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# Also in This Issue:

Celebrating 50 Years of the Kohima Jesuits | Loyola Academy Alumnus Wins an Oscar



Dear Friends,

This is the time of year when others ask, "What have you given up for Lent?" We all did the math as Ash Wednesday approached: What can I give up that will hurt enough to be a penitential practice, but not hurt too much?

As some worry about the quality of their practice, another way to look at this might be to ask, "What more might we take on as our Lenten penance? What more can we do for Christ? What is the *magis*?"

A living example of the *magis* ("the more") is clear to me each time I leave the province office. The work I do requires extensive travel, and while I am away, I trust the work of the province to the devoted Jesuits and laypeople responsible for growing and maintaining the ministries that came to life thanks to our generous friends and benefactors. Dedicated colleagues toil together behind the scenes to ensure that the work of the Society of Jesus continues uninterrupted.

As we go to press, the first effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are becoming apparent. Please know of our fervent prayers for you and for all of those affected by these rapidly unfolding events. It is the lay and Jesuit partnership that is the focus of this issue of our magazine; the "invisible infrastructure" (page 14) makes our work possible not only in the Midwest, but around the world. An example of the *magis*: Our office recently celebrated the retirement of longtime employee Kay Smolinski, whose 60-plus years of service spanned 10 provincials. It is worth noting that Kay's devotion is not unique; the former Chicago, Detroit, and Wisconsin provinces had similarly devoted longtime employees. And, because they never really retire, many Jesuits have served as long, or longer, in their assignments. We are grateful and blessed.

Speaking of partnership, Fr. Samir Talati, a Jesuit of the Kohima Province, reflects (page 8) on 50 years of the mission in the Kohima Region of northeast India. As I write this letter, a team of Jesuits and laypeople are visiting our works in Kohima, at the same time Fr. General Arturo Sosa, SJ, is there. We pray for their safe travels and fruitful meetings.

The unique passions of Jesuits and our lay partners are evidenced in the diversity of work that they take on:

- Andrea Bonaccorsi, a graduate of two Jesuit schools, devotes her gifts (page 3) as a teacher at Chicago Jesuit Academy.
- Father Jayme Stayer, SJ, one of the world's preeminent T. S. Eliot scholars, received a prestigious award (page 22) from the Modern Language Association.
- Brother Mark Mackey, SJ, examines the ties (page 10) between Ignatian spirituality and ecology.

Whatever you have chosen to give up (or take on) this Lenten season, please know of my prayers for you and for all who accompany us in the magis.

Yours in Christ,

Brin Paulson, &

V. Rev. Brian G. Paulson, SJ Provincial, USA Midwest Province

Fr. Paulson and longtime employee Kay Smolinski





#### **ON THE COVER**

The Society of Jesus is widely known in the context of apostolates (schools, retreat centers, missions), but all of this is made possible by the infrastructure that many are not familiar with.

Graphic: Kurt Metzler

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# A Calling For Life: Longtime Lay Employees of Jesuit Institutions



Kay Smolinski (standing) was a 60-year lay employee of the Midwest Province who found that her work with the Jesuits strengthened her own relationship with God.



#### Page 8

Responding to the Frontiers

Father Samir Talati, SJ, reflects on

the Jesuits celebrating 50 years of

the mission in the Kohima Region of

#### Page 10

Where Nature and Spirituality Intersect Brother Mark Mackey, SJ, explores ties between Ignatian spirituality and ecology.

northeast India.



The Invisible Infrastructure The Society of Jesus' infrastructure dates back to St. Ignatius's time, and has evolved to meet the needs of the apostolates and Jesuits themselves.



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### **Editing Eliot**

Father Jayme Stayer, SJ, an awardwinning scholar with a passion for the work of T. S. Eliot, is honored by the MLA.

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# Loyola Academy Alumnus Matthew A. Cherry Wins Oscar for Hair Love

Matthew A. Cherry, a 1999 graduate of Loyola Academy, had a career first as he won the 2020 Academy Award for best animated short film for Hair Love. Cherry is a member of Loyola Academy's Athletic Hall of Fame and went on to play football as a wide receiver at the University of Akron and in the NFL before becoming a filmmaker. Cherry has also executive produced the movie BlacKkKlansman and directed episodes of Black-ish and The Last O.G.

*Hair Love* began as a project on the crowdfunding platform Kickstarter in 2017, where it went viral and raised a recordbreaking amount of over \$200,000. The film depicts a young African American father who struggles to style his daughter's natural hair in the absence of his sick wife. After nearly giving up, the father turns to the help of a vlogger, voiced by Issa Rae,



and manages to get his daughter's hair done in the intricate way she had wanted. The story was also adapted into a children's book written by Cherry in 2019. In his acceptance speech, Cherry said, "Hair Love was done because we wanted to see more representation in animation. We wanted to normalize black hair."



# Jesuit Institutions Name New Administrators

Nativity Jesuit Academy in Milwaukee has appointed Maureen Schuerman as its next president, effective July 1. Schuerman is the owner of a consulting firm focused on fundraising strategy and planning and has also served as the president of Dominican High School from 2005-2009. She will succeed Susan M. Smith, who has led Nativity for five very successful years, during which the school guadrupled its enrollment to over 250 students and completed a \$5-million capital campaign.

Schuerman began the transition in March,

and then as planned, Smith will remain at Nativity until summer 2021 in a consulting/ support role to ensure a seamless transition. Schuerman will lead Nativity through the completion of its strategic planning process and looks forward to continuing the school's legacy of high academic achievement and positive community relationships.

Father Joseph Mueller, SJ, rector of

the Marquette Jesuit Community and associate professor of theology in the Klingler College of Arts and Sciences. has been named the dean of the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University



The Creighton Prep Board of Trustees has unanimously voted to name Fr. Matthew Spotts, SJ, as the school's

34th president. Father Spotts comes to Creighton Prep with experience and insights gained from a wide variety of missions with the Society of Jesus. Currently, he provides sacramental and



pastoral ministry at Loyola Academy in Wilmette, Illinois, the nation's largest Jesuit secondary school, and serves as the associate pastor at a local parish. He is completing a graduate degree in education. Upon learning of his selection, Fr. Spotts remarked, "Creighton Prep enjoys a well-deserved reputation for excellence. It will be a great honor to be a part of taking that tradition forward and finding ever deeper ways to carry out Prep's mission for the greater glory of God."



# JESUIT CONNECTIONS



From left: Fr. Dan Hartnett, SJ; John Sealey; Sr. Erin McDonald, C.S.J.; and Matt Ippel, SJ

# Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat Celebrates Golden Jubilee

Last November, Jesuit organizations across the world assembled to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat. The Secretariat, established by Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ, 28th Superior General of the Society of Jesus, assists the Society in promoting justice and reconciliation with creation and uniting Jesuit conferences from around the world in their social ministries.

Over 200 Jesuits and lay collaborators from 57 countries and every Jesuit province gathered in Rome to celebrate this commitment and look toward the future, addressing how Jesuit ministries can answer the call of the Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs).

Of the delegates, 21 were from the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States, and four of those delegates were of the USA Midwest Province: Fr. Dan Hartnett, SJ, pastoral minister at Loyola University Chicago; John Sealey, provincial assistant for social and international ministries; Sr. Erin McDonald, C.S.J., minister for service and justice at University of Detroit Mercy; and Midwest regent Matthew Ippel, SJ. In a reflection for The Jesuit Post, Ippel wrote that the celebration heavily incorporated the UAPs:

"The UAPs provided lenses for us to discern how we are being called to respond in our life and mission. Leading members of different apostolic sectors provided insight into how the social dimension continues to deepen its integration into their respective apostolates."

# Andrea Bonaccorsi

Hometown: Chicago School(s) Attended: Marquette University (B.S.) The University of Chicago (M.A.) Profession: 7th Grade Language Arts and Reading Teacher at Chicago Jesuit Academy

#### How did you get involved with the Jesuits?

I first got involved with the Jesuits when I attended high school at Saint Ignatius College Prep. My experiences at Saint Ignatius, particularly participating



in service-learning opportunities, had a profound influence on both my personal and professional life. Attending Saint Ignatius laid the foundations for my faith life and taught me the meaning of practicing faith in action.

#### How have the Jesuits impacted your life?

My career as an educator—and more specifically as an educator at Chicago Jesuit Academy (CJA)—was significantly impacted by my experiences as a student at Saint Ignatius and in the College of Education at Marquette University. As a student at Saint Ignatius, I had the opportunity to tutor at St. Procopius Elementary School in Chicago and enroll in a service immersion religion class taught by Mr. Timothy Mitchell. These initial experiences working in a classroom strengthened my interest in pursuing a career in education.

I learned about Chicago Jesuit Academy my senior year at Ignatius when CJA's president, Mr. Matthew Lynch, addressed the student body as an Ignatian Values Day speaker. He spoke about CJA's mission to provide full-scholarship education to lower and middle school young men on Chicago's West Side who could not otherwise access a well-resourced, faith-based, college prep education. My previous service-learning experiences at Saint Ignatius informed my decision to learn more about Chicago Jesuit Academy's community and students. After graduating, I began volunteering as a tutor at CJA from 2013-2015 during seasonal breaks from Marquette University. I saw what great care the school provided to each student. My education at Marquette University provided words to what I was witnessing—a group of people responding to a vocation.

I was introduced to theologian Frederick Buechner's definition of vocation during my first week of undergraduate studies in Marquette University's College of Education: the intersection of your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger. As I moved through my professional education, this definition was brought to life. I believe the work done at CJA, and many other schools, is an opportunity to confront some of the world's hungers—racial and socioeconomic inequity, the academic achievement gap, and systemic and institutional racism, to name a few—in a way that is contextual and life-giving, maintains care for the whole individual, and is a step toward caring for the whole of society.

Read the full interview with Andrea online at JesuitsMidwest.org/Bonaccorsi2020.

Kay Smolinski (right) on her 2010 pilgrimage to Nairobi, Kenya

# A Calling for Life The Longtime Lay Employees of Jesuit Institutions

GRANE MOTHERS HUT

By Grace Rice

The average adult will have 12 different jobs over the course of their time in the workforce, and this number continues to grow. A 45-year—let alone 60-year tenure at a single institution is essentially unheard of in most industries. However, Jesuit works—be it schools, universities, missions, or even retreat centers—tend to attract people who stay for life. Why is that? For **John Chandler**, who has been

## **FAST FACTS:**

- Of the Midwest Province's provincial assistants, six of the 12 are lay employees.
- Between the four of them, Kay Smolinski, John Chandler, Greg Glenn, and Barbara Leggott have 181 combined years of service at Jesuit works.
- Fifteen of the 25 Jesuit colleges and universities in the United States are led by lay presidents.

named as the first lay president of Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago, it's not so much the job as the place. Chandler started as a classics and history teacher in 1974 and has since held many other positions, including men's soccer coach, business manager, and vice president of operations. He notes, "The Jesuits saw something in me that maybe I did not even see in myself. And that was the ability to take on other ministries within the school, and for that I am very grateful that the Jesuits at Saint Ignatius felt that there were other opportunities for me to grow in my faith and in my professional skills." Chandler will begin his duties as president this summer.

**Greg Glenn,** who teaches social studies at Creighton Prep in Omaha, Nebraska, has a similar recollection as he recalls his gratitude for Fr. Eugene Dutkiewicz, SJ, who hired him back in 1977. Glenn has remained a social studies teacher over the course of his time there, which he describes as "a calling for life." When he



was a student at Creighton Prep himself, he decided that he wanted to be a teacher who would "change the world, one person at a time." He went on to attend Santa Clara University in California, where he was further influenced by the Jesuits, "particularly regarding service and what we call *magis*." Like many of his counterparts at Jesuit institutions, Glenn finds that the work strengthens his



faith. "I feel like I'm serving the Lord by serving his people."

**Kay Smolinski,** who started working for the Jesuits (originally at the Jesuit Seminary Association) in 1960 and just recently retired from the Midwest Province office, also views her work as complementary to the ministries. Her time with the Jesuits spanned several decades. Smolinski says, "As I moved into different professional roles over the years, I truly felt that my work was becoming much more than a job. In my mind, it became a ministry. I was so pleased to assist the Jesuits and to know that my work was helping them to go about their good work serving God and God's people wherever the greatest need." Smolinski's retirement celebration brought together a host of people whose lives had been touched by her work alongside the Jesuits over the years.

The ministries of longtime lay employees carry over to retreat centers as well, where employees and retreatants alike find fulfillment in Ignatian spirituality. For example, **Barbara Leggott** retired last year from her role as associate director after

spending over three decades working at the Jesuit Retreat Center (formerly

## "THE JESUITS SAW SOMETHING IN ME THAT MAYBE I DID NOT EVEN SEE IN MYSELF."

known as the Jesuit Retreat House) in Parma, Ohio. Leggott initially started at the retreat center as a part-time secretary when she decided to re-join the workforce as her youngest child started first grade. She eventually became office manager and then assistant director before leaving to pursue a career in social work. But she

> found her way back to the Jesuits when Fr. Jim Riley, SJ, became director and asked her to return.

Leggott says, "It's always a graced moment. You are where you're supposed to be, and I just knew that. I prayed and discerned about coming back. I knew that I enjoyed what I was doing, but I wanted to be back at the retreat house." She finds meaning in her work, as she reflects on the Jesuit mission: "I think it's to help people

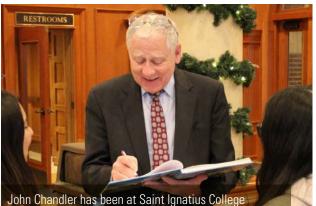


find God in all things, to slow down, to really listen, and grow in their spiritual lives." The retreat center has designated one of the prayer paths as "Leggott Lane" in her honor. In addition to her time with the retreat center, Leggott has served as treasurer for the Saint Ignatius High School Jesuit Community in Cleveland for 25 years. "I am always surrounded by Jesuits," she says.

Chandler, Glenn, Smolinski, and Leggott are just a few examples of the countless stalwart lay employees who serve as silent engines behind so many of the Jesuit works. Teachers, administrators, and administrative assistants may seem like ordinary careers to cycle through over the course of one's professional life. But through a Jesuit affiliation, what may seem like ordinary work is transformed into God's work. And given the fulfillment and joy that comes from such service, people tend to stick around. 承



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



Prep for 45 years and will become the school's first lay president in July.

ON THE FRONTIERS



School children participate in the ceremony marking the Golden Jubilee of the Jesuit presence in the Kohima Region.

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE KOHIMA JESI

# esuits in Asia Following in Pioneers' Footsteps and Forging New Paths

By Amy Korpi

From the first days of the Society of Jesus, when Francis Xavier and his companions landed in Goa (India) in 1542, Jesuits have been establishing relationships in Asia. Within 10 years of his landing, the future patron saint of missions had crossed large parts of Asia, covering what are now vital areas for Jesuits in this part of the world including the Indonesian archipelago and Japan.



A traditional-style borang (Garo treehouse) in the Kohima region

While Xavier never fulfilled his dream of a mission to mainland China (he died of a fever while waiting for a boat to take him there), Jesuit missionary Matteo Ricci, who was born the year Xavier died, fulfilled that dream 30 years later. Ricci sailed to Macao, the Portuguese colony in South China, where he took an intensive

### "I LEARNED THAT THE EDUCATED DO NOT HAVE—AND DO NOT NEED TO HAVE—ANSWERS TO OTHERS' PROBLEMS."

language course mastering Chinese to perfection, dressed first in the clothing of a Buddhist monk and later as a Confucian mandarin, absorbed Chinese culture, and earned the trust and admiration of the country's leaders in the process.

While it is an understatement to say the Society's situation in Asia has had its ups and downs since then (noting, for example, a number of Jesuit martyrs), today there is a dynamic Jesuit presence in the region represented by two of the Jesuits' six worldwide conferences (large groups of administrative divisions): the Jesuit Conference of South Asia and the Jesuit Conference of Asia Pacific.

The Midwest Jesuits are blessed to be part of a long tradition of innovative works in service of the Church and people of God in Asia. These pages highlight just a few cases.

Since 2002, Midwest Jesuits have had a unique relationship with northeast India's Kohima Region.

Built on mutuality and solidarity, the relationship has seen the Midwest Province supporting the rapidly growing Kohima Region to expand its work into underserved communities, while Kohima has contributed to the formation of Midwest Jesuits and lay leaders who have experienced life and work there. Additionally, Kohima Jesuits have studied and lent their talents, skills, and knowledge to our work here in the United States. For example, over the years, immersion groups comprised of Jesuits and laypeople have had the privilege of accompanying the Jesuits and indigenous communities of Kohima in daily life. Paddy Gilger, SJ (today Fr. Gilger), shared life lessons gained from his six weeks abroad in *Partners* magazine in 2013:

"Fom sitting in silence as groups of tribal women would work together with the sisters or a brother Jesuit to figure out how to make a system of microloans work this time, in this village, I learned that the educated do not have—and do not need to have—answers to others' problems."

Father Paul Coelho, SJ, exemplifies the symbiotic relationship between the Midwest and Kohima Jesuits (who are celebrating the 50th anniversary of their arrival to northeast India this year). He grew up in India and, as a young Jesuit, served in the tribal region of northeast India, mostly in the field of education.

Coming to the United States in 1999, he earned a PhD at Marquette University, with a dissertation focused on motivation and academic achievement among tribal students of northeast India. Then, from 2004 to 2017, Fr. Coelho worked in the Midwest, as principal at Red Cloud Indian School in Pine Ridge, South Dakota; assistant to the president for student affairs at Jesuit Academy of Omaha; in the Schlegel Center for Service and Justice and as instructor in the education department at Creighton University; and as assistant vocation promoter, provincial assistant for vocations, and regional vocation director for the Midwest Jesuits.

Father Coelho returned to northeast India in 2017 to complete a feasibility study exploring the need for a college in the South West Khasi Hills district of the Meghalaya state in the Kohima Region. After a commitment by the Jesuits to launch the college, he was assigned to develop and open it and to start offering higher secondary classes.

"Serving the socioeconomically



disadvantaged rural tribal population has been an option embraced by the Jesuits here from the time Kohima became a region in 1995," Fr. Coelho explains. "And, given the native intelligence of

## "THE MUTUAL BENEFITS HAVE BEEN TREMENDOUS... AND WE HAVE FOUND GREAT RICHNESS IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS, AS WELL AS COMPLEMENTARY WAYS TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER'S WORKS."

the local children, the commitment of their families to education, and the work ethos of the local people (Marams), I am confident this college will be successful in its mission, in the spirit of and with the principles of Jesuit education."

While the school's first building (an existing two-room structure) opened for grade 11 in 2019, construction nears completion on the second structure, which will be a 12-classroom block to accommodate a growing upper secondary and begin early tertiary level college studies for bachelor levels.

About the relationship between the

Midwest and Kohima Jesuits, Fr. Coelho says, "The mutual benefits have been tremendous. From the start, the idea was to focus on relationships, not so much on human or monetary resources. And we have found great richness in our relationships, as well as complementary ways to support each other's works."

Supporters of the Midwest Jesuits are ministering in Asia as well—through regular and generous gifts channeled through the province to various missions and through the outpouring of aid for people affected by natural disasters in the region over the past few decades.

In addition, the Midwest Jesuits facilitate major gifts from people like the Pinto family, covered in a 2018 issue of *Jesuits*, who built the Olive Garden Children's Home when family member Fr. Julian Fernandes, SJ, of the Kohima Region, shared his province's desire to construct a residence for children attending a Jesuit-sponsored school in Meghalaya (near Bangladesh).

Please watch for more information on Fr. Coelho's initiative and other ministries of Jesuits in Asia in the summer issue of *Jesuits* magazine.

# Responding to the Frontiers: The Kohima Jesuits

By Fr. Samir Talati, SJ

**P**icture this: A lone Jesuit, or occasionally, in the company of another, sent by his superior to begin a mission in a remote, mountainous region, scouts for a suitable piece of land, and finding one, builds a temporary structure with classrooms, simple dorms, and an administrative office. With time, other Jesuits join him and the mission takes shape. Sound familiar? Well, this has been the standard modus operandi of establishing Jesuit mission centers in northeast India. This process has shaped the history of the "frontier men" of the Kohima Region over the past 50 years.

The mission's history goes back to 1970 when three Karnataka Jesuits sowed the seeds in Nagaland and Manipur. Over time, the mission has grown into a gigantic tree, spreading its branches across the whole of the Northeast Region. The year 1995 was a milestone in the mission's history when then Superior General Fr. Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, SJ, inaugurated the Kohima Region. At that time, the Jesuits felt the call to reach out to others in the region, and so began a journey of audacity and perseverance. In the true Ignatian spirit of the magis, Jesuits in Kohima embraced those on the margins of society in the areas where others do not reach and find it difficult to reach.

The focus and priorities were clear from the beginning—to reach out to the geographical and social peripheries in the most remote areas of the region. The Adivasis and the Dimasas of Assam, the Akas and the Monpas of Arunachal Pradesh, the Garos, the Khasis and the Jaintias of Meghalaya, beside the various Naga groups and the Meiteis of Nagaland and Manipur, provided an apostolic landscape in which the Jesuits were to labor tirelessly. Evangelization and overall socioeconomic development guided their mission objectives. Education, initially primary and later tertiary, became an effective tool to bring about rapid transformation in the lives of the people. Pastoral care corresponded with the education of the young. The social apostolate, with a focus on selfhelp groups, also enjoyed preference among the Jesuit ministries.

While the Kohima Jesuits have made a deliberate choice to serve those on the geographical and social periphery, the intellectual apostolate is also given prime importance. The North Eastern Social Research Center and Legal Cell for Human Rights have relentlessly provided intellectual impetus to efforts in the region through social research and legal awareness. Efforts are also being made to preserve the endangered languages and cultures of indigenous people. With the northeast being an area of biodiversity, the concern for ecology has also emerged as a major challenge.

Collaboration has been the guiding principle in the apostolic history of the Kohima Region. Religious sisters, teachers, and lay leaders have proven to be the backbone of their mission. Jesuits from other provinces have also shared in the mission. The twinning bond between the Midwest Jesuits remains one of many outstanding collaborative efforts. This partnership has endured for the last 20 years in the spirit of mutuality and has paid rich dividends in every apostolic sense. The universal dimension of the Society of Jesus shines brightly in this collaboration.

The golden jubilee celebration offers



the Kohima Jesuits an opportunity to pause with a deep sense of gratitude and reflect on the experience of the past 50 years. The mission exigencies have taught them to be open to the diverse cultures of the region, with the courage to call them "our own." The relative remoteness of their mission areas, lack of basic facilities, long rides on bumpy roads, and overwork have not dampened their spirits. Amid all mission challenges, what they have experienced is the boundless providence of God. The indomitable spirit and the undying hope move them beyond the ever-expanding mission horizon where they know the need is the greatest. H



Fr. Samir Talati, SJ, is a Jesuit of the Kohima Region who is currently pursuing a doctorate in sociology at Loyola University Chicago.

# LOYOLAPRESS. A JESUIT MINISTRY Connecting with Today's Students

By Ben LaScola

A ward-winning publishing ministry Loyola Press began in 1912 when it produced Loyola University Chicago's first newspaper *The Maroon and Gold*. Since then, the publisher has grown into an influential organization whose religious textbooks and other media resources reach millions of students and educators across more than 50 countries.

This summer, Loyola Press will release their most ambitious project yet: an online video game, *Wanderlight: A Pilgrim's Adventure*. In this unique game, inspired by Catholic social teaching, players will assume the identity of "The Pilgrim," an avatar who travels through three quest-filled realms equipped with bring you closer to God, the lantern shines brighter."

"What I like about this game is that you're not getting points," Cicciarelli says. "It's not competitive. We tried to build in intrinsic rewards versus extrinsic rewards."

Loyola Press teamed up with FableVision Studios to create the world of *Wanderlight*. FableVision's owners are twin brothers Peter and Paul Reynolds, and their experience makes them an ideal fit for *Wanderlight*. Peter is the author and illustrator of several children's books and after graduating from Boston College, Paul worked for Boston Catholic TV, as a volunteer catechist, and as an adjunct

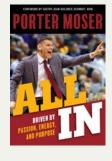
> professor at Boston College.

Loyola Press wanted to create something that could connect with today's children in a way that is familiar to them. Cicciarelli references the Ignatian idea of going "in by their door, in order to come out by ours." She hopes that schools and parishes might occasionally use *Wanderlight* in place of less engaging homework.

Wanderlight: A Pilgrim's Adventure can be played on desktops, laptops, and tablets. The religious education version is provided through annual licenses for Levels A to G. The licenses for individuals include all seven levels in one game. Wanderlight will be available this July. Visit WanderlightGame.com for an early look at what's to come.

# Porter Moser is All In

As the coach of Loyola University's men's basketball team, Porter Moser understands the importance of hard work. His new book, *All In: Driven by* 



Passion, Energy, and Purpose, explores the traits that Moser believes lead to success. All In is part memoir, part guide to living a meaningful life. Moser reveals how he built his no-negativity work ethic; how a second chance from legendary college basketball coach Rick Majerus helped him achieve new levels of success; and how he guided the 11th seed Ramblers through their inspiring Cinderella story in 2018. The book also includes a heart-warming foreword from Loyola's beloved basketball team chaplain Sr. Jean Dolores Schmidt, B.V.M.

*All In* was released in February and can be purchased online at **LoyolaPress.com**.



Ben LaScola is a senior at Loyola University Chicago studying communications. He is currently a marketing and communications intern for the USA Midwest Jesuits.



their customized tunic and a lantern for guidance. *Wanderlight* is a colorful adventure that encourages players to pray, travel the open world helping others, and learn about the Catholic faith.

Loyola Press's president Joellyn Cicciarelli explains, "As you move through the world, if you make choices that make the world a better place and

Brother Mark Mackey, SJ, (right) with his fellow Jesuits in first studies (left to right) Erin Kast, Nathan Krawetzke, and Mark Blancke

# Nature & Spirituality

By Br. Mark Mackey, SJ

I have two early childhood memories, one of my mom waking me up with a simple prayer and the other of catching frogs and salamanders in our backyard creek. Interestingly, God was clearly present in both moments. Nature and spirituality have been intertwined in my faith journey since its beginning. As a kid, I had no problem seeing mystery and wonder in nature—seeing every little creature as artwork from a creative hand. As I got older, I lost sight of this, and part of my faith journey has been simply returning to this simpler view of the world as an adult.

erse

I grew up in Cincinnati and went to St. Xavier High School. Although I had some powerful experiences on student retreats, I focused mainly on social and academic endeavors. I went to Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, to follow my passion for nature by studying zoology and environmental science. A successful stint in undergraduate research segued me smoothly into graduate school where I continued research investigating impacts of human land use on aquatic ecosystems. I spent morning to night reading, writing, and designing studies to progress my research career. Slowly my work shifted away from being life-giving and fueled by wonder. I found I had let my view of nature become more empirical and datadriven. Additionally, one day I realized it

had been weeks since I had last prayed or thought about my faith. I realized I either needed to let go of my old faith or invest in it more.

A critical turning point came during my graduate years. The catalyst was when I found a faith community in a Catholic Newman Center where I would ask questions, examine my own beliefs, and worship with others again. I also began to explore spiritual reading and found a treasure trove of authors that nourished me, including spiritual author Fr. Anthony de Mello, SJ, and Jesuit scientist Fr. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin. Finally, and most importantly, I relearned to pray and how to make it a daily part of my life.

As I deepened my prayer life and relationship with God, my desires and where I found fulfillment began to change. I was no longer satisfied with a career that focused so much on myself and my own accomplishments. I also recognized nature wasn't just a thing to study or conserve. In fact, it was most important to me because of what it taught me about God and my relationship to others. But I didn't feel my research or teaching allowed me to talk about this.

It was the recognition and following of these deep desires that led me to discern away from my career in scientific research to pursue a more spiritualbased calling. Eventually I rediscovered the Jesuits, discerned my vocation, and entered the Society of Jesus in 2015—the same year Pope Francis' encyclical on care for our common home, *Laudato si'*, was published.

It feels providential that each year I have been in the Society, the Jesuits have been discerning how we can commit more to caring for creation (see the Universal Apostolic Preferences). I am currently finishing my third and final year of first studies at Loyola University Chicago. I am completing my master's degree in Christian spirituality with an emphasis in ecospirituality and studying how Ignatian spirituality and ecology intersect. This past semester I was able to help teach a course titled "Ecospirituality for Action," where I helped young science students make ties between their spirituality and environmental work. I look back now in awe and gratitude at how recognizing and following my call through my God-given desires has so clearly made me more deeply me. 🔀



**Br. Mark Mackey, SJ,** is a Jesuit brother in his third year of first studies at Loyola University Chicago. He entered the Society of Jesus in 2015.

# Grace of God

By Amy Korpi

O ver the course of two decades of teaching chemistry and math and serving as assistant principal and principal at Campion Jesuit and Creighton Prep, Fr. Eugene ("Dutch") Dutkiewicz, SJ, influenced many hundreds of students for the better.

But his reach extended even further. During 30 years in province administration, he also influenced countless apostolic works—schools, ministries, and more—as well as individual Jesuits who would go on to fulfill the Society's mission of "helping souls."

Father Dutkiewicz's Jesuit journey began when he determined that he should study at Marquette University High School. "I put pressure on my parents to send me there, rather than the other way around," he recalls. "Because of where we lived on Milwaukee's south side, I had to take a bus quite a long way to get there. But once I had an interview, I knew the academics would make the sacrifice worthwhile."

His classes proved he made the right choice, Fr. Dutkiewicz says—and there was a bonus. The Jesuit scholastics who taught those classes inspired him to join the Society of Jesus, and he entered the novitiate shortly after high school graduation.

Seven decades later, Fr. Dutkiewicz says, "I've always been happy to be a Jesuit, to work with the Jesuits, to be of help in any way possible. This is something that I wanted to do and that the Lord has given me the grace to do."

The aspect of his vocation that has brought Fr. Dutkiewicz the most joy came early on in his career as a teacher. "Working with students has been the best," he says simply. "My fondest memories were when a student's vision opened up to new knowledge or a different way of thinking about



something. That was especially important to me."

"It's gratifying to see that, from the time I was a student, through the years I taught, and on to the present time, the dedication of the Jesuits as teachers has not changed," he adds. "It's always been very strong, and our teachers remain focused on giving students the help they need and encouraging them to do better and better."

Father Dutkiewicz also speaks with satisfaction of the later years of his vocation, when he served in several positions in the province office: socius (sometimes referred to as a provincial's "number two man" or executive assistant); treasurer (for 27 years); and provincial assistant for finance, for pastoral ministry, for secondary education, and for retreat ministries. He also served as revisor (an internal auditor regarding planning, organization, coordination, and financial reporting) of province houses and works.

Today Fr. Dutkiewicz is missioned to pray for the Church and the Society at St. Camillus Jesuit Community in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin—where, he says, "We are fortunate to have wonderful care from expert clinical professionals and kind, supportive people who help us in whatever we need to do. We are also fortunate that we live within a true community. The camaraderie we Jesuits experience has always been very important to me."

His Camillus assignment has also given Fr. Dutkiewicz the opportunity to reflect on his ministries over the years. "When you're actively working," he explains, "you're so busy that you don't have much opportunity to think about it. You just do what has to be done. Missioned here, I've been able to consider my past labors as a whole. It enhances my faith to engage in that kind of reflection."

And here, he once again references the grace of God: "I've always felt the hand of God was with me to do what I had to do and what I wanted to do, and I heard the voice of God encouraging me to go forth and do the work I was assigned to do."



Amy Korpi, a freelance writer based in Green Bay, Wisconsin, has been working for the Jesuits since 1998.



The late author Fr. Tom Clancy, SJ, of Loyola University New Orleans (not to be confused with celebrated military novelist Tom Clancy, who was Jesuiteducated in Maryland), suggests in his book *An Introduction to Jesuit Life* that the "solider-saint" moniker attached to St. Ignatius is misleading. The military and spiritual eras of St. Ignatius's life were completely distinct.

But what about Jesuits who serve as military chaplains, or Jesuit-educated people who become soldiers? The consensus of the Jesuit community at large would likely be that a vital military is necessary, and war is inevitable. Still, there are tough questions about the intersection of military experience and an Ignatian education. Mike Stanley and John Fulcher, both Jesuit-educated, have thought them through.

Growing up on a farm near Des Moines, not far from an Iowa Air National Guard base, Stanley marveled at the Air Force jets that screamed across his family's land. He set his sights on becoming a fighter pilot himself, but years later shifted his focus to medicine. After graduating from Creighton University in 1979, the medical school plan hit a snag, and an Air Force opportunity presented itself. Through much thought and prayer, Stanley decided his boyhood dream was meant to be; he would learn to fly.

"Before spending millions of dollars training us, they said, 'I know a lot of you are religious, but moving forward you have to come to peace with the idea of bringing death and destruction to enemies of the United States—and if you have any problem with that, you have to come forward," says Stanley, who went on to

# Jesuit-Educated, Military Experienced

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become both an A-7D and F-16C fighter pilot who flew all around the world, including Iraq, in his 26 years of service.

There was no judgment in that Air Force sit-down, Stanley recalls. He had come from a close-knit Catholic community that supported the military. That and his experience at Creighton discussing religion and philosophy with Jesuits and fellow students—helped him come to terms with the challenging concept. History also factored in.

"Hitler's Third Reich, and his goal of world domination, along with Japan's ruthless quest for the same, is just one example of why it was easy for me to justify using deadly force when the cause is just and the result brings peace to the world," Stanley says.

World War II was brought to an end by brute force and soldiers willing to sacrifice themselves, he says. "Selfless examples of this can be found in cemeteries around the world, and defeating such evil is as Christ-like as one will find on earth."

John Fulcher, a graduate of both Marquette University and Marquette University High School, also credits his Jesuit education for guiding him through military service. Joining the ROTC program in 1982 had given him pause, especially considering how fresh the memory of Vietnam was at the time. But his passion for flying won out.

Fulcher's military career led him to Washington, D.C., where he served as a

U.S. Naval intelligence officer during the First Gulf War in the early 1990s. Before that, he was a bombardier-navigator on a Grumman A-6 Intruder.

"I was trained to drop all sorts of weapons, none of which are good in the eyes of a dove," Fulcher says. "I was also nuclear-weapons trained. God forbid I ever had to drop one of those."

Through good and bad times in the Navy, Fulcher was able to draw a line back to the Jesuits in Milwaukee. When he delivered a eulogy on a ship for his roommate who had been killed while flying, he found peace and tranquility in prayer. The same was true when he felt alone and infinitely far from home.

During free time, the camaraderie he experienced with fellow sailors was a direct result of the fellowship he had learned at Marquette. He often reminded himself that his military days were part of a greater purpose—that he was defending his loved ones back home and fighting for a just cause.

"At the end of the day," he says, "it was service."

He admits that the issue is never clear cut, but truly believing in the cause has always helped him answer questions of Christian morality.

"Whether you were the enlisted guy cooking in the kitchen or the guy at the pointy end of the spear, you were all on the same mission," Fulcher says. "The First Gulf War, in the minds of most people, myself included, was a very just

> war. But you don't get to pick and choose, and luckily I didn't have to. Like, how would I have felt about Vietnam? Don't know. Might not have entered."



"In Iraq, one of our vehicles was attacked with an explosive device. The team experienced seriously wounded casualties, and a talented linguist who we called 'Brad' was in the vehicle that was directly hit. Brad, shaken but not injured, continued to work for us for many months. Later, Brad asked me for a letter in support of his application for refugee status in the United States. He desired to escape any repercussions directed at him for assisting U.S. forces. I gladly wrote the letter and later learned that Brad is now living a fruitful life in the U.S. On the day he became a citizen, Brad posted on social media thanking me for helping him 'when no one else would.' I did what so many had taught me during my Jesuit education-to be for and with Brad in his time of need as he was for us "

 Retired Lieutenant Colonel Jose M. DeLeon Jr., graduate of Loyola University Chicago and Gonzaga University

See Jesuit Father and artist Sammy Chong's modern depiction of St. Ignatius's life and military career at JesuitsMidwest.org/Chong2020

Learn about Jesuit Fr. Benjamin Morin's time as a POW and subsequent entry into the Society at JesuitsMidwest.org/Morin2020



# Shining Light on the **'Invisible Infrastructure'**

By Amy Korpi

Most people know the Jesuits through their "apostolates"—a complex word for ministries, works, or activities like Xavier University, Milwaukee's Church of the Gesu, Detroit's Pope Francis Center, or Jesuit Retreat House often called "Demontreville"—near the Twin Cities.

But what's lesser known is how the Society of Jesus is organized, how all the Jesuits serving at those apostolates are trained ("formed" in Jesuit-speak), who manages their assignments to ensure needs are matched with individuals, and where the resources come from to care for those Jesuits when they can no longer work full time.

The answer to those questions is as old as the Society of Jesus itself.

# Ignatian innovation

When the man who would become St. Ignatius of Loyola formed the Compañía de Jesús, he was not interested in becoming the order's Superior General (as the role is now called); he wanted to stay on the move. But he came to realize that a centralized administration with one leader at the helm was needed precisely because the growing number of the Society's members were dispersed to carry out missions all over the known world.

So, Ignatius stayed put in Rome for the last 15 years of his life because someone had to, and he had been elected to the job.

A hierarchical structure—with individual Jesuits ready to go wherever the need was greatest—was one of the Jesuits' many innovations. At that time, most religious orders were based locally in monasteries and mandated regular



group prayer and song at several points of the day (Liturgical Hours).

According to historian Markus Friedrich, the goal of the Jesuits' system was to balance a global governance with the need for local flexibility and adaptation—through "extensive administrative structures…thought to be particularly beneficial for the strategic 'planning' of activities, especially of ministries and missions."

"[Ignatius] believed in collective unity for the well-being of the whole body and at the same time, in the need for personal contributions, according to one's own talents and strengths, ability and preparation, weaknesses and limitations," adds scholar Jaime Emilio González Magaña, SJ.

# **Continuity and community**

"To carry out this vision for collective unity and personal contributions, Ignatius devised a network of provincials regional 'generals' who would extend the Superior General's leadership and administer the geographic territory to which they were assigned," says Fr. Brian Paulson, SJ, USA Midwest provincial. "This invisible infrastructure is 'behind' everything which bears the name Jesuit."

"For nearly 500 years, this system has fostered the optimal care for individual Jesuits from the novitiate through formation, their years of active ministry, and their senior years, as well as the most effective allocation of resources and care for our sponsored works," he explains.

Key to that is the provincial's charge to identify capable applicants who want to be Jesuits, to visit works throughout his province, and to be a "perpetual eyewitness" to the apostolates of his region, as well as to the Jesuit communities working in them.

"A well-functioning province, capable and devoted provincial, and well-chosen staff facilitate the operation of all apostolic works in the region," explains Fr. Glen Chun, SJ, USA Midwest Province socius (sometimes referred to as a province's "Number Two Man"). "All of our ministries rely on the support and participation of the provincial office. Also, many Jesuits who work in the office do weekend supply work (filling in for diocesan priests who may be on vacation, sick leave, or performing other diocesan functions), lead retreats, and more."

"At its heart, the province office is an internal ministry of the Society—less visible than, for instance, John Carroll University—but critical to the Jesuits' work, because it fosters relationships and communication within and outside the region," he adds. "And it allocates material, human, and informational resources."

Brother John Moriconi, SJ, secretary to the USA Midwest provincial, adds that the way a province functions goes beyond tradition. "Through additions and clarifications made to the Society's Constitutions over the years, provinces follow certain rules in terms of their operation," he says. "And while many of the responsibilities must be fulfilled by Jesuits, we rely heavily on lay staff members to perform the work that must be accomplished by a province office."

Some examples of a provincial's governance duties include:

**To foster** religious life, training, and apostolic ministries in the regions entrusted to them and, with the aid of competent assistants, they are to take care of temporal administration, "seeking always in all things the greater service of Christ's Church."

**To visit** the houses and works of their province or region.

**To diligently aid** rectors and local superiors in carrying out their own function, showing them confidence and sharing broad power with them as the matter may demand.

To accomplish these responsibilities, all of the work of the province office is an extension of the provincial's mission, which is animated by the concepts of:

• *Cura personalis* ("care of the person")—attending to each province Jesuit's spiritual, physical, psychological, and ministerial life.

# Process to identify next provincial has begun

Because being a provincial is a limitedterm assignment, Fr. Brian Paulson, SJ, is scheduled to complete his service by the summer of 2021.

Because the procedures to identify a new provincial are complex, highly consultative, and lengthy, the Society and the Midwest Jesuits have already begun that effort.

In brief, the process includes the following:

- Communities within the province have intensive discussions to discern the province's needs for the next six years (provincials are typically appointed for that period) and what qualities are desirable in a provincial to serve those needs.
- Father Douglas Marcouiller, SJ, of the USA Central and Southern Jesuits, a former provincial, and the regional assistant for North America for the Society's Superior General, Fr. Arturo Sosa, SJ, visits with members throughout the province, individually and in groups, as well as with province staff and selected lay leaders of Jesuit institutions. His goal: to understand what they believe is needed in the new provincial, collect input and confidential feedback, and in effect listen on behalf of Fr. Sosa.
- Each province Jesuit is invited to confidentially submit up to three nominations, along with the reasons he thinks the individual(s) would make a good provincial.
- The results of this nomination and consultation process will be discussed by an "extended consult" of about 16 Jesuits, and then later by the smaller group of "canonical consultors" to present a list of three names to Fr. General for his consideration.

The list of three—called a *terna*—will be sent to Fr. Sosa who will make the final decision about the appointment. It is presumed that the new provincial will begin sometime in the summer of 2021 after a break from his previous assignment. • *Cura apostolica* ("care of the apostolic works")—attending to the mission of all province ministries.

# Provincial mission: Areas of focus

**Promotion of vocations and formation** of Jesuits: Before a new Jesuit even enters the Society, he needs to know that it's the right match for him, and vice versa. That takes a lot of time and discernment. As Br. Patrick Douglas, SJ (one of five Jesuits and two laypeople who work for the province office in stewarding vocations), explains, "We accompany individuals who are interested in becoming Jesuits as they consider whether the vocation is right for them. And, while there's a 'recruiting' element to it, we believe the Holy Spirit is at work helping candidates in that effort. At the same time, we are discerning whether the candidate is a match for the Society. Is he a person who is willing to travel to new environments outside his comfort zone, make an impact, and move on? Not everyone can do that."

"I think of the province administration as the hub of a wheel, with all the ministries and missions being the spokes," he adds. "What happens at the province level to establish a school and

# **FAST FACTS**:

- There are 16,000+ Jesuits serving on six continents in 112 nations.
- About 500 Jesuits call the USA Midwest their "home province."
- As of 2020, the Society in the US is represented by four provinces: East, Central and Southern, West, and Midwest.
- The USA Midwest Province covers the area comprised of Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, and most of northern and eastern Illinois.

maintain its Jesuit character is vital to that school. For example, I think of a great teacher I had at Creighton Prep. It wasn't until I was a Jesuit myself that I realized someone had accompanied that man while he was discerning his vocation, that many people helped form and guide him to ready him for ministry, and that several people were involved in determining that he should be missioned at Creighton Prep at that time."

When Br. Douglas started in vocations work, there was just one Jesuit performing that function. "But then Fr. Tom Lawler and Fr. Brian Paulson realized how critical it is to invest in this area," he says. "Certainly, we pray for vocations every day. But we also perform many very intentional activities every day. I like to say that I can pray for more fish, but if I don't have enough nets in the water, I won't get them into the boat. So, there needs to be a robust process and enough people to find, support, and accompany candidates to the Society. That's why I'm on the road from my home base in Omaha an average of half of every month, and why the expenditure is warranted."

Then, when an individual enters the Society, he makes a particular province his "home." That province fully bears the cost of that Jesuit's formation—many years of time and testing to become utterly available to serve the mission of the Society, wherever the need is greatest and however the glory of God may be advanced. And, if a province's vocation efforts are fruitful, it means more resources must be found to ensure the quality of each individual's spiritual and intellectual development.

**Care of senior and infirm Jesuits:** When a Jesuit is no longer able to serve actively in ministry, or needs some extra healthcare services, the provincial missions him to pray for the Church and the Society. At this stage of his life, his "home" province has the responsibility and the blessing—to provide for him. The Midwest Province has two communities where Jesuits can continue to be companions for each other. They share meals, daily Mass, outings to sporting and other events, art classes, and more. Some are also able to continue work as chaplains, retreat directors, pastoral ministers, and counselors.

This is a major reason that Pat and Colleen Lawton, MD, support the province.

"As graduates of Jesuit education, Pat and I are grateful to the Jesuits for so much," says Colleen. "When you think of all the homilies, baptisms, retreats, funerals, lectures, and more that these men have given to others, you can't help but know their impact. They give all they have to their mission, without worrying about where they'll be when they can no longer teach or minister in other more active ways."

## IT IS EACH PROVINCE'S ONGOING CHALLENGE TO CREATE AND DEVELOP MINISTRIES TO ADDRESS EMERGING NEEDS

Pat adds, "Colleen and I want to ensure that the Jesuits who have made such a difference in our lives can live in community, with the compassion, dignity, and levels of care they deserve. There are many causes with broad universal appeal that are highly publicized. But this cause is such a 'quiet' need. And that's why a gift to the province is so impactful."

Support of regional ministries and development of new projects: The Midwest Province has many long-established ministries for which the office still serves in a facilitative role—even ministries that are separately incorporated and operated. Examples include the universities, schools, parishes and pastoral ministries, retreat houses and spirituality centers, social justice ministries, and missions with indigenous peoples in South Dakota, as well as Loyola Press.

"Our job is to care for our traditional apostolates," says Fr. Paulson, "as well as continue to read the signs of the times and look for new ways to serve people on



the margins and venture to new frontiers. Provincial assistants and directors in each apostolic sector assist me in all these endeavors, so that we can plan accordingly and look for synergies. Lay formation is a great example of that."

It is part and parcel of the mission and identity of the Jesuits to press the boundaries toward new geographic, social, cultural, and religious frontiers. Examples of more recent innovations include the founding of Cristo Rey and Nativity model schools, the Ignatian Spirituality Project, Ignatian Volunteer Corps, our communications ministry (which includes daily reflections offered through JesuitPrayer.org), and Arrupe College at Loyola University Chicago (the first Jesuit community college in the country).

Continuing in this spirit, it is each province's ongoing challenge to create and develop ministries to address emerging needs. As such, the province can be likened to a venture capital firm that seed funds (with donors as its investors providing that capital), seeking new ways to "care for souls" and promote the "greater honor and glory of God."

Advancement of global ministries and relationships with the universal Society: Connection with the extended Jesuit/Ignatian community nationally and internationally is something only the province office—being a hub for communications with other Jesuit provinces—can provide. Additionally, provinces around the world learn from each other, sharing expertise and best practices.

At any given time, 20 to 30 international Jesuits might be studying or working in the Midwest, causing the province to look like a mini-consulate. In turn, we are the recipients of similar hospitality as we send Jesuits around the world to minister and study. Province staffers write grants to aid international ministries, and our province responds to humanitarian concerns and natural disasters throughout the world.

Provinces sometime enter a *convenio*, a collective agreement called "twinning" that offers opportunities to learn and grow together—to support the growth of the provinces themselves, as well as to help the people in these regions improve their lives intellectually, spiritually, and socioeconomically. Currently, the Midwest Province is twinned with the East African Province, the Kohima Region of northeast India, and the province of Peru.

"We all foster international and apostolic works, even though we're working out of Chicago or perhaps somewhere else in the United States," says Fr. Chun, "And this includes all of our lay collaborators, who are integral to everything we do in all the province's mission areas."

# Invisible infrastructure? Hidden scaffolding? Home office?

Some Midwest Province supporters offer a few more images that work for them in understanding what the provincial and the people of his office do.

It's tough to describe because there isn't the immediate emotional connection, like when you see a student who needs a scholarship, or a homeless, addicted person who needs help. So, I think of it like this: If Jesuit ministries are the "car," the province is the engine. You don't see what runs the car, but it's vitally necessary all the same. The human and other resources needed to make the ministries run effectively come from the actions of the province office.

> Tom Caffrey, PhD, clinical psychologist, New York

I'd compare it to a family structure. Throughout our life cycle involving education, career life, and then retirement, our family is behind us (for those who are fortunate). Family members support you financially, emotionally, etc., and that's what the province does for the Jesuits who call it home. Or it could be described as the office and people behind the scenes that make all the ministries we see function. It's the backbone necessary to put the Jesuits in front of people through education, etc. If it weren't there, everything that we think of as Jesuit wouldn't be "Jesuit."

— Ryan Chimenti, managing director in global investment banking, Milwaukee

The province is the organization that provides the "workforce" that helps to run the various ministries of the Jesuits. By creating, supporting, and directing this workforce, it's like a "permanent help agency," providing invaluable human capital for God's most important causes. Jesus sent the Apostles out to spread the Gospel, and I feel like when I support the province, I'm providing for the needs of today's Apostles while they are on the road, journeying to their ministry.

> — Kevin Reardon, certified financial planner, Milwaukee

# Maize and Blue Masses: St. Mary Student Parish at the University of Michigan

By Fr. Mark Mossa, SJ

t's Ash Wednesday and it's been snowing all day. The roads are terrible. It's 8 p.m., and the Newman Lounge at the Jesuits' St. Mary Student Parish at the University of Michigan is filled with the cacophony of students gathering for 9 p.m. Mass. It's not just because it's Ash Wednesday; this is a regular occurrence. They're laughing, doing homework, playing euchre, and about 90 of them are thinking about what they need to pack for the weeklong alternative spring break (ASB) trips that they will be leaving for on Saturday-traveling as near as Detroit to as far as San Salvador, El Salvador, to spend a week of immersion and service with people on the margins.

Given the palpable sense of community among the students here, it's easy to imagine that they've been here since day one, and some have been. But many take a more circuitous route. Go deeper with individual students, and you'll learn that many struggled with loneliness their first semester or first year at the university, and, thanks to the invitation from another student, or the lure of a free meal, they found their way to church, and so much more. Joey Imperial, a sophomore, first

### "THE VIBRANT COMMUNITY AND JESUIT MISSION OF ST. MARY TEACH ME HOW TO LIVE FOR CHRIST IN EVERYTHING."

attended another Catholic parish in town, but didn't find "his people" there, as many said he would in college. Feeling somewhat lost, he learned about the St. Mary Men's Retreat and decided to go. It was an inspiring weekend that did indeed lead him to find his people. "St. Mary's," he says, "has undoubtedly become my second family. Genuine friendship seems to just pour out of this parish." He adds, "St. Mary has taught me what love in action looks like."

Such love in action is what inspired Rose-Carmel Goddard to get involved at St. Mary her sophomore year. Goddard was so inspired by her alternative spring break trip that she reconsidered a suggestion made by her ASB leader that she apply to become an intern. She didn't waste any time-she couldn't. The applications were due just two days after her return. She writes of her experience: "I now realize how such a simple, albeit very resistant, response to God's pull in my life worked in subtle ways to completely upend and transform the life of what was then the sophomore year of 'College Rose-Carmel.'" This year she has served as the stewardship intern and as an ASB site leader, co-leading the group visiting Dolores Mission in Los Angeles. Lately she's also been busy organizing a three-on-three basketball tournament to raise money for the parish.

Invited by his roommate freshman year to attend St. Mary's weekly community dinner and speaker series called "Ig.Nite," Evan Swinehart found himself face to face with two fellow undergraduate "Dreamers" undocumented immigrants allowed to remain in the U.S. through the DACA program. They were the featured speakers that night. "This invigorated me," he says, "I realized that our Catholic faith calls us to stand for those marginalized by society." Swinehart, energized by such experiences, has served this year as the Faith Doing Justice intern, leading





advocacy efforts on behalf of immigrants on Capitol Hill while attending the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice in Washington. These experiences, along with his studies in public policy, led him recently to accept a two-year assignment with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps working at Xavier Jesuit High School in Chuuk, Micronesia. Hope Thayer found a friend in another freshman named Hope at St. Mary's Welcome Week events at the beginning of the school year. The two Hopes, along with many of their classmates, quickly integrated themselves into the student community, attending retreats and taking on leadership roles. And they keep coming back because of the community that they have found. "We laugh and live together, we pray together, and we talk about the Lord regularly, which is something I especially treasure in friendships," Thayer explains. "The vibrant community and Jesuit mission of St. Mary teach me how to live for Christ in everything."

Emily Furtado, who joined Evan at the Ignatian Family Teach-In, will also be moving on this spring. Having grown up in the Middle East, she shares that often she was the only Catholic in the schools she attended. When she first came to St. Mary, she wasn't sure where she stood in regard to her faith. "I had to make the active choice and decision to be Catholic," she reflects. "St. Mary has challenged my faith in ways I don't think would have been challenged anywhere else." Like many others, she appreciates that St. Mary is not only a place of action, but a place of prayer. As quick as they are to stand up against injustice, the students here are also quick to pray for those in need. Recently, when a student from the university's Jewish community died, student leaders were already inviting other students to pray for the students and staff of the Hillel campus ministry, even before the St. Mary campus ministry staff had received the news. Furtado represents the sentiments of many students, staff members, and parishioners here at St. Mary when she says, "I am blessed and eternally grateful for St. Mary because I can now confidently say that I am a Catholic because I want to be and not because I was born into it."



Fr. Jim Gartland, SJ, is the current pastor of St. Mary Student Parish, which the Jesuits began caring for in summer of 2004.



Fr. Mark Mossa, SJ, is a Jesuit of the USA Central and Southern Province and director of campus ministry at St. Mary Student Parish at the University of Michigan.

# In Memoriam

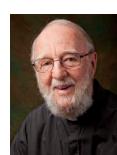
# We give thanks for the following Jesuits who have gone home to God.

### Fr. John V. White, SJ

September 23, 1929 - October 12, 2019

"Jack had a deep love of Christ and the Society of Jesus. He was a good listener and was able to put people at ease they felt welcomed and appreciated in Jack's presence."

Math teacher, parent chaplain, and staff at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland; student counselor.



math teacher, and religion teacher at St. John's Jesuit High School in Toledo, Ohio; retreat director at Colombiere Center in Clarkston, Mich.; student counselor at University of Detroit Jesuit High School; director and campus minister at John Carroll University in Cleveland; vocation director and provincial assistant for pastoral ministry for the former Detroit Province; pastor of Gesu Parish in University Heights, Ohio; rector of the St. Ignatius Jesuit Community in Cleveland; director and staff member of the Mission and Identity team and director of the Spirituality Program for Adults at Walsh Jesuit High School in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

#### Fr. Edward J. Mattimoe, SJ

April 8, 1934 - October 20, 2019

"Ned was a quiet, multi-talented Jesuit priest. He was a good preacher who always sought fresh ways of presenting and sharing the Good News." English and speech teacher at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago; English and art history teacher, associate principal, and principal



at Walsh Jesuit High School in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; provincial consultant for high schools and provincial assistant for secondary education and formation for the former Detroit Province; founding editor of *Company* magazine; associate editor of America; priest-in-residence at St. Patrick Parish in Huntington, N.Y.

## Fr. Casimir R. Bukala, SJ

#### July 14, 1931 - October 23, 2019

"Casey loved Jesus, was a devoted priest, and encouraged others to find God in their lives. He loved teaching—especially philosophy—and helped countless young men and women learn how to think clearly." English and religion teacher at University of Detroit Jesuit High School; philosophy professor and chaplain at John Carroll University in Cleveland; creator of an "Ethics of Forgiveness" class and

the Bukala Forgiveness Initiative at JCU.edu.

#### Fr. Jerome F. Treacy, SJ

November 22, 1928 - October 23, 2019

"Jerry was a gentle, welcoming man who greeted people with a smile and enjoyed conversing with them at socials, meals, and in the rec room." Religion and math

teacher at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland; math teacher at Covington Catholic High School in

Park Hills, Ky.; math professor at Xavier University in Cincinnati; chaplain at Jewish Hospital in Cincinnati; writer.

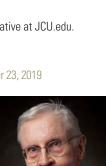
#### Fr. Robert J. Bueter, SJ

#### July 2, 1942 – December 2, 2019

"Whether at America magazine or working with Lumen Christi, whether teaching at Loyola Academy or Xavier University, whether leading a school or caring for his Jesuit brothers as minister or superior, Bob engaged people with passion and vision."

Religion teacher, chair of the religion department, assistant to the president, and track coach at Loyola Academy in Wilmette, III.; editor at *National Jesuit News*; principal at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago; associate editor at *America* magazine; assistant to the president at St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati; vice president for development at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis; principal, assistant to the president, and president at Lexington Catholic High School in Lexington, Ky.;





acting superior of Woodlawn Jesuit Community in Chicago; associate director of the Lumen Christi Institute in Chicago; minister of the Saint Ignatius College Prep Jesuit Community in Chicago; associate director of the Center of Catholic Education and adjunct professor of education at Xavier University in Cincinnati.

# Br. Henry C. Kuhn, SJ

February 19, 1934 – January 5, 2020

"Hank was practical, down-to-earth, and honest. He always told the truth and 'told it like it was.' This attitude helped others to quickly trust and respect him." Junior Brother and assistant gardener at the Jesuit Spiritual Center in Milford, Ohio; superintendent of grounds, volunteer,



and minister at Colombiere Center in Clarkston, Mich.; superintendent of grounds at Jesuit Retreat Center in Parma, Ohio; assistant superintendent and superintendent of grounds at Walsh Jesuit High School in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; minister and socius to the novice director at Loyola House Jesuit Novitiate in Berkley, Mich.; campus minister at University of Detroit Mercy.

## Fr. William J. Kidd, SJ

#### August 29, 1933 - March 3, 2020

"Bill was a good companion to those who got to know him. He was proud to be a Jesuit."

Regent at Red Cloud Indian School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in S.Dak.; math teacher at Campion High School in Prairie du Chien, Wis.; treasurer at Creighton

Prep in Omaha; assistant in the finance office, associate director of institution research, network consultant, and technical support specialist at Marquette University in Milwaukee; assistant to the treasurer at the former Wisconsin Province.



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# Assignments

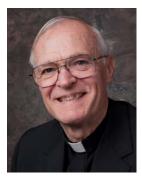
# Jesuit Community



Fr. Patrick Fairbanks, SJ, has been named the next superior of the Taylor Street Jesuit Community in Chicago.



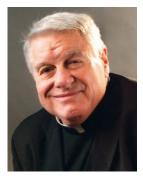
Father Gregory O'Meara, SJ, has been appointed as the new rector of Marquette University's Jesuit community in Milwaukee. He will also re-join the law faculty at Marquette University.



Fr. Karl Voelker, SJ, has been missioned to pray for the Church and the Society at St. Camillus Jesuit Community in Wauwatosa, Wis.



Fr. Gerard Albright, SJ, has been missioned to pray for the Church and the Society at Colombiere Center in Clarkston, Mich.



Fr. Gene Donatelli, SJ, has been missioned to pray for the Church and the Society at Colombiere Center in Clarkston, Mich.

# Mission



Fr. Vaidas Lukosevicius, SJ, has been named director of Blessed Jurgis Matulaitis Lithuanian Catholic Mission in Lemont, III.



Fr. Mike Steltenkamp, SJ, has been named interim administrator of St. John XXIII Parish in the Diocese of Saginaw, Mich.

# Schools



Fr. Matthew Spotts, SJ, has been named the 34th president of Creighton Preparatory School in Omaha. He will begin his duties in summer 2021.

# Universities



Fr. Joseph Mueller, SJ, has been named dean of the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in California.



Fr. James Voiss, SJ, has been named vice president for mission and identity at Marquette University in Milwaukee.

# Editing Eliot

Fr. Jayme Stayer, SJ, is an associate professor at Loyola University Chicago and currently serves as president of the International T. S. Eliot Society.

By Michael Austin

A s a young man with a PhD in English and a checked-off list of the four things he had wanted by that point in his life, Dr. Jayme Stayer had taken possession of his new home. The year was 2000 and as he put the key in the front door of the house, a striking image came into his head. This image was followed by a profound thought that quietly set in motion his serious discernment of becoming a Jesuit. Let's not forget the people of John Carroll University, either; they played a part in letting him know that he was indeed on the right track.

Today Fr. Jayme Stayer, SJ, is an associate professor of English at Loyola University Chicago, one of the world's preeminent T. S. Eliot scholars, an editor of Eliot's prose, and the current president of the International T. S. Eliot Society. In January he traveled to Seattle to receive his latest honor for his Eliot scholarship, the Modern Language Association (MLA) Prize for a Scholarly Edition.

## HE WAS A JESUIT, AND STUDENTS WERE DRAWN TO HIM IN A WAY THEY NEVER HAD BEEN IN HIS PREVIOUS TEACHING JOBS.

Father Stayer and his colleagues won for their painstaking editing of *Tradition* and Orthodoxy, 1934-1939, which is volume 5 of *The Complete Prose of T. S. Eliot: The Critical Edition.* Volume 6 of the series, entitled *The War Years,* 1940-1946, won the same honor. The eight-volume series is published by Johns Hopkins University Press.

"Their thorough contextual introductions, sophisticated annotations merging intelligent commentary with brevity and completeness, and superb indexes make the volumes a pleasure to read and to use," reads the commendation released by the MLA judges. "Together they present new materials, open doors to further discovery, and enlarge our understanding of Eliot as the public intellectual at work."

Father Stayer was about to begin a year's sabbatical when approached about the project, and time was tight. He accepted the job and worked 14hour days, seven days a week for a year straight to keep things on schedule. The result is the fully searchable volume 5, which contains every prose piece written by Eliot between 1934 and 1939. The series includes all of Eliot's collected essays, reviews, lectures, commentaries from *The Criterion*—a small, prestigious literary journal edited by Eliot—and letters to editors. According to the general

#### THE CRITERION A QUARTERLY REVIEW

The first number of The CRITERION will appear on October 15th as a quarterly review devoted to literature, the arts and general ideas.

THE CRITERION is not designed to occupy the place of any other literary periodical. There is already enough, or too much, reviewing of new books, exhibitions, theatres and concerts: this work is done by periodicals appearing weekly or monthly. On the other hand, THE CRITERION will not be a literary or artistic miscellany; it will have more in common with the critical quarterlies of a hundred years ago. Its contents will consist for the most part of a small number of essays longer and more considered than are possible in reviews which appear at shorter intervals.

THE CRITERION aims also at the maintenance of international standards. In the belief that the intellectual life of Europe, like its economic life, depends upon communication and exchange, THE CRITERION will present in translation writings of foreign men of letters, whose work should be better known in England.

This notice is sent only to those who are believed to be sufficiently interested in such an undertaking to subscribe in advance. As is always the case, the support of readers who subscribe direct from the publisher is much more valuable than the support of purchasers from news stands; but that part of the public which is aware of the vacancy which THE CRITERION hopes to fill, can give the most valuable support of all by showing its good-will before publication.

Among the contributors to early numbers are :

Richard Aldington, Jean de Bosschere, Ernst Robert Curtius, T. S. Eliot, Roger Fry, Ramon Gomez de la Serna, Hermann Hesse, Stephen Hudson, Valery Larbaud, W. R. Lethaby, Antonio Marichaldr, T. Sturge Moore, Ezra Pound, George Saintsbury, J. W. N. Sullivan, May Sinclair, Leonard Woolf and S. S. Koteliansky, Virginia Woolf, Marcel Proust, Paul Valery, Jacques Biviere. The contents of the first two numbers will be announced in September.

The annual subscription price is 12/-, post free; single numbers, 3/6. Subscriptions and all other communications should be addressed to the publisher, R. Cobden-Sanderson, 17 Thavies Inn, Holborn, London, E.C. 1.

editor, the series offers all of Eliot's known published prose pieces and adds more than 700 uncollected and 150 unpublished pieces from 1905 to 1965, the year Eliot died.

Father Stayer grew up in northeastern Ohio, the youngest of three children. As a high school student, he won a scholarship that allowed him to attend the University of Notre Dame, where he double majored in music and English, graduating in 1990. He left immediately for graduate school, earning his master's degree and PhD in English at the University of Toledo, and only later working on his Master of Divinity in Theology at Boston College.

But it was the years between Toledo and Boston that changed the trajectory he had imagined for himself before he walked into his new home in Texas. That was where he had planned to settle in and begin his career as an English scholar and professor. He had moved there for a university teaching job and in a very short amount of time achieved his four major goals. He had his PhD tenure-track job, his own house, his grand piano, and his basset hound.

## DESPITE FR. STAYER'S REPUTATION AS A LITERARY SCHOLAR AND HIS CLEAR LOVE FOR RESEARCH, ONE GETS THE SENSE THAT HE FINDS AS MUCH OR MORE JOY SHARING THE BEAUTY OF WRITERS HE LOVES WITH STUDENTS.

The mid-century house was one that a couple had lived in for decades, and in the normal course of home-buying conversation, he learned that the man had died first and the woman lived there as long as she could, until she had to be transferred to a care facility.

"The day I took possession of the house, I had an image in my head of that woman being wheeled out to her final resting place," Fr. Stayer says. "I thought to myself, 'Is that all that's left? Is the rest of my life just a long slide down to the nursing home?' I thought there must be something else."

A short time later, 9/11 happened.

"I was praying to God, 'If so few men can create so much violence in the world, what can I do that creates love commensurate to such violence, to cancel out that hatred?' As soon as that prayer came out of my mouth, there was an image in my head of two priests who I really loved at the University of Notre Dame."

T.S. Eliot's literary journal *The Criterion* is one of the pieces included in Fr. Stayer's volume.

Kindly provided by Faber & Faber and the Estate of T. S. Eliot

Suddenly, becoming a priest—not just any priest, a Jesuit—became a viable option to Fr. Stayer. He wasn't unhappy with his life. It was just that the things he had accomplished and acquired were not the things he was living for. He had a Jesuit spiritual director at the time and had met Jesuits and become aware of their way of life—their dedication to education and social justice—during his years in Toledo.

"It didn't even occur to me to join a diocese or visit monasteries," he says.

One year of his regency was spent in El Salvador and two other years at John Carroll University, where he noticed an amazing thing happening. Though not yet an ordained priest, he was a Jesuit, and students were drawn to him in a way they never had been in his previous teaching jobs.

"As a lay person, as a professor, hardly any students came to my office to discuss a problem," he says. "Even though I wasn't a priest yet, I felt the people of John Carroll calling my priesthood out of me."

Father Stayer also cites his time at John Carroll—eight years total; he was also assigned there after ordination—as what helped him learn to master the distinct duties of his two vocations.

"The teacher is the one who challenges

## **ARTS & CULTURE**

and sets the bar high," he says. "The priest has the merciful role, the one who brings healing and tenderness into the world. The roles aren't exactly the same, and in fact can be somewhat opposed at times. But I learned how to integrate them at John Carroll."

Now, as an associate professor of English at Loyola University Chicago, Fr. Stayer teaches a freshman-level introduction to literature class and a sophomore-level exploration of poetry class. Next year he will be teaching a graduate seminar on modernist literature.

### "I FELT THE PEOPLE OF JOHN CARROLL CALLING MY PRIESTHOOD OUT OF ME."

"I like teaching non-English majors," says Fr. Stayer, whose doctoral dissertation was on Eliot's poem "The Waste Land" and Igor Stravinsky's opera



*Oedipus Rex.* "In my first job after my PhD, I learned how to teach resistant students—the business students who



think poetry is irrelevant and filled with arcane terms. Now we spend most of our class time figuring out who is speaking, and once they realize, 'Oh, this is a curse, or this is an apology,' the difficulty of the language is much easier to navigate."

Despite Fr. Stayer's reputation as a literary scholar and his clear love for research, one gets the sense that he finds as much or more joy sharing the beauty of writers he loves with students. Eliot is an obvious favorite, but so are W.H. Auden, Virginia Woolf, and William Butler Yeats.

"I could spend the rest of my life just teaching a course on those authors," he says.  $\clubsuit$ 



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*. He grew up as one of seven in Joliet, Illinois, and is a renowned Irish musician and a faculty member of Chicago's esteemed Old Town School of Folk Music, where he teaches bodhran, the Irish traditional drum.

## **ADVANCEMENT**

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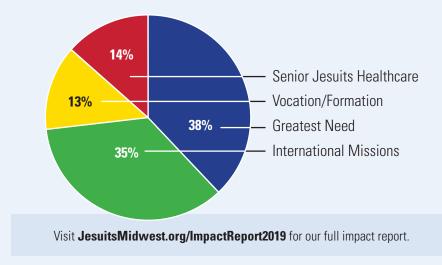
## FOR THE IMPORTANT MOMENTS...

The Midwest Jesuits are pleased to share Mass and special occasion cards appropriate for the important moments in your life. When the time comes to remember a loved one, either on a special occasion or with a Mass of celebration, our cards are the perfect way to share your thoughtfulness. All are remembered in Masses celebrated by the Jesuits. We offer a variety of cards, and more are added from time to time.

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# **JESUIT** FRIENDS & ALUMNINETWORK

# Save the Date for Midwest Jesuits Ordination

# JOSHUA PETERS, SJ

**June 13, 2020** 10:00 a.m. Church of the Gesu 1145 W. Wisconsin Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53233



