured my interest in the medical sciences throughout my undergraduate years and did so in a holistic way, with concern for the whole person. Their *cura personalis* was immensely empowering

of my gifts and interests, and I am deeply indebted to each of them for the way they allowed the Spirit of God to work through them. I regularly visited each of them well into their later years (and continue to visit Dr. Mason to this day). I had the privilege of presiding at Dr. Powelson’s funeral service—something that neither of us could have anticipated when we first met.”

Father Dennis McNamara, SJ, is the Park Professor of Sociology and Korean Studies and special assistant to the president for

China affairs at Georgetown University. "I volunteered for missionary work abroad soon after entering the Society. The [former] Wisconsin Province assigned me to South Korea for regency, including three years of language study, teaching, and administration at Sogang University. The work with students proved very attractive and kindled ambitions for further study. Brother William Biernatzkim, SJ, and others in the community encouraged me to work in social sciences, which led me to study sociology at Fordham University, Harvard University, and the University of California, Berkeley."

Father Michael Simone, SJ, teaches at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry. "I think the most influential teacher I ever had was Professor Richard Jasnow, who taught Egyptian history and Coptic language when I was in doctoral studies [at Johns Hopkins University]. He always had fun in the classroom. In fact, he carried himself so lightly that I often forgot that he was a scholar of great eminence. Although his classes were core requirements and not directly related to my dissertation, I wound up learning more from him than from some professors whose research I engaged directly. I try to follow his example of humility, compassion, and good humor every time I teach."

Father Frederick Brenk, SJ, who taught for many years at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome, recalls admiring many professors. "[As an undergraduate student] at Marquette University, I was very much influenced by George Gans, who taught classics, and by Richard Oxford, who taught moral theology. Another person, at Saint Louis University, was Walter Ong, SJ. At St. Mary's, Kansas, there was Gerald Kelly in moral theology, and at Cambridge University, there were many distinguished professors. I might mention that my predecessor in Rome was Edouard des Places, SJ. He was a chaplain to the French army at Dunkirk, spent some time in a concentration camp with Paul Ricoeur and others, and became a famous Greek scholar."



Father David Schultenover specializes in the history of Roman Catholic modernism and post-Enlightenment theological thought.

Photo: Don Doll, SJ

Father Nicholas Santos, SJ, serves as associate professor of marketing at Creighton University. He says, "The most influential teacher in my life is my mother, Lucy. She happened to be a teacher herself. From her I learned selfless service, care, and concern for those less fortunate or on the margins of society, patiently bearing suffering, hard work, and lastly, but perhaps most importantly, unwavering trust and faith in God."

Father David Schultenover, SJ, Henri de Lubac Professor Emeritus of Historical Theology at Marquette University, names multiple teachers—Sr. Angelo Haspert, OSB, who taught him Virgil's Aeneid in his high school Latin class, and Professor Lawrence Barmann at Saint Louis University, who introduced him to Roman Catholic modernism. Father Schultenover also credits Vatican II for influencing his career, saying, "Excited by how the Church, under this new Pentecost, was evolving in its encounter with modernity and the metamorphoses effected by two world wars and socio-cultural and technological developments, I felt called to study historical theology to help the Church appropriate the decrees of Vatican II and thereby prepare for Vatican III."

Father Thomas Simonds, SJ, professor of education at Creighton University, cites the impact of his Jesuit formation as a whole. He became interested in the field as a regent at Creighton Prep and earned his master's in school administration at Boston College and a doctorate in Catholic school leadership at the University of San Francisco. Father Simonds also served at Red Cloud Indian School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, and he says, "When I was a principal, my primary role was to observe teachers and give them feedback on their teaching to help them hone their teaching abilities. My work as a high school principal and teacher definitely prepared me well for teaching graduate students how to be our next generation of teachers." Father Simonds now teaches various Jesuit regents at Creighton, preparing them for their own regency assignments as teachers. The formation has come full circle. ✠



Ann Power Greene serves as director of grants and special projects for the Midwest Jesuits in Chicago. Greene is a native of Cleveland and has over 13 years of service to the Jesuits.



Jaylyn Agnew is Creighton's first WNBA draftee in program history.

Photo: A. J. Olnes

The All-Jesuit Team

The NBA and WNBA continue to mine Jesuit schools for athletic talent. They also get great people in the process.

By Michael Austin

You don't have to scroll far down the list of NBA legends to find a Jesuit-educated starting five.

Bob Cousy. Bill Russell. Elgin Baylor. Patrick Ewing. John Stockton.

That's College of the Holy Cross, University of San Francisco, Seattle University, Georgetown University, and Gonzaga University, for anyone keeping track. And yes, we know we put two centers in the lineup. Legends are legends.

The decades-old tradition of hoopers transitioning from Jesuit schools to the NBA, and increasingly to the WNBA, shows no

signs of slowing, which is why this year we present the "All-Jesuit Team," a collection of 10 recently drafted and free-agent players from 2020 and 2021. We'd love to see them square off in a full-court scrimmage.

We're talking about Santi Aldama of Loyola University Maryland (Memphis Grizzlies); Lauren Manis of the College of the Holy Cross (Las Vegas Aces); Jericho Sims of Cristo Rey Jesuit High School-Twin Cities (New York Knicks); Cassius Winston of the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy (Washington Wizards); Malachi Flynn of Bellarmine Preparatory School in

Tacoma, Washington (Toronto Raptors); the Creighton University duo of Jaylyn Agnew (Washington Mystics) and Marcus Zegarowski (Brooklyn Nets); and the Gonzaga University trio of Joël Ayayi (Los Angeles Lakers), Corey Kispert (Washington Wizards), and Jalen Suggs (Orlando Magic), who played in the championship game of the 2021 NCAA Tournament.

"I think what happens at Gonzaga, and probably every Jesuit school, is we try to give young men and women, whether they're student athletes or not, more than just a normal education—more than just knowledge



Jericho Sims is the first professional athlete from Cristo Rey Jesuit High School-Twin Cities.

of math or English,” says Gonzaga’s recently retired athletic director, Mike Roth. “It’s caring for others, and we always emphasize that. We want them to know there’s more to it than making baskets and making great grades. There’s this aspect where you can make a difference. I think that’s what sets Jesuit schools apart.”

Nonetheless, the athletic ability has to be there, especially at the Jesuit schools that compete at the very highest level. The 2021 NCAA Tournament saw four men’s teams qualify—Gonzaga, Creighton, Loyola University Chicago, and Georgetown—with all but Georgetown reaching the Sweet 16, and Gonzaga playing in the championship game. On the women’s side, both Marquette University and Gonzaga qualified for tournament.

Jaylyn Agnew was gone by then, but she is fondly remembered at Creighton, as much for her talent as her personality.

“When I first met Jaylyn, I was so impressed by her mature attitude, attention to detail, work ethic, and willingness to do

many of the things that often go unnoticed but are necessary in order to be successful,” says Bruce Rasmussen, Creighton’s recently retired athletic director and head coach of the women’s basketball team from 1980 to 1992. “She is humble, sincere, she honors others above herself, and she lives life with great enthusiasm, in harmony with others. In my 41 years at Creighton University, Jaylyn is one of my favorite people.”

Deanna Howes Spiro is vice president of communications for the Washington, D.C.-based Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities, which includes a program called the Jesuit Basketball Spotlight. “We are very proud that Jesuit colleges and universities are able to contribute toward the formation of the whole person in many ways, including through basketball,” she says. “Our schools foster men’s and women’s teams that are committed to *cura personalis*, care for the person, both on and off the court.”

Though Jericho Sims made it to the 2021 NCAA tournament, it wasn’t with a Jesuit team. He played college ball for the University of Texas, but when he was drafted 58th overall in the 2021 NBA Draft, he set two Jesuit records. He became the first NBA player from the national Cristo Rey network, and the first professional athlete from his Cristo Rey high school in the Twin Cities.

Robert Carpentier, the activities director there, recalls a weekend day when he had to stop at school to get some work done. He brought along his then-6-year-old daughter, and by chance, Sims was there, too, shooting baskets in the gym. They walked over to him to say hello and when the little girl looked up at the 6-foot-10-inch Sims, she blurted out, “Why are you so tall?”

Sims smiled and engaged with her. Carpentier asked if he could leave her with him for a half hour while he did his work. Sims smiled again and nodded. When Carpentier returned, the two of them were shooting baskets and talking. Sims even lifted her so she could shoot at the regulation 10-foot hoop.

Carpentier later asked his daughter what the two of them had talked about. She said he asked about her favorite color,



Marcus Zegarowski is Creighton’s fourth men’s basketball player in seven years to be drafted by the NBA.

Photo: Creighton Athletics

story, and cartoon character, among other things. “Basically nothing about basketball,” Carpentier says. “That’s the kind of young man he is. And here’s the kicker. I don’t speak to Jericho as much as Coach [Stanley] Clay or President [Jeb] Myers, but when I do, the first thing Jericho says is, ‘How is Gianna?’”

Stories like that seem to be interchangeable among Jesuit hoopers. The places and details change, but the essence remains. “That’s one of the advantages of going out and recruiting not just great athletes, but also great students who are also great people,” says Roth, of Gonzaga.

No doubt the NBA and WNBA appreciate those kinds of players, too. ✚

"Hidden Gems"

of Ignatian Significance in our own Backyard

By Amy Korpi

For centuries, pilgrims have journeyed to the Holy Land and throughout Europe to visit sites that speak to them of Jesus and the saints. Saint Ignatius of Loyola was one such pilgrim.

As Jim Manney writes, throughout his "purposeful wanderings," St. Ignatius experienced profound changes that ultimately led to his founding the Society of Jesus. Manney says St. Ignatius "referred to himself as 'the Pilgrim' throughout his life, even when he was Superior General of the Society stuck at a desk in Rome. Ignatian metaphor for the spiritual life is pilgrimage."

Even in the U.S., people in the Midwest do not need to make pilgrimages to faraway lands to find Jesuit-related sites. Of course, there are many well-known places here in the province that have Ignatian significance. But there are interesting and inspiring lesser-known monuments, markers, and apostolic works as well.

Thanks to a project developed as part of the Ignatian Year celebration, a new website will provide highlights of such places—allowing users to participate in virtual and/or in-person pilgrimages as they choose. Included are just a few examples.

Ignatius 500
IGNATIUS 500

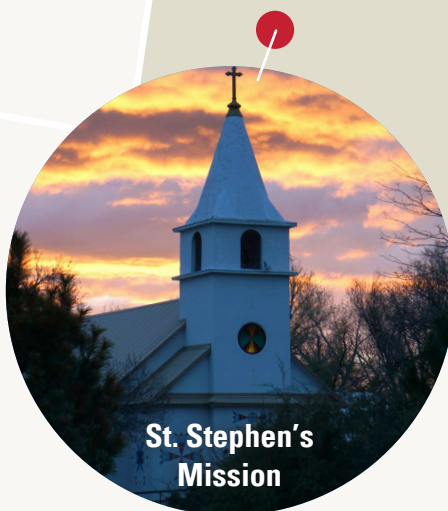
The Heritage Center at Red Cloud Indian School on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota is one of the earliest cultural centers and museums located on a reservation in the United States. The school traces its origins to the time when Chief Red Cloud rose up as a great leader of the Oglala Sioux (Lakota) and started working with a group known as the *Sina Sapa*, or the "Black Robes" (a reference to the black cassocks worn by the Jesuits).

The Heritage Center began in 1968 as The Red Cloud Indian Art Show, started by Fr. Ted Zuern, SJ, and Robert Savage and managed by Br. C. M. Simon, SJ. As he purchased award-winning artwork from the art show each year, Br. Simon quickly amassed an extensive collection of paintings, drawings, and sculptures representing varied Native American tribal traditions. Additionally, local families and private collectors from around the country have donated historical Lakota artwork.

Founded in 1857 by Fr. Arnold Damen, SJ, the **Church of the Holy Family** was one of the few buildings in Chicago to have survived the Great Fire of 1871, and it served as a place of refuge for thousands of survivors. The church's perpetual lamp has been lit ever since. Holy Family, which is Chicago's only example of pre-Civil War Victorian architecture, features a 226-foot bell tower that was at one time the tallest structure in Chicago. The church is also home to a rare collection of 29 historic hand-carved gilded wooden angel orchestra statues created in 1870.



**The Heritage Center
at Red Cloud Indian
School**



**St. Stephen's
Mission**

Photo: St. Stephens Indian Mission Foundation

Visit
JesuitsMidwest.org/IgnatianSites
for our virtual pilgrimage.

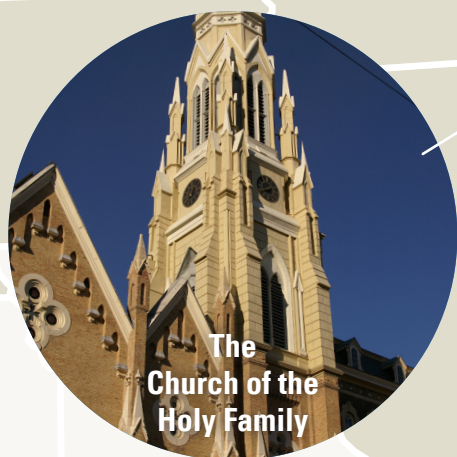
The Arapaho Chief Black Coal approved and selected land for **St. Stephens Mission**, which was established by Fr. John Jutz, SJ, in 1884 on the Wind River Indian Reservation.

After arriving at Black Coal's camp near the confluence of the Little and Big Wind Rivers (near the modern city of Riverton, Wyoming), Fr. Jutz was soon joined by Br. Ursis Nunlist, SJ, in building the new mission, which included a school, chapel, sleeping quarters, kitchen, reception room, and workshop.

The church, community, and schools have evolved since being established, and today the Indian peoples govern the school and community. The mission's church is painted with colorful Native American designs, and a heritage center serves as a museum for the site.



The Spirit of the Northwest



The Church of the Holy Family

The Father Marquette National Memorial at Straits State Park in St. Ignace, Michigan, tells the story of the 17th-century missionary-explorer and the meeting of French and Native American cultures deep in the North American wilderness.

Nearby, the Father Marquette Mission Park and Museum of Ojibwa Culture depict life at the time when French explorers and missionaries met the Ojibwa, Huron, Wyandotte, and Odawa Indians who resided there. Father Jacques Marquette, SJ, founded a mission in 1671 among Huron Indian refugees in this area, which is the oldest documented archaeological site in Michigan. The museum is housed in the Mission Chapel, and the grounds include Fr. Marquette's grave and an authentic Huron longhouse that stages historical reenactments and demonstrations.

It is believed that Fr. Marquette died and was first buried further south in Ludington, Michigan, where the Pere Marquette River widens to form Pere Marquette Lake. A large stone cross marks the spot.



The Father Marquette National Memorial

The Spirit of the Northwest is a statue on the grounds of the Brown County Courthouse in Green Bay, Wisconsin. It represents Fr. Claude Allouez, SJ; a Native American of the Fox people; and Nicolas Perrot, a French explorer, fur trader, and diplomat.

Father Allouez arrived in the area in 1668 and founded the St. Francis Xavier Mission at the last set of rapids on the Fox River before it enters Green Bay. This site became known as *Les Rapides des Pères* ("the Rapids of the Fathers," referring to the Jesuits living there). The location is now the city of De Pere, Wisconsin, and it is home to St. Francis Xavier Parish near the original mission site. Several nearby towns—Allouez and New Allouez, as well as Allouez Township—are named for this pioneer.

For almost 20 years, the St. Francis Xavier Mission was a religious outpost and fur trading way station. In 1673, Fr. Jacques Marquette, SJ, and Louis Joliet stopped at this mission on their historic journey of discovery to find the Mississippi River.

In 1686, Nicolas Perrot presented a silver monstrance to the mission. One of the oldest and most valuable historic relics in the United States at the time, it can now be seen at Green Bay's Neville Public Museum.

Reuben Gold Thwaites (an editor of *The Jesuit Relations* and a biography of Fr. Marquette) visited De Pere in 1899. Here he stands atop a monument commemorating the Mission of Saint Francis Xavier, holding the Perrot Monstrance. The bronze plaque on the upper rock is now housed at the White Pillars Museum in De Pere. ✠

Do you have a favorite "Hidden Gem"?
Email Amy Korpi at akorpi@jesuits.org



Amy Korpi, a freelance writer with two degrees from Marquette University, is based in Green Bay, Wisconsin. She has been working with the Jesuits since 1998.

John "Cal" Freeman and his wife on a visit to University of Detroit Mercy

Photo: Michael Barry

Men and Women of Letters

Four Writers Reflect on How Their Jesuit Educations Prepared Them for Careers in the Literary Arts

By Michael Austin

William Peter Blatty was a student at Georgetown University when he heard about the demonic possession and exorcism of a 14-year-old Maryland boy. Decades later, he used that story as inspiration for his novel *The Exorcist*, which was released in 1971 and soon made into a blockbuster movie.

While Blatty encountered that anecdote as an undergraduate in the late 1940s, Jesuit institutions continue to produce many of today's preeminent writers in many genres. Loyola University Chicago has Phil Caputo, author of the memoir *A Rumor of War*; short story writer and poet Stuart Dybek; and fiction writer Billy Lombardo.

To sum up what he learned at Loyola, Lombardo quotes another Jesuit-educated author, Don DeLillo (Fordham University), whose narrator in the novel *Underworld* proclaims: "The Jesuits taught me to examine things for second meanings and deeper connections."

"I'm not sure I was ready to fully absorb that in my days as an undergrad," Lombardo says. "But it's certainly a part of my daily life as a teacher, writer, editor, and human."

Annie Sullivan took her first creative writing class at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis, and since then she's authored three young adult fantasy novels.

"Brebeuf promoted thinking outside the box," says Sullivan, who works full time as a copywriter for John Wiley & Sons publishing. "It was okay to challenge ideas and ask why things were the way they were. I think that spark of curiosity they encouraged helped me become a better writer and plotter since it encouraged creativity and being intellectually competent."

Jesuits have a long history with writing and publishing. After having committed the Jesuit order to educating lay people in formal European schools, St. Ignatius of Loyola purchased a printing press in 1556 to make textbooks more affordable. Jesuit scholarly

text has thrived for centuries, but the work of contemporary Jesuit-educated writers runs the gamut.

Delphine Red Shirt, a graduate of Holy Rosary High School (now Red Cloud Indian School) on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and Regis University in Denver, writes nonfiction books about the Lakota experience and traditions. The late Tom Clancy, mega-bestselling author of military espionage novels—many featuring fictional Boston College alumnus Jack Ryan—is an alumnus of both Loyola Blakefield and Loyola University Maryland. Former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins graduated from the College of the Holy Cross.

John "Cal" Freeman worked in the writing center and edited the student literary magazine during his time at the University of Detroit Mercy. He says that experience and the writing workshops he attended were crucial to his development as a poet and creative nonfiction writer. His new poetry collection, *Poolside at the Dearborn Inn*, will be released next year.

"I think the emphasis on liberal arts within the Jesuit tradition, as well as the emphasis on social justice, instilled in me a diverse and interdisciplinary reading practice that has

been foundational for my writing life," he says.

Now a creative writing professor, Freeman recalls the impact UDM's Fr. Justin Kelly, SJ, had on him. He cites him as the best teacher he ever had.

"I took his Poets, Mystics, and God class as a junior, and it cemented my feeling that reading and writing poems was a spiritual act," Freeman says.

One story Fr. Kelly told about the poet Theodore Roethke was especially impactful. Roethke, having finished a poem, felt as if the spirit of William Butler Yeats was in the room with him.

THE JESUITS TAUGHT ME TO EXAMINE THINGS FOR SECOND MEANINGS AND DEEPER CONNECTIONS.

"Maybe I've never experienced anything quite that ecstatically mystical while drafting a poem, but there are voices that show up whose presence in the poems seem to come from somewhere I don't understand in any intellectual way," Freeman says.

For Mark Wisniewski, the unexpected acceptance of a short story in the highly

competitive student literary magazine at Milwaukee's Marquette University High School might have been what inspired him to study journalism and

communications at Creighton University.

"That was maybe the first time the Polish-American kid from the poor side of town felt a little something known as prestige," he says. "I felt the thrill of seeing my fiction in print. Once you embody that feeling, you want to feel more of it, again and again."

In addition to graduating from Georgetown University Law Center, Wisniewski has since written three novels, a collection each of short stories and poems, and a writing craft book. He and his wife also founded the short story anthology *CASA* (coolestamericanstories.com), which features the work of established and emerging writers. He encourages readers of this magazine to submit.

"When I was at Jesuit schools, I'd say the bulk of the student body was chasing down prestigious, well-paying jobs," Wisniewski says. "But various Jesuits were rather accepting of anyone wanting to risk a less affluent lifestyle for the sake of something as idealistic and difficult as becoming a successful novelist."

The Ignatian way of teaching and learning gave these writers, and certainly many others, the knowledge and courage to pursue their goals—and to live as a complete people. They also learned to craft compelling narratives, which many of us rely on not only for entertainment, but to inform our lives as a whole. ✠



Mark Wisniewski at a book signing in New York



Annie Sullivan gives a presentation at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis

A “Force of Nature”

Dr. Nancy Shirley and Her Commitment to Service

By Kristine Mackey

After growing up and working in Rhode Island, Nancy Shirley, Ph.D, RN, CNE, didn’t anticipate a “second life.” She traveled from the Northeast to Omaha in 1980 after accepting a nursing faculty position at Creighton University. She loved the university, its students, and the Midwest, but in 1985 she found another passion—volunteer work to help the underserved.

In 1985, Dr. Shirley answered the call to accompany students to the Dominican Republic for a summer service program associated with Creighton’s ILAC (Institute for Latin American Concern) near Santiago, and she understood that it dovetailed nicely with her interest in public health. What she did not know was that she would return with students every summer for the next 35 years, that she would create a complementary fall break program for nursing students to participate in a hernia clinic, and that she would become a leader in many aspects of the ILAC program. Dr. Shirley wanted to focus on sustainability, regularly asking, “How do we sustain good health here?” To ensure sustainability, she is now involved in improving the instruction of community health *cooperadores* trained by ILAC and meeting with faculty at the local university’s nursing program to review and improve their own clinical and academic training.

If you were impressed by Dr. Shirley’s dedicated volunteerism with ILAC in addition to her rich professional life, consider that she is also a 25-year U.S. Army nurse reservist and that she serves as a women’s weekend retreat leader with the Ignatian Spirituality Project (ISP), a program that provides spiritual retreats for men and women who are experiencing

homelessness and recovering from addiction. Just 10 years ago, ISP (founded by Fr. Bill Creed, SJ), was operating in only a handful of cities and now operates in 30+ cities in the U.S., as well as in Dublin. Dr. Shirley has traveled to numerous retreat houses to meet women where they are on their journeys.

Steve Donaldson, regional director for ISP, says, “I’ve worked with Nancy since 2016 and would describe her as a force of nature. She is passionate about service to those on the margins of society and serves as an inspiration to those with whom she serves. She is truly a person for others; I am grateful to know her!” Dr. Shirley says, “I love the idea of a hand up, and I am so humbled by the way the retreatants’ faces change from Saturday morning to Sunday afternoon. They are lifted and have found peace.” For all these efforts, Dr. Shirley was the recipient of the Mary Lucretia and Sarah Emily Creighton Award in 2018. Professionally, Dr. Shirley has accepted an assignment as interim associate dean for the college of nursing at Creighton’s new Phoenix campus.

Dr. Shirley credits the Jesuits with awakening her own spirituality and personal growth. “They are so human, so for and with the people, and they make Christ alive.” In Dr. Shirley’s free time, she writes daily reflections for Creighton’s online ministries. All you need to know about the energetic, indefatigable, remarkable Dr. Nancy Shirley is illustrated by the passage she quoted in her recent reflection:



Dr. Shirley poses with a Dominican girl on a 2014 trip.

I asked for Strength.....

And God gave me Difficulties to make me strong.

I asked for Wisdom.....

And God gave me Problems to solve.

I asked for Prosperity.....

And God gave me Brain and Brawn to work.

I asked for Courage.....

And God gave me Danger to overcome.

I asked for Love.....

And God gave me troubled people to help.

I asked for Favors.....

And God gave me Opportunities.

I received nothing I wanted;

I received everything I needed.



Kristine Mackey is the VP for advancement and communications for the USA Midwest Province Jesuits.

We give thanks for the following Jesuits who have gone home to God.

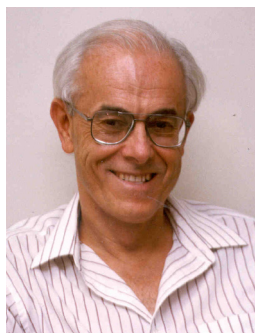


Fr. John J. Foley, SJ

July 13, 1925 – August 2, 2021

“John was willing and able to go wherever the need was the greatest. He did not ask, ‘Why do I have to do this?’ but rather, ‘What more can I do for Christ and his people?’”

English and speech teacher and minister for the Jesuit community at St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati; English and religion teacher, director of development, director of parent activities, acting president, football team chaplain, and assistant to the president at Loyola Academy in Wilmette, Ill.; speech and homiletics instructor at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Ill.; speech teacher at Milford Novitiate in Ohio; religion teacher at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago; assistant director, director, and superior of the Jesuit community at Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House in Barrington, Ill.; chaplain to dental students and superior of the Jesuit community at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, Ill.; minister of Gonzaga House Jesuit Community in Chicago; director of Jesuit Seminary Association for the former Chicago Province; pastoral ministry.



Fr. John R. Sima, SJ

October 5, 1939 – August 17, 2021

“John was a Jesuit who opened up his life to the poor. Wherever he lived he was not only an attentive pastor, but also a friend who shared the joys and sorrows of the people he accompanied.”

Minister to the Hispanic community at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago; regent at Colegio San Jose in Arequipa, Peru; minister, catechesis teacher, and pastor at Virgen of Nazareth in El Agustino, Peru; pastor at San Pedro Parish in Tacna, Peru; pastor at Compañía Parish in Cusco, Peru; chaplain of Hipólito Unanue Hospital in El Agustino, Peru; retreat and spiritual ministry at Centro de Espiritualidad Ignaciana in Breña, Peru; pastoral minister at Centro Loyola in Ayacucho, Peru; spiritual director, retreat director, and ministry with CLC groups in Chiclayo, Peru; founder of Casa del Alfarero and accompanied youth and volunteers at Quiñones Youth Center in Chiclayo, Peru; retreat director.

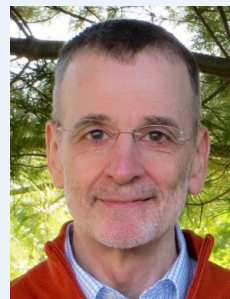


Fr. Michael Christiana, SJ

May 15, 1966 – September 17, 2021

“Michael immersed himself into his mission as a Jesuit, thrived in the ability to read and study academically—especially in the area of spirituality—and would drop everything to be at one of the province villas.”

Codirector of the community service department, assistant campus minister, vice president for mission and identity, and superior of the Jesuit community at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis; retreat director at the Jesuit Spiritual Center at Milford in Ohio; campus minister and adult faith formation ministry at University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy; campus ministry at Loyola University Chicago.



Father Paul Panaretos, SJ, has been appointed superior of Guelph Jesuit Residence in Ontario, Canada.



Mark Blancke, SJ, has been named assistant superior of Colombiere in Clarkston, Michigan. Blancke is a Jesuit regent.



Father Kent Beausoleil, SJ, has been named director of mission at CHI Health in Omaha.

Sister-Builders:

The Women Religious Collaborators of Chicago Jesuits

An aerial view of Immaculata High School

By Rima Lunin Schultz and Ellen Skerrett

While Jacques Marquette, who discovered the upper Mississippi River with Louis Joliet, is the first Jesuit to be distinctly connected to the Chicago area, many first associate the city with Fr. Arnold Damen, SJ, given his legacy with several of Chicago's Jesuit institutions, as well as Church of the Holy Family on the Near West Side. But some might be surprised to learn of the significant contributions Religious of the Sacred Heart (RSCJs) and the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVMs). The sisters' ordained male counterparts left behind art objects that constituted vivid examples of the Jesuit presence in the Midwest, but the historical record makes it clear that the RSCJs and BVMs collaborated closely with the Jesuits and were responsible for much of the growth of Chicago's famed Holy Family parish during the 19th century.

In their ministry, the women religious played an important role in creating a Catholic education system in the frontier town on the shores of Lake Michigan. At a time when married women could not buy, sell, or own property, the RSCJs purchased six acres of land and began the construction of a complex that by 1886 featured two massive brick structures, including a Gothic chapel designed by John Van Osdel. By 1890, 60 sisters taught the daughters of Chicago's elite in the Seminary of the Sacred Heart on Taylor Street and educated 1,000 poor girls in Holy Family parish, free of charge. That Catholic sisters

created and sustained a monumental sacred space in their educational complex raises important questions about the role of religion in urban life.

The BVM sisters also made pioneering contributions, which further display agency and ownership of the narrative of women's education in Chicago. From the 1867 establishment of their first school in Holy Family parish, the congregation's reputation as educators grew steadily, attracting students—and future BVMs, among them Mother Isabella Kane (1855–1935), who played a crucial role in the design of Mundelein College's art deco skyscraper on Sheridan Road.

Challenging progressive reformers who insisted that vocational training was the ideal for immigrant children, the BVMs opened St. Mary's in 1899 as the first central Catholic high school for girls in the nation. Religious life offered talented young Catholic women opportunities to shape a system of education that would enable others to achieve middle class status and professional life.

These BVM "Sister-Builders" put their imprint on the urban landscape of Chicago with Immaculata High School (1922) and Mundelein College (1930), the first skyscraper college in the world. These institutions, built and paid for entirely by the BVM order, were the result of collaborations between the sisters, architects, artists, and the male hierarchy. In a politic and courteous gesture,

the BVM congregation named their unique and modern art deco skyscraper college for Cardinal Mundelein, though his name is not on the document of incorporation.

Mundelein College went on to nurture Catholic and American democratic values and citizenship for its students and faculty from the Great Depression to the civil rights era. Built at the beginning of the Great Depression, with loans backed by the BVM high school properties of Immaculata and St. Mary's, the college opened in 1930 to great acclaim. It redefined the shoreline of Lake Michigan as it pioneered in modernizing education for the new American Catholic woman. Just as artifacts insisted on the presence and power of Catholic sisters in an area of the city seemingly dominated by Jesuit priests and progressive reformers, the Mundelein skyscraper, now part of Loyola University's Lake Shore Campus, reveals as well as conceals the legacy of these Sister-Builders.



Editor's note: Excerpted from Rima Lunin Schultz and Ellen Skerrett, "Sister Builders in Chicago," American Catholic Studies Newsletter 42.1 (Spring 2015), 14–17. Courtesy of the University of Notre Dame's Cushwa Center (cushwa.nd.edu).

Rima Lunin Schultz and Ellen Skerrett are independent scholars of Chicago history.



Jesuit Frs. Patrick Mugisho (left) and Paul Kalenzi (right)

Fishers of People

By Fr. Patrick Mugisho, SJ

For Peter, the encounter with Jesus was a true “cannonball moment.” His whole life was turned upside down, and his mission from then on was to find men and women for God. In other words, he was called—as all members of the Catholic Church are today—to attract and gather the people of God so that they may be one in Christ and live in solidarity with one another. The Society of Jesus has spent the past five centuries responding to this call. It works hand in hand with all strata of society; builds bridges between the people who are often divided by religion, political ideals, or economic status; and trains its members to work forevermore at fruitful fishing. This training is known as “formation.” And as part of this training, Fr. Paul Kalenzi, SJ, a Ugandan priest from the Jesuit Province of Eastern Africa (AOR), and I, Fr. Patrick Mugisho, SJ, a Congolese priest from the Jesuit Province of Central Africa (ACE), have been welcomed to the United States by the USA Midwest Jesuit Province. Our mission is to learn and work to make possible the communion of minds and hearts between the benefactors and the needs of their respective provinces. There are pressing needs on several levels, including education in East Africa and Jesuit formation in Congo and Angola. Thus, Fr. Kalenzi will be in charge of finding the means to start the new Jesuit University in East Africa, and I will work on raising funds for the formation of young Congolese and Angolan Jesuits. As priests, Fr. Kalenzi and I will also be involved in some parish ministries. And who knows? We might do some significant fishing there, too.



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