



# JESUITS

USA MIDWEST PROVINCE | SUMMER 2022



## Ordination 2022

Celebrating Five New Jesuit Priests

Also in This Issue:

2022 Jubilarians Reflect on Their Journeys ■ Vocations Shared by Siblings ■ The Ignatian Year Comes to a Close



Dear Friends,

As the Spring 2022 issue of this magazine went to press in February, war broke out between Russia and Ukraine. I am sure that, like me, you watched in horror as scenes of devastation and despair filled our news and social media feeds. A sense of helplessness gave way to a sense of purpose when Fr. Damian Czerniak, SJ, a Polish Jesuit who had taught at Creighton Prep for three years, sent a plaintive cry for help in assisting the refugees pouring into Poland. Friends and benefactors of the Midwest Jesuits answered his call, and I am pleased to report that over \$1 million has been raised and sent to support the efforts of the Polish Jesuits (page 3). I can only echo Fr. Czerniak's heartfelt gratitude when I say, "Thank you."

Looking through these pages, I'm reminded of the 500-year-old threads that bind Jesuits like Fr. Czerniak to those called to serve in our common mission. The vision of St. Ignatius of Loyola was to gather well-formed men and women in the hope that they would attract others to the vineyard who, inspired by the Gospel, would become our partners. The celebration of our Ignatian Year, which draws to a close with the feast of St. Ignatius on July 31, testifies to the duration of his vision.

Like Ignatius, the five ordinands featured in this issue will spend their Jesuit lives inviting others to join in mission with them, such as the dedicated laypeople who serve as coaches and advancement officers at our schools (pages 18 and 21). We know that from those institutions, graduates will go forward, remaining true to their Jesuit values and inviting others to join them in service.

A lifetime of service to others is the definition of a Jesuit's mission. Our Midwest Jesuit jubilarians are celebrating 50 years in the Society of Jesus this year; don't miss their inspiring reflections (page 12).

And don't miss an important letter from Fr. Tim Lannon, SJ, in the center of the magazine, which invites you to join us in the important work yet to be done.

I invite you to join me in praying for the newly ordained, that they and others may attract and inspire new leaders, and that our work together may have the blessing of our Lord.

In Christ,

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

The USA Midwest Jesuits ordained five men to the priesthood on Saturday, June 11 at the Church of the Gesu in Milwaukee.

From left: the Most Reverend Bernard Hebda, archbishop of St. Paul and Minneapolis, the ordaining prelate; Jesuit Frs. Stephen Molvarec; Aaron Bohr; Matthew Donovan; Joseph Kraemer; Eric Immel; and V. Rev. Karl Kiser, provincial of the Midwest Jesuits.

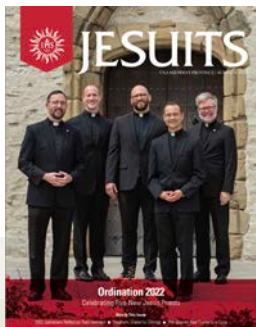


Thank you for your open hearts and willingness to support the Jesuits' mission to Ukrainians in need. God bless you!

Fr. Damian Czerniak, SJ



If you'd like to support Fr. Czerniak and the Jesuits in Poland, please go to [JesuitsMidwest.org/support-us/ukraine-thank-you/](https://JesuitsMidwest.org/support-us/ukraine-thank-you/)



### ON THE COVER

The 2022 ordinands pose outside St. Joan of Arc Chapel on the campus of Marquette University in Milwaukee.

Photo: Steve Donisch

## Celebrating the 2022 Midwest Jesuit Jubilarians



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Jesuit jubilarians celebrating 50 years in the priesthood include (from left) Jesuit Frs. Kenneth Overberg, Michael Cooper, Philip Rossi, Joseph Brown, and George Sullivan.

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#### Midwest Jesuits Ordination

On June 11, four Midwest Jesuits and one Jesuit from the USA West Province were ordained by the Most Reverend Bernard Hebda.



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#### It All Started with a Question

Nicholas Albin, SJ, began to ponder his vocation at the suggestion of one of his Jesuit professors at Xavier University.



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#### Building on the Past to Shape the Future

As part of the Ignatian Year, Father General Arturo Sosa met with Jesuits in formation to discuss the process of formation going forward.



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#### Loyola High School Students Raise Their Voices

Students with a passion for oration at Detroit's Loyola High School have been given the opportunity to earn a new scholarship named for Frederick Douglass.

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Dr. Mark Reed most recently served as the first lay president of Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia.

## Loyola University Chicago Elects Dr. Mark Reed as 25th President

Loyola University Chicago's board of trustees has unanimously elected Mark Reed, Ed.D., MBA, as the university's 25th president after an extensive search process. Dr. Reed will assume the role on October 1, 2022.

"We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Reed and his family to Loyola and our great city of Chicago," said Susan S. Sher, JD '74, chair of the board of trustees and presidential search committee. "After a global search and community-led process, Dr. Reed, with his deep roots in Jesuit, Catholic education, mission-driven leadership experience, and belief in our student-centered ethos, was the clear choice to serve as Loyola's 25th president."

Reed is currently president of Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia, a position he has held since July 2015 when he was named as the school's first lay president. Under his leadership, Saint Joseph's has strengthened academic programs, strategic partnerships, university finances and endowment, student formation, and advancement of the Jesuit, Catholic mission.

Reed has a long history and foundation in Jesuit, Catholic education beginning with his time at St. Joseph's Preparatory School in Philadelphia. He then earned his BS in mathematics and MBA from Fairfield University, as well as an MEd in secondary educational administration from Boston College—both Jesuit universities. He earned his Ed.D in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania.



The Sacred Heart of Jesus as depicted in the Jesuit Chapel of La Colombière in France

## Father General to Renew the Consecration to the Sacred Heart

On July 31—the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola—Father General Arturo Sosa will conclude the Ignatian Year in Loyola, Spain. On that occasion he will renew the consecration of the Society of Jesus to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It has been 150 years since Father General Peter Jan Beckx formally consecrated the Society to the Sacred Heart and 50 years since Father General Pedro Arrupe renewed that consecration.

In 1883, the members of the 23rd General Congregation (the legislative body of the Society) approved Decree 46: "We declare that the Society of Jesus accepts and receives with a spirit overflowing with joy and gratitude, the gentle burden (according to the Latin expression *munus suavissimum*) that our Lord Jesus Christ has entrusted to it, to practice, promote and propagate devotion to His most divine Heart."

When Fr. Arrupe renewed the consecration in 1972, he aligned the devotion to the Sacred Heart to the spiritual grace Ignatius received at La Storta in 1537, saying, "Our Consecration to the Heart of Christ, in its turn, helps us to penetrate more deeply into the message of La Storta; it makes us know more intimately the person of Christ, makes us steep ourselves into the import of our mission, and finally it makes us more Ignatian and better and more authentic 'socii Jesu.'"



The Welsh Academy is named for former Saint Ignatius president Fr. Robert Welsh, SJ.

## The Welsh Academy Celebrates First Graduating Class

On May 25, The Welsh Academy at Saint Ignatius High School graduated its inaugural class of 22 students. The Welsh Academy, which is named for Saint Ignatius's former president Fr. Robert Welsh, SJ, serves male students from families of modest economic means in grades six through eight. The Welsh Academy began in the 1990s as a dream of Fr. Welsh's, but it was revived in the high school's second strategic plan, and the board of regents approved the decision in 2018.

The Welsh Academy is an entity within Saint Ignatius High School, and academy students have access to the campus and facilities. The Welsh Academy's students have opportunities to participate in all-campus events and work with Saint Ignatius faculty, as well as to partner with current high school students and the local community.

These students were the first middle schoolers to attend school on the campus of Cleveland's Saint Ignatius High School—a 136-year-old institution—since the early 1900s. Regarding the first graduating class, founding principal Dr. Mary Ann Vogel, says, "I am unbelievably proud of them because they were entrepreneurial, their parents were, on taking a chance on something that didn't exist, even though we're connected to Saint Ignatius and everything that comes with Saint Ignatius. This didn't exist before."

Nearly all of the students in the graduating class will attend private, Catholic high schools this fall, with many going on to Saint Ignatius.



The Polish Jesuits have been able to provide aid to thousands of refugees.

## Midwest Jesuits Raise Funds to Support Ukrainian Refugees

Together with generous donors and Jesuit works, the Midwest Jesuits have responded to the critical needs of Ukrainian refugees by raising nearly \$1.1 million to support the ongoing relief efforts being led by Polish Jesuits, including former Creighton Prep teacher Fr. Damian Czerniak, SJ. Father Czerniak was assigned by his provincial to work with the refugees who began pouring into the country earlier this year. To date, Poland has taken in over 3 million refugees.

The donations leave the Midwest Province almost immediately and incur no fees, and thus 100% of these funds are being received directly by the Polish Jesuits. Working with his Polish Jesuit brothers, including Frs. Zadworny, Osmolovskyy, and Lewicki, Fr. Czerniak has also coordinated with other agencies on the ground.

The transport vehicles that have brought refugees to the border are being used to transport lifesaving medicines and medical equipment. Jesuits have hosted dozens in their residences and arranged for parishioners of the country's Jesuit parishes to provide housing. They've opened a Ukrainian social center and kindergartens for refugee children while acting as a hub for translation, information, triage of services, and transportation.

This generosity has helped bring people to safe housing, provide for mothers and children who've depleted their supplies, and facilitate other much-needed services for those left with nothing. The Polish Jesuits wish to express their immense gratitude for the support during the crisis in Ukraine.



## Megan Brunkhorst

**Hometown:** Minneapolis, MN

**Schools attended:** Santa Clara University (BA and MA)

**Profession:** Teacher at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Minneapolis, MN

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

I've known the Jesuits since birth, because the late Fr. Ted Rynes, SJ, from Santa Clara University in California was a longtime family friend. My mom, aunt, and two uncles attended Santa Clara University, and I eventually did so as well. I studied English and became involved with SCCAP, the Santa Clara Community Action Program. Some of my most impactful college memories are with SCCAP, when we would go to the Tenderloin in San Francisco on Friday afternoons to deliver meals with Project Open Hand. So much of my experience with the Jesuits has been not only education within the classroom, but also in the ways that Jesuit education encourages people to go out into the world and serve others. While I was a sophomore at Santa Clara, I learned about the Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC) and knew that was what I wanted to do after graduation. When I graduated in 2012, I was placed with the JVC in Phoenix, where I worked at St. Matthew Catholic School for a year.

### How have the Jesuits impacted your life?

Sometimes I think about how bonkers it is that one person being hit by a cannonball could change the world! I feel lucky that my students and I are able to share in the global Jesuit community. I think the story of St. Ignatius of Loyola resonates with so many people because we often live in tension between material desires and spiritual fulfillment. In addition, St. Ignatius shows us that we don't need to be absolutely perfect to reach God's love and serve others. We are always changing, always growing—living out the *magis*.

### How has Ignatian spirituality played a role in your life?

My experience in JVC was filled with both challenging and sweet moments, and it made me realize that working for justice is a lifelong vocation; the concept of "setting the world on fire" may manifest in a slow burn. My experience in JVC helped me decide to become a teacher, but I still needed to go through a discernment process. I also have many friends who graduated from Jesuit schools or who completed JVC that now work in the corporate world or the tech industry. We can all use our unique passions and skills to serve others and work for justice.



## ORDINATION 2022

**"To this end, we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and powerfully bring to fulfillment every good purpose and every effort of faith."**

— 2 Thessalonians 1:11

Watch the recording of the Mass at [JesuitsMidwest.org/Ordination22](https://JesuitsMidwest.org/Ordination22)





## Fr. Aaron A.C. Bohr, SJ

- **Born:** November 4, 1977
- **Entered Society:** August 25, 2012
- **As a Jesuit:** Father Bohr traveled to Peru and Northeast India, studied philosophy in New York, taught at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School-Twin Cities, and lived in an international community during theology studies.
- **Assignment Following Ordination:** Father Bohr will teach Chinese language and world history at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago.

I wish to express gratitude to the Lord, who has invited me to share this amazing Jesuit adventure with God and with God's people. I would also like to thank my family, especially my parents, Gail and Richard Bohr, and sister, Jessica, for their love and support, accompanying me on my life's journey. I would also like to thank my friends, who walked with me from my initial discernment to join the Jesuits and have continued to share the journey with me as a Jesuit. I would also like to thank the many professors, mentors, and Jesuit formators who have helped to form me as a Jesuit. I am also grateful for the many Jesuit brothers who have helped me to learn and grow as a Jesuit. I would also like to express my thanks to the Newman Hall-Holy Spirit Catholic Community at the University of California, Berkeley. My ministry there as a deacon has been very rich. I have learned so much ministering to such a diverse community. Finally, I would like to thank the Blessed Mother, who has always been a loving mother to me, inviting me to journey with her Son and to be his disciple. ✠



Large photo by: Steve Donisch  
Inset photo by: Jeff Zmania

## Fr. Matthew E. Donovan, SJ

■ **Born:** August 28, 1982

■ **Entered Society:** August 27, 2011

■ **As a Jesuit:** Father Donovan made a four-week pilgrimage during novitiate including stops in Manhattan, staying in a homeless shelter, and sleeping on the streets of Miami; worked at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland; and taught RCIA at Saint Columbkille Parish in Boston.

■ **Assignment Following Ordination:** Father Donovan will minister at the Church of the Gesu in University Heights, Ohio, this summer and then teach theology and serve as campus priest at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland.

My vocation to the priesthood begins with my parents, whose steadfast love, faith, and support mirror in profound ways God's own love and faithfulness in my life. Thank you, Mom and Dad. You have made it all possible. I also would like to thank my brother David, who inspires me in his commitment to God and our family, and my sisters, Meghan, who will always be my hero, and Mary Elizabeth, my best friend. To my wonderful brothers-in-law, Terry and Eddy: Thank you for your humor, your support, and your love. To Beau, Cameron, Teddy, Gigi, and Caroline: Your Uncle Matt loves you very, very much. To my godfather, Bob Parke, and my spiritual sister, Prachi Shah, whose love, support and friendship so clearly reflects God's love. When I am with you, I feel seen and known, and when I leave you, my soul burns with the echo of the words of the disciples on the road to Emmaus: Was not my heart burning within me? Thank you. For everything.

I once heard a Jesuit say that God's greatest act of mercy was his vocation to the Society of Jesus. I find this to be a great truth in my own life, and I am ever grateful that in God's loving kindness he has called me to be a companion of his Son. As a Jesuit, I am surrounded by a family of brothers who inspire me by their lives of dedicated service to God's people, teach me to be better and to do better, and fill me with laughter and joy. Thank you for showing me the way in this beautiful shared life.

To my friends, who may as well be family: my Chicago family, including my Evanston Vineyard clan and the pastor Steve Nicholson, my Houston friends, my St. Louis friends, and my Cleveland friends, particularly my dear friend Cindy Hruby and the incredible Nikki Henderson, along with the history department at Saint Ignatius High School.

All of you—family, Jesuits, and friends—have taught me in some way about the joyful, sacrificial, and merciful love of Jesus Christ. I offer my life back to you as your priest. And it is my great joy. ✠



Large photo by: Steve Donish  
Inset photo by: Fr. Don Doll, SJ



## Fr. Eric T. Immel, SJ

- **Born:** July 17, 1982
- **Entered Society:** August 27, 2011
- **As a Jesuit:** Father Immel lived and worked on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota; worked at Arrupe College of Loyola University Chicago during its earliest years of existence; and served as a deacon at St. Katharine Drexel Church in Boston and the Church of St. Ignatius in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.
- **Assignment Following Ordination:** Father Immel will serve as a vocations promoter for the Midwest Jesuits and continue working toward his master of theology in Black Catholic studies from Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans.

I recall seeing a video about the Society of Jesus many years ago entitled “A Long Haul.” The video was about formation and the stages many Jesuits navigate on their way toward the priesthood. My own Jesuit journey has been a long haul in many ways, but at the very same time, this moment of priestly ordination comes upon me like a lightning bolt.

I stand in awe of what has happened to me these years—the ups and downs, moments of light and darkness, pain and loneliness—but also the healing grace of God offered through many, many people along the way. To my family, friends, co-workers, students, partners in ministry, classmates, benefactors, brothers and sisters in religious and diocesan life, and my fellow Jesuits, I can only quote the words of a simple Gospel song: “Thank you, Lord! Thank you, Lord! Thank you, Lord! I just want to thank you, Lord!” I have been blessed abundantly and hope that I am worthy of those blessings.

It may be a legend, caught up in Jesuit lore, but I have heard of a beautiful moment between Ignatius and Xavier that long lingers in my mind and heart during times of transition. Facing the reality of Xavier’s departure toward a missionary life and the fact that it meant Ignatius and Xavier would likely never see each other again, the two best friends shared words of comfort, and then Xavier said: “We have nothing left to do but embark.”

I carry many with me in mind and heart as I move toward ordination, and I am certain that I do not carry on alone. I walk with many, and we together walk with the Lord. God is good. ✠



## Fr. Joseph M. Kraemer, SJ (of Jesuits West)

- **Born:** August 23, 1967
- **Entered Society:** August 25, 2013
- **As a Jesuit:** Father Kraemer traveled with a classmate from Los Angeles to Boston and back for the 30-day poverty pilgrimage as a novice; worked as assistant in the Jesuits West advancement office; served as chaplain at Windmill Lodge Care Home in London; and served as a deacon at Corpus Christi Parish in Piedmont, California.
- **Assignment Following Ordination:** Father Kraemer will serve in prison chaplaincy with Jesuit Restorative Justice Initiative Northwest in Seattle.

In the days leading up to my ordination, I prayed with six words from Scripture: "Love is patient, love is kind" (1 Corinthians 13:4). I am so grateful for all the love that has been expressed to me with patience and kindness throughout my life. This love starts with my parents, Mike and Melanie, who have always supported and encouraged me in my faith journey. In their company are many beloved family members, loyal friends, generous Jesuit brothers, and a wide circle of benefactors who never lose faith that the Society of Jesus will continue to do its part to help build the kingdom of God in a broken world that needs all hands helping more than ever.

As I prepare for priesthood, my thanksgiving for their love brings to mind another line from Scripture—"to whom much is given, much will be required" (Luke 12:48)—that inspires me as I look ahead to my first assignment as a priest: accompanying prisoners in Washington State. I hope I can share with them the consolation of Pope Francis when he said: "Wherever we go, we are called as Christians to proclaim the liberating news that forgiveness for sins committed is possible, that God is greater than our sinfulness, that he freely loves us at all times and that we were made for communion and eternal life." I pray for the grace to carry this Gospel message forward with the same patience and kindness that I have been shown throughout my life. I will also keep in my prayer all of you who support and walk with us in our Jesuit journey to become joyful heralds of the good news of Christ. Thank you! ✠



Large photo by: Jeff Zmania  
Inset photo by: Steve Donisch

## Fr. Stephen J. Molvarec, SJ

■ **Born:** May 3, 1980

■ **Entered Society:** August 25, 2012

■ **As a Jesuit:** Father Molvarec worked with the homeless in Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; taught history students at Marquette University in Milwaukee; served as a deacon at Boston University's Catholic Center; and served as house coordinator at Walter Ciszek House in Boston.

■ **Assignment Following Ordination:** Father Molvarec will minister at Gesu Parish in Milwaukee this summer before serving as visiting assistant professor at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry for the 2022–2023 academic year.

No Jesuit could ever make it through formation alone, without the support of brother Jesuits, friends, mentors, and family. God's grace is fundamental, too, and I'm grateful for the example of Jesuit friends who have taught me to seek God in all things. There are some men in the Society of Jesus who are spiritual fathers, close brothers, and best friends for me; they've walked with me in joy and in despair. I hope to someday repay and give forward all that they have given to me.

I'm grateful for the people who first taught me about the faith: my maternal grandparents, Alex and Mary; my mom, Susan, and my aunt, Pam; and many others—family, teachers, scoutmasters, etc. The Society's benefactors—often unknown to me, but I pray for them daily—have made a life possible in which I am able to give freely to God's people as a teacher, as a scholar, as a spiritual director, as a pastoral minister and ask for nothing in return.

Life and ordained ministry as a Jesuit is truly an adventure, one that is filled with joy and grace even when it is arduous. I've been blessed to live in so many different places and work in so many different ministerial settings. ✠



Photos by: Jeff Zmania

Nicholas Albin, SJ, meets with a student at Loyola University Chicago.



By Nicholas Albin, SJ

**I**t was the spring semester of my junior year at Xavier University. After completing an essay on Descartes for my philosophy course, I submitted it by email to my philosophy professor, who happened to be a Jesuit priest. A few hours later, my philosophy professor replied:

*Nick,  
Thank you for your essay on Descartes.  
By the way, have you ever thought  
about becoming a Jesuit priest?*

Reading his email both surprised and intrigued me. Initially, I was unsure of what to make of this question of becoming a Jesuit priest. I was surprised that someone would consider me for a path in life that I had never considered for myself. While growing in my Catholic faith was always important to me as a college student, I never imagined myself pursuing the priesthood. I was a business student, and my dream was to pursue a career in finance after graduation. At the same time, I was also intrigued by this idea of potentially becoming a Jesuit priest. I wondered, “Does he know something about me that I don’t?” I was curious, and I wanted to know what it could possibly mean.

Interestingly enough, shortly after that

Jesuit sparked the question of Jesuit priesthood to me, I began to notice other people in my life—friends, teachers, and mentors—all ask me the same question: “Nick, have you ever thought about becoming a Jesuit priest?” I continued being both surprised and intrigued. I wondered, “Why do people keep asking me about becoming a Jesuit priest?” After hearing this question posed to me enough times, I thought, “Maybe these people see something in me that I don’t see in myself.” While only 21 years old at the time, I thought I had my life all planned out. But now, I was inspired to explore this possibility and to consider a vocation that so many people believed that I could be a good candidate for.

I yearned to find clarity and understanding of this question that many people continued to ask. Throughout my senior year at Xavier, I met with a Jesuit priest for spiritual direction. I went on a few vocation retreats. I prayed... a lot! I also read the spiritual autobiography of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Through these experiences, I finally discovered that God was calling me to use my gifts and talents to become a Jesuit priest for the betterment and service to others. After graduating college, I was at peace to enter the Society of Jesus

and pursue a path toward becoming a Jesuit priest. I felt great confidence and excitement in my decision—even more than compared to the life path I had drawn up for myself prior to considering a Jesuit vocation.

As I near my priestly ordination after almost 10 years in Jesuit formation, I still look back in gratitude about how my vocation to become a Jesuit priest found me through these incredible people whom I was blessed to cross paths with during my undergraduate studies. Had it not been for their asking if I had ever thought about becoming a Jesuit priest, I may not have ever realized this call which God was inviting me to. Their question helped inspire God’s invitation within my mind and heart to pursue this vocation. ✠



Nicholas Albin, SJ, is currently in theology studies at Boston College School of Theology and Ministry. He entered the Society of Jesus in 2012.

# “Grab an Oar”

## Fr. John Staudenmaier, SJ, Fuses Academia with Service

By Marin Clapper

At the age of 24, prior to his ordination, Fr. John Staudenmaier, SJ, would lay awake at night contemplating his purpose in life. At the time, he struggled with believing in anything, but his spiritual journey would be transformed with the guidance of his mentor and companion Fr. Ed Foot, SJ, and his regency at the Holy Rosary Mission at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

At first, Fr. Staudenmaier was told by province leadership that he would most likely be doing his regency at Marquette University High School or in Argentina, where many young Jesuits were being missioned to at the time. But, in a twist of events, Fr. Staudenmaier was sent to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, which he says became an enormous turning point in his life. When he arrived at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, Fr. Staudenmaier quickly realized that he

didn't know how to teach anyone, let alone a combination of grade school and high school students. When he began teaching, the school was seeing a decline in enrollment, with many students leaving. Knowing this, Fr. Staudenmaier worked diligently to be the best teacher he could for the community. He says, “I was immersed in realizing that I was a very small person in a very large world, and it wasn't much like where I grew up at all.”

Father Staudenmaier still makes frequent trips to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, and he has stayed in touch with some of the people he met during his regency for over 40 years now. The relationships he built at Pine Ridge have been the most important to him during his time as a Jesuit.

After his regency at Pine Ridge, Fr. Staudenmaier went back to school to receive his doctorate in the history of technology and engineering at the University of Pennsylvania, a field he would come to be known as an expert in. After completing his doctoral studies, Fr. Staudenmaier began to think about where his work would take him next and subsequently interviewed at three Jesuit universities—Fordham University, Santa Clara University, and University of Detroit Mercy.

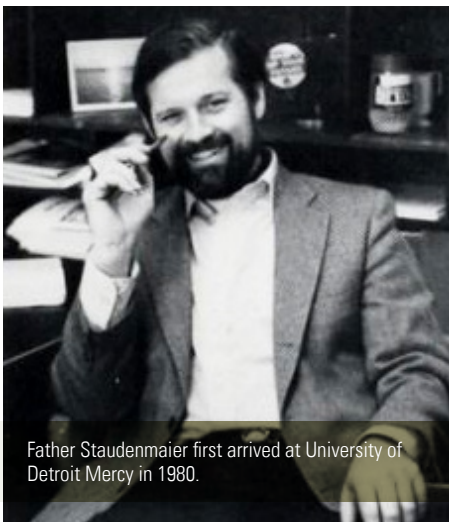
At the time, Fr. Robert “Bob” Mitchell, SJ, a role model of Fr. Staudenmaier's, had just been selected as the new president of



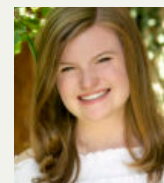
University of Detroit Mercy. Though he held the other universities in high esteem, after careful consideration, he chose to serve at University of Detroit Mercy, where he felt he was most needed. Father Mitchell advised Fr. Staudenmaier to “grab an oar” and help guide the Jesuit community in Detroit. His service at University of Detroit Mercy became a defining part of his Jesuit ministry, as he lived and worked at the university for over 30 years.

During his time at University of Detroit Mercy, Fr. Staudenmaier served as a professor of the history of technology and engineering ethics, an interim dean for the College of Liberal Arts and Education, a trustee to the university, and as assistant to the president of mission and identity.

Today, Fr. Staudenmaier lives in community with fellow senior Jesuits at Colombiere Center in Clarkston, Michigan, and he keeps busy reading and exchanging poems. ✠



Father Staudenmaier first arrived at University of Detroit Mercy in 1980.



Marin Clapper is a senior at Loyola University Chicago and a former intern for the USA Midwest Province Jesuits. She is a current marketing fellow at Big Shoulders Fund.

## Reflections on 50 Years in the Society of Jesus

### The *Magis* and Finding God in All Things

By Fr. Gene Donatelli, SJ

The *magis* and “finding God in all things” have remained guiding principles for me. Those two Ignatian characteristics have been the foundation of my vocation and ministry



Fr. Donatelli during his time at Cathedral of Christ the King in Lexington, Kentucky

throughout my 50 years as a Jesuit.

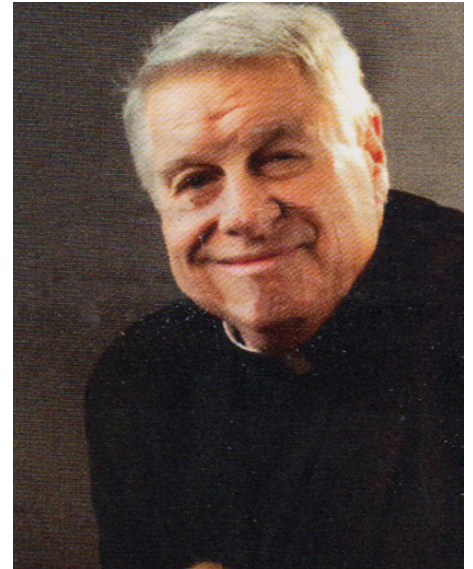
As I grow older, the focal points of my

life have become acceptance and gracefully surrendering to God’s will especially.

I’ve had three major assignments as a Jesuit: high school teacher, hospital chaplain, and parish priest. I thought that teaching in high school (which I did for 10 years) would be my primary ministry; I did not expect that I would be a hospital chaplain for eight years, and I never expected that I would spend more than 15 years assigned to parish ministry.

Though I am an introvert, I enjoy ministering to people. I act with compassion, listen with empathy, and try to relate to others on a deeper level. I am creative and also gregarious, accepting, nonjudgmental, patient, and affirming.

Some highlights of my vocation and ministry include the long retreat meditation on Good Friday beneath the cross and the invitation to enter the Lord’s Sacred Heart; Composition of Place and Application of the Senses (two Ignatian formats for prayer that have formed, sustained, and deepened my relationship with the Lord); celebrating the Eucharist; and preaching (once during a homily a small child



cried so much that his dad got up and placed the child on his shoulder and began walking down the center aisle. . . the child loudly said: “Goodbye Jesus”—I had the wisdom at that moment to say “Amen” and end the homily); hearing confessions; and 40 years of counseling and providing spiritual direction.

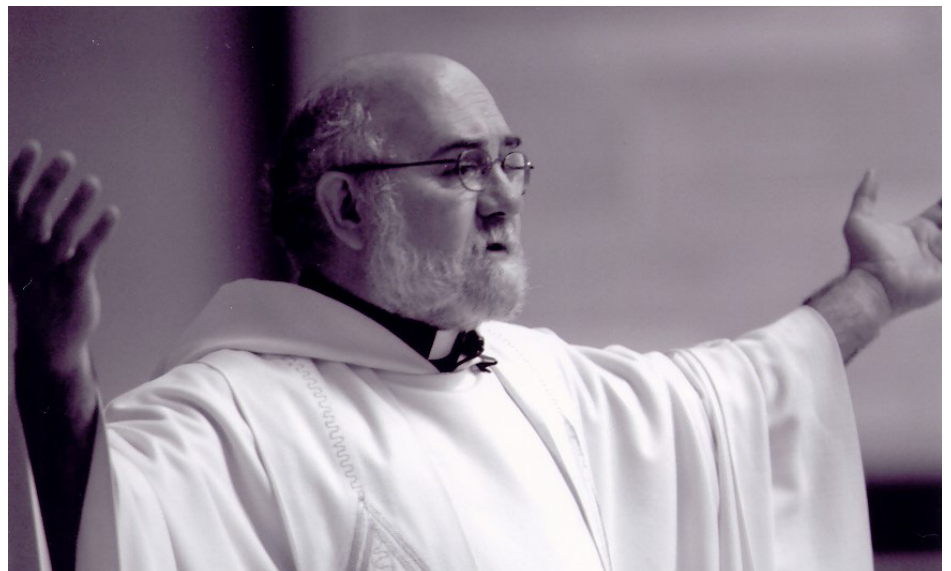
### “Awe,” “Wonder,” and “Gratitude”

By Fr. John Ferone, SJ

Awe, wonder, and gratitude: I believe these three words embody my ongoing journey to become a true companion of Jesus in his mission and to do so in the footsteps of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

According to the *Principle and Foundation*, I was “created to praise, reverence, and serve God.” And “God created all other things on the face of the earth to help fulfill this purpose.”

For many years I have known, in fact, that



I am at my best when I am living according to that *Principle and Foundation*. And one of the great gifts the Society of Jesus has given to me over the years is the ongoing experience of the Examen, the method by which I reflect daily on the many gifts that the Lord gives me each day and has given me throughout the various seasons of my life. It is this reflection that leads me to a heartfelt sense of praise, an ever-increasing capacity for awe and wonder, and an ability to recognize and reverence the ongoing presence of God, especially in the beauty and diversity of nature and personally, in the power of the arts to inspire and activate and heighten the senses.

The Examen has also challenged me to recognize and appreciate the uniqueness of each person with his or her strengths and limitations, hopes and dreams, and cultures

and histories, as well as what we share as human beings.

Such reflection has led me to an ongoing practice of gratitude and a desire to share the gifts that I have received and for which I am grateful. I believe this is at the heart of my understanding concerning service. It is to give generously of what we have received.

My hope is that in sharing my own experience of what I have seen, heard, touched, and loved, others might have their own eyes, ears, and hearts opened in freedom so that they too might have an experience of the *Principle and Foundation* and be led to praise, reverence, and feel a deep desire to share what they have received in awe, wonder, and gratitude in service.

**BR. ADAM POREBA, SJ (PME)**

Midwest Jesuit Fr. Stan Czarnecki says of jubilarian Br. Adam Poreba, SJ, "Over his 50 years in the Society, Adam has shown himself to be reliable, easygoing, open to people, a man of love, and at the service of others. He was missioned to Chicago 11 years ago as sacristan for the Jesuit Millennium Center and the Shrine of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. His kindness, humility, great sense of humor, and openness are an evangelical magnet attracting many to come to Church more often."



**"You Have Given All to Me."**

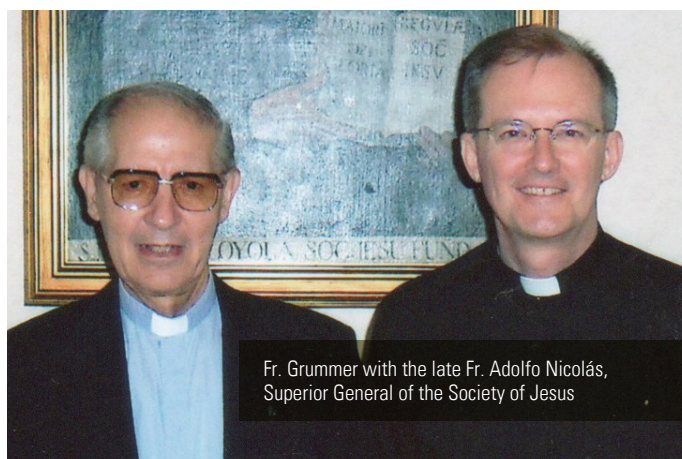
By Fr. James Grummer, SJ

Saint Ignatius of Loyola's phrase from the *Contemplatio ad amorem* sums up my life: "You have given all to me." Awe and amazement fill me as I recall the privileged opportunities that God has continually provided me as I've experienced the breadth and depth of Jesuit life and ministry. I never imagined when I walked through the door of

the novitiate on Finn Street that I would work with so many people in so many places and so many different ways.

Teaching at Marquette University High School, Creighton University, Creighton Prep, and the Gregorian University in Rome has allowed me to serve hundreds of wonderful young people and their families. God showered me with grace as I accompanied retreats in Omaha; Milwaukee; Oshkosh, Wisconsin; Demontreville, Minnesota; Malta; Sri Lanka; and Italy. I have also heard the spirit at work in everyday life as a spiritual director. I also cannot forget the blessings of life as a parish priest not far from my mother's birthplace in Ireland.

Ministry in the province office and at the



Fr. Grummer with the late Fr. Adolfo Nicolás, Superior General of the Society of Jesus



Fr. Grummer (second from left) during his Jesuit formation

General Curia brought me in contact with fantastic Jesuit companions from throughout the U.S. and the world, including places like South Korea, East Africa, and India. Colleagues who embody the traditions of St. Ignatius and the Society of Jesus—whether Jesuits or not—have inspired me unceasingly.

Gifts beyond measure have cascaded over me, insistent as the tide but gentle as a mountain spring, never pausing or abating, always surpassing my fondest dreams.

God has truly given all to me.



Father Joe Kemper, SJ (center, seated), was one of the five Kemper children to enter into religious life.

By Kris Mackey and David Hart

When Philip Kemper emigrated from Wallhausen, Germany, to the United States in the late 1800s, we know that he carried very little materially, but brought along his greatest assets according to his great-nephew Will Kemper. The assets he carried were his strong character, resourcefulness, common sense, and a deep Catholic faith that led to a hopeful and positive attitude. Eventually settling in Dayton, Ohio, with his wife Mary, they raised seven children in their home parish of Emmanuel Catholic Church. Philip opened a religious goods store selling vestments, Bibles, statues, books, and other Catholic materials. His work was aligned with his passion for living a life of faith—and perhaps born from his journey to America which was buoyed by that same faith. What is amazing about this couple is five of their seven children entered religious orders, with three becoming Jesuits. The family’s Catholic faith became the family business.

Between 1894 and 1902, the five young Kempers said goodbye to their first family and invested all of themselves in an exciting new life that held promise for the future. The eldest was Helen, who entered the Poor Sisters of St. Francis at age 20 and became Sr. Mary Alacoque, SPSF. Three of the four brothers joined the Society of Jesus at Florissant, Missouri: Francis “Frank” in 1896, Aloysius “Al” in 1900, and Joseph “Joe” in 1902. Clara joined the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur at their novitiate in Cincinnati, becoming Sr. Mary Kostka, SNDdeN.

All of the Kemper children were quite accomplished and tremendous contributors in their own ways. Sister Mary Kostka was missioned to Japan from the motherhouse in Massachusetts and became a missionary there. She later taught stateside at Trinity College before returning to Japan after the war and became president of the Okayama Seishin Women’s University in Okayama in

western Japan.

Sister Mary Alacoque became provincial of her order, then headquartered in Aachen, Germany, and at one time had four hospitals in the Ohio region under her supervision, including St. Mary’s Hospital in Cincinnati, which was founded in a vacated orphanage to serve the German immigrant population; St. Anthony Hospital in Columbus, Ohio; and St. Elizabeth Hospital in Covington, Kentucky. In 1959, the American province of the congregation separated from it, to become an independent congregation called the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor, now headquartered in Brooklyn, New York.

Father Joseph Kemper, SJ, was a Spanish-speaking missionary in the British Honduras (now Belize) for 44 years. There he taught and was treasurer at St. John’s College, later becoming pastor at three different churches. He was remembered as a generous and kind priest, as well as a great violinist and





A Japanese woman prays at the grave of Sr. Mary Kostka, SNDdeN.

storyteller.

Father Aloysius Kemper, SJ, was a scholar, studying and teaching at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He was also deeply spiritual and a talented retreat master. Besides the many retreats for Jesuits, he ministered to more than a dozen women’s religious orders, to the Franciscan Brothers, and to the Holy Cross Brothers. Father Al was a respected theologian, focused on a body of knowledge known as “dogmatic theology,” and spoke five languages.

Father Francis Kemper, SJ, worked at many schools, including University of Detroit High School and Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland. But he was most known for his work with Jesuits in training at Florissant, Missouri; Milford, Ohio; and West Baden College, Indiana. He also trained diocesan priests at Mundelein, Illinois, and finished his ministry at the Alexian Brothers Novitiate in Gresham, Wisconsin. One of his greatest achievements was the building of the chapel at the novitiate in Florissant. While rector there, Fr. Frank raised the money and helped design and oversee the construction of the chapel. The term then for “fundraiser” was “collector,” and he proved himself worthy of the title. The main building of the novitiate had been built in 1840 from limestone quarried from the banks of the Missouri River, and Fr. Pierre-Jean De Smet, a great builder of Jesuit works, was there at one time. The chapel was a wonderful addition to the campus.

How were these siblings able to live

such holy and giving lives of service so consistently? The support these priests and nuns received from their lay brother and sister, all of their nieces and nephews, their aunts and uncles and cousins, and their parents cannot be understated. Nor can the diverse, rich religious communities whose love enveloped them be overlooked. Such is the joy of religious life—loved by many communities. But the tale of one family leads us to also consider the Kemper family business in a larger context. How do young people gravitate toward their calling? Why did Peter and Jane Fonda become successful in the movie industry? Why is LeBron James’ son Bronny seeking a career in the NBA? How is it that young Richard Daley became a mayor? It is because they had positive examples and mentorship—much like the Kemper children? Such is the way of any family business.

Is it possible for us all—as aunts and uncles, parents, siblings, grandparents, teachers, and friends—to provide the same silent guidance as it relates to a faith-filled life? Perhaps someday faith-filled people or faith leaders will point to one of us and remark, “Her devotion was my inspiration” or “The way he lived his life motivated me to do the same.” We don’t need to run a religious goods store; in fact, we need no words. Maybe we only need to show our faith by the manner in which we live our lives. Maybe we all have the ability to create such a family business. ✠



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



David Hart is the assistant director of events and outreach for the USA Midwest Province Jesuits. He is a 2021 graduate of Loyola University Chicago.

**SAMPLE OF MORE RECENT BIOLOGICAL BROTHERS IN THE SOCIETY:**

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Mike Brennan         | Terry Brennan                               |
| Tad Burch            | Frank Burch                                 |
| Jack Callahan        | Bill Callahan                               |
| Ned Cassem           | John Cassem*                                |
| Frank Chamberlain    | Henry Chamberlain                           |
| James Creighton      | Matthew Creighton                           |
| Walter Farrell       | Jim Farrell                                 |
| Jim Fitzgerald       | Robert Fitzgerald (twins)                   |
| David Gau            | Jim Gau*                                    |
| Bill Gerut           | Bob Gerut                                   |
| Larry Gillick        | Mike Gillick*, Terry Gillick*, Pat Gillick* |
| Gerry Goetz          | Frank Goetz *                               |
| Philip Grib          | Robert Grib                                 |
| George Guenther      | Henry Guenther                              |
| Bob Hart             | Jim Hart, Tom Hart *                        |
| Edmund Hartmann      | Cletus Hartmann                             |
| D. Scott Hendrickson | Daniel S. Hendrickson (twins)               |
| Thomas Hogan         | William Hogan                               |
| Ted Hottinger        | Richard Hottinger                           |
| John Kehres          | Paul Kehres                                 |
| Jim King             | Bill King                                   |
| Peter Klink          | Steve Klink*                                |
| Frank Korth          | Gene Korth                                  |
| Matt Linn            | Dennis Linn *                               |
| Edward Lovely        | Arthur Lovely                               |
| Anthony Mahowald     | Paul Mahowald                               |
| Christopher Manahan  | Tom Manahan                                 |
| John Markoe          | William Markoe                              |
| Clarence McAuliffe   | Harold McAuliffe                            |
| Bill Mehok           | Charles Mehok                               |
| Bill O’Leary         | James O’Leary                               |
| Jerry Porath         | Jim Porath, Tom Porath*                     |
| Peter Price          | Basil Price                                 |
| Trevor Rainwater     | Conan Rainwater                             |
| Roland Reichmuth     | Marion Reichmuth                            |
| Richard Rosenfelder  | Robert Rosenfelder                          |
| Carl Reinert         | Paul Reinert                                |
| Jim Ryan             | George Ryan                                 |
| Charles Scherman     | Thomas Scherman                             |
| Joseph Shinners      | Charles Shinners                            |
| Paul Steinmetz       | Ricardo Steinmetz                           |
| Paul Stockhausen     | Lawrence Stockhausen                        |
| William Sullivan     | Loren Sullivan                              |
| Maurice Van Ackeren  | Gerald Van Ackeren                          |
| Joe Willmes          | Bob Willmes                                 |
| Eugene Zimmerman     | Michael Zimmerman                           |
| Joe Zimmerman        | Bernard Zimmerman                           |

\* Left the Society



Father General Arturo Sosa (fourth from right) met with young Jesuits, including Midwest Jesuit Fr. Michael Rossmann (third from right), to discuss the meaning of the Universal Apostolic Preferences.

# The Ignatian Year: Building on the Past to Shape the Future

By Amy Korpi

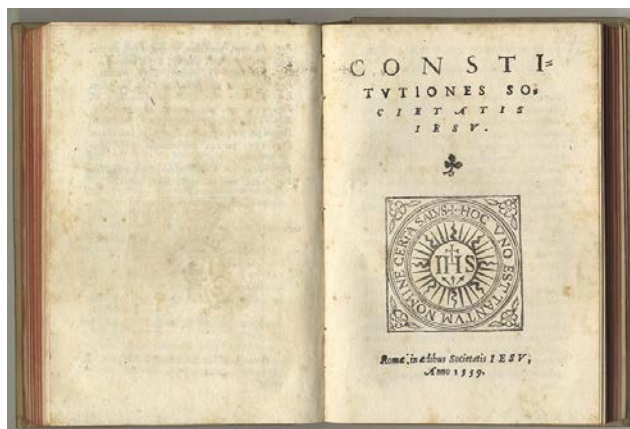
Since the start of the Ignatian Year in May 2021, the Society of Jesus and the global Ignatian family have been celebrating the life and vision of St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits. We have reflected with gratitude, recognized the rich traditions developed over the past 500 years, and begun living out the theme, “to see all things new in Christ.”

Ignatius lived during a time of tremendous change. Innovation and discovery flourished—especially via contemporaries like Copernicus, Magellan, da Vinci, Michelangelo, Cervantes, and more.

Medieval feudalism was yielding to the rise of nations. Geographical horizons were expanding. Modern science was emerging. And the invention of the printing press was making the Bible accessible to ordinary people.

Ignatius was an active participant in this wave of societal transformation. He took advantage of new technology by installing a printing press at the Roman College to keep

textbooks affordable. The first book ever printed in India was actually a catechism by Francis Xavier. Ignatius looked beyond the



traditional boundaries of Europe, sending his companions to the frontiers to serve where the needs were greatest, and he emphasized serving people who were marginalized by the elite of the times.

The person we now know as St. Ignatius was always seeking the *magis*—the more—to discover God’s will, and then he would

work to make a difference in the world.

He developed a framework for a personalized spirituality—notably the Spiritual Exercises—for everyday life and everyday people. This vision of spirituality extended to the companions who joined his order—they needed not meditate, pray, or chant as a group like monastic orders of the time, as Ignatius knew they would be on the move. This alone was a significant innovation.

Yet new Jesuits were prepared extensively beyond the Spiritual Exercises to ensure they were well-equipped for the independent action that would be required of them, as adaptable and mobile servants of God, the Church, and its people. It had taken Ignatius years of trial and error to find his own “way of proceeding,” so he developed a plan for how he believed a Jesuit should be “formed” through a sequential series of studies, contemplations, developmental experiments, and more. This vision of rules and procedures became the Constitutions,

a “manual” that governs the Society and illuminates the Ignatian way.

“At its heart, Jesuit formation is about a way of being in the world. A way of being that takes a lifetime to realize and to live out,” Fr. Raymond Guiao, SJ, president of Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland, has said. “Yes, there is training in critical thinking, leadership skills, and pastoral practice. But becoming a Jesuit is a much bigger project than acquiring important training. It is about being formed. With time and testing, he is formed to be utterly available to serve the mission of the Society, wherever the need is greatest, and however the glory of God may be advanced.”

Certainly, there have been many changes since the time of Ignatius. Mobility and communication alone are leaps and bounds beyond what Ignatius could have imagined. Traveling to an apostolate in another country takes hours or, at most, a few days. Communication to and from superiors has become instantaneous in most cases. There has been an evolution in outreach to people on the margins, vigorous actions against

injustice, and an embrace of other religious traditions.



Throughout all this time, however, the essence of formation has remained constant. Jesuits continue to undergo the same rigorous, extensive process of being formed for their ministry. Yet, in the spirit of Ignatius, Jesuits are always looking for the *magis*—for what might be adjusted to serve current needs even better.

The Ignatian Year—with its theme of conversion that allows us “to see all things new in Christ”—is a time for such a reexamination. This year, Fr. Arturo Sosa, SJ, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, has been meeting with Jesuits in formation (including the Midwest Jesuit Fr. Michael

Rossmann) to discuss their hopes, questions, and more in a program called “Jesuit Futures.”

## Looking Forward

A key topic in this program is how Jesuits will continue to focus on and attend to the Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs) of the Society of Jesus. The UAPs are reference points meant to guide the life and work of the Jesuits. They are designed to emphasize the following:

- To Show the Pathway to God through the Spiritual Exercises and Discernment
- To Walk with the Excluded
- To Journey with Youth Toward a Hope-filled Future
- To Care for Our Common Home

As stated by Fr. Sosa, the Ignatian Year has been an ideal time to deepen our understanding of the UAPs, as they remind us of the daily opportunity to live a transforming experience. As with the Ignatian Year, they are a call to allow the Lord to reveal to us a new interior and apostolic enthusiasm, a new life, and new ways of following Christ.

While the UAPs guide the life and work of all in the Society and the Ignatian family, the Jesuit Futures program looked specifically at what they mean for the lives and missions of Jesuits in formation.

One of the topics noted was how those in formation today are much more diverse than in past years. Father Sosa, himself from Venezuela, pointed out that the formation process and the Society in general are richer thanks to the involvement of many different cultures. And there is much wider territory and more ways to live out the UAPs with Jesuits coming from, and going to, so many regions of the world.

“But the formation process is similar [to the one Ignatius described] because it works!” he said. “Our faces are different, but we are in the same body and have the same mission, even while we use our context, learn from others, teach others, [and] . . .

**“Mediocrity has no place in Ignatius’s world view. It is therefore essential to give young Jesuits a human, spiritual, intellectual, and ecclesial formation as deep, strong, and vibrant as possible to allow each of them to achieve our mission in the world with a proper attitude of service in the Church.”**

— 35th General Congregation of the Society of Jesus, 2008

form a new reality that is an intercultural and intergenerational body . . . following the same Lord.”

Father Sosa also emphasized that formation is especially important to the first UAP. “We have to be trained,” he said. “And the most important training is to live the Spiritual Exercises . . . It is not a kind of knowledge, not a problem of having an academic degree.” Instead, he explained, the Exercises are more than a one-time experience in the novitiate. They are meant to be lived continually and integrated into interactions with others.

And that leads to a natural understanding, said Fr. Sosa, that “We cannot be isolated from what is happening in the world.” Events and circumstances such as the pandemic, wars in Europe and other parts of the world, and other crises must be integrated into living out the UAPs, which are grounded in reality. ✠



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.

# Growing as Players and as People: Coaches Inspire Athletes with Jesuit Values

By Zakaria Morched

“I love failure,” says Marquette University High School’s varsity golf head coach, Brad Niswonger. “I sat down during the parent meeting . . . the first thing out of my mouth was ‘I can’t wait until we lose, because that’s when the real learning begins.’”

Niswonger has coached golf at the Milwaukee high school since 2011, and his team has won Wisconsin’s state team golf championship three out of the past five years. During his tenure as coach, the team has placed in the top five on eight occasions. One could argue that Niswonger knows victory more than he knows failure.

But the concept of failure is interwoven with Jesuit identity. As St. Ignatius of Loyola relished the splendors of his privileged

upbringing, it’s evident that success without failure breeds arrogance. After sustaining an injury at the battle of Pamplona, Ignatius was humbled enough to pursue his vocation. The pressure of adversity created the diamond of success.

“You only learn from failure; very few things are learned from success,” says Niswonger. “This is what we’re all trying to do: teach kids in sports how to put themselves under pressure. If you fail, it doesn’t mean you lose, it means you learn.”

Taking into account a global pandemic and academic, social, and emotional pressures, student-athletes are challenged in countless ways. But if the player is challenged, the coach is as well.

For Matthew Lewis, head football coach at University of Detroit Jesuit High School, one of his biggest challenges as a coach is helping his players overcome distractions. “Our kids are pulled in so many directions,” he says.

Despite the commitment that any football team demands, Lewis makes a point to remind his team to enjoy the sport; as he says, “This is fun. This is an opportunity to be with 50 of your best buddies. Have fun while we’re doing this.”

Niswonger notes similar challenges, saying, “It’s so easy to go to the negative . . . Your mind is a terrible thing.” He explains, “The challenge for a coach is to fight the easy path to negative responses and actually provide



Audra Kielbowicz coaches the varsity girls’ lacrosse team at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago.

a positive thing that they can use and build themselves up with.”

Coaches at Jesuit institutions have a duty to inspire identity and confidence in young men and women, especially in the face of adversity. They do not work for accolades; they work for the betterment of the student-athletes.

Audra Kielbowicz, who coaches varsity girls’ lacrosse at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago, explains, “Now more than ever, it’s nice to be able to take these girls and give them a safe place to be who they are and not only grow as players but grow as people.”

Thankfully, these coaches are equipped with unique institutional values to aid students as they navigate adversity.

Kielbowicz says, “It’s the sense of community. You feel a lot of love for the school . . . and I think a lot of that speaks to it being a Jesuit school and the fact that the school teaches these kids about faith, whatever [their] faith may be.” ✝



With Brad Niswonger as coach, the Marquette University High School varsity golf team has won the state championship three out of the past five years.



Zakaria Morched is a 2022 graduate of Loyola University Chicago and a former intern for the USA Midwest Province Jesuits. Morched coached freshman lacrosse at Saint Ignatius College Prep from 2020 to 2022.



Nicholas Visser at his confirmation during high school

# In All Things to Love and To Serve

By Nicholas Visser

“*En todo amar y servir.*” The faded adage is still partially legible in big cartoon letters on the back of what is now an old gym shirt. My wife insists that I retire this and many other worn themed shirts from high school, perhaps turning them into a graveyard in the form of a T-shirt quilt. I hold on to the shirts for the time being, though, as I love to look back on each school year’s theme—taken from the writings of St. Ignatius—and be drawn to reflect on the words. Making a clumsy translation after four years of Spanish classes (and eight years without practice), I ponder the phrase for a moment: “In all things to love and to serve.” It might seem borderline foolish to paste this phrase to the back of one thousand adolescent boys. In all things? Does that mean no more new boat shoes? But, what on the surface could be misconstrued as a short-term objective, actually expresses a lifelong goal. And for those familiar with Jesuit education, this goal is slightly less unimaginable.

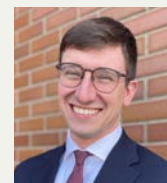
While popular models of education focus on depth of study, emphasizing “all things”

requires breadth. This necessity is well-described in the “graduate-at-graduation,” an ideal in Jesuit secondary schools that sets the standard for what the student should become by engaging in their educational experience: open to growth, intellectually competent, religious, loving, and committed to justice. The ideal was hardly pandering to parents with lofty goals for their children; each of these principles was deeply rooted in my high school experience.

The seeds of love and commitment to justice were planted when I regularly spent time after school helping children in underserved schools in Milwaukee. Religious and open to growth began in the silence of every afternoon Examen and the rich encounters with the sacraments. Sown amongst all of these was the intellectual competence required to please outstanding teachers. Looking back at these experiences brings me great gratitude, but what truly inspires me is how each principle has bloomed into a thread of further development in my life. Small ways of service learning in high

school led to involvement in a homeless outreach program and home visits with the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Learning what faith in Christ meant as a teenager guided me to a deep relationship with God and my parish. Intellectual fundamentals laid the foundation for my lifelong learning in the medical field.

When that old shirt goes into the hamper at the end of the night, likely one shade more worn than hours before, gratitude fills my tired body. Gratitude for the fantastic, holistic education I received. Gratitude for the amazing memories and friends made along the way. And I am most grateful that, in continuing to embrace the principles of the “Grad-at-Grad” (eight years hence), I can hope for continued growth towards “*en todo amar y servir.*” ✠



Nicholas Visser is a 2014 graduate of Marquette University High School and a 2018 graduate of the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He is currently pursuing his MD at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Alumni and supporters pose with Loyola High School students at the scholarship announcement ceremony.



By Nora Dabrowski

High school boys are often told to “quiet down.” But some young men need help finding their voices during those high school years.

Young men at Loyola High School in Detroit are finding, and using, their voices to convey their passion, their intellect, and their dreams.

Loyola’s young men are raising their voices in victory as champion artists and orators in the Pistons Black History Month Scholarship event, including top prizes in art and poetry slam/spoken word.

Loyola High School students have a tradition of earning scholarships and opportunities because of their many talents and unique voices.

This year, Loyola High School has launched a new opportunity for orators—the Loyola Frederick Douglass North Star Scholarship Program. The scholarship is named after the former slave who went on to become a great author, editor, orator, and abolitionist hero and the newspaper he founded, *The North Star*. This scholarship will close the gap in supporting a Loyola High School student, and

it has the potential to make all the difference in a young man’s future.

Frederick Douglass Scholars will be recommended by Loyola faculty in their sophomore year. Candidates must reflect the zeal of Frederick Douglass in his lifelong fight for the abolition of slavery, his dedication to the betterment of all American citizens, and his skill as an author and orator. Scholars will complete a special course of study on the life

**IT IS EASIER TO BUILD STRONG CHILDREN THAN TO REPAIR BROKEN MEN.**

— Frederick Douglass

of Frederick Douglass and his causes in their junior year. As a senior, each student will research and write a speech to be delivered to the Loyola Black Business Leader Advisory Group Breakfast on February 14, Frederick Douglass Day.

The cost per student at Loyola High School Detroit is \$20,000 annually, but students pay no more than \$4,300 annually. Loyola families



pay what they can afford, which averages to about \$1,200 per student.

The Frederick Douglass North Star Scholarship program has been launched by a donation from a dedicated history buff who included with the financial gift an artifact of Frederick Douglass’s—a signed land contract. Loyola High School is honored and inspired by the young men who raise their voices. ✝



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.



Tony Schad (left) with former St. Xavier High School teacher Marge Schoettmer and advancement colleague Ralph Nardini

# The Bridge to Make a Difference

By Maura Graham

The Society of Jesus has been renowned in education for centuries, with the first Jesuit schools opening in the late 1540s. But education doesn't come without its expenses. Who supports this endeavor? Advancement teams help make Jesuit education accessible to all by building networks with donors.

For many, institutional advancement is more than a job, but rather a lifetime calling. Ed Evert, a graduate of Chicago's Saint Ignatius College Prep, returned to Ignatius to serve in advancement for over 23 years. Days before his passing this January, Evert was still meeting with constituents and friends of the school. His last meeting was with fellow alum Al Bartkus. They did not know each other during their time at Ignatius, but met at a golf fundraiser and began a decades-long friendship. During their final meeting, Bartkus says that Evert was "as passionate and lively an advocate for their alma mater as ever."

Alumni often choose to give back, and many donors to Jesuit works hope to honor the people who made sacrifices on their behalf. Tony Schad, senior director of advancement at St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati, has countless stories of these alumni. He says, "We've got an alum in Louisville, whose father passed when he was here. He was going to have to transfer because his mom couldn't

afford to send him to St. X. And the president at the time went to him and said 'No, we're going to make sure you'll graduate.'"

"Years down the line, he has the wherewithal to come back and say, 'I want to pay you for what the Jesuits did for me back then, by giving back the full year's tuition for some young man.' When he graduated the Jesuits probably had to cover like \$400. Now our tuition is more than \$16,000. And he wrote us a check for \$16,000. Because of how important it was to him to stay at St. X, what it did for him down the road."

Not every school can rely on a large base of generous alumni, though. In recent decades, Jesuits have opened schools serving students from families of modest economic means, which offer a quality education while charging little to no tuition. Bill McGrail, director of development at Detroit's Loyola High School, explains that he must find people like himself, who are "in the mission for the mission."

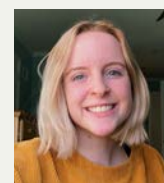
Shannon Watry, senior director of advancement at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Milwaukee, finds that different parts of the mission inspire their partners, ranging from the corporate work study program to the holistic approach of Jesuit education. "They come to us from all different walks of life, but all our partners are committed to engaging



Shannon Watry

with our future."

"[Advancement] really is the link between our larger community and achieving their goals through the next generation of students. Whether that's through their emphasis or passion for work, for faith, for service for those in need. My job is really the bridge between individuals who want to make a difference in the world, and how to make that difference." ✝



Maura Graham is a former intern for the USA Midwest Province Jesuits and a 2022 graduate of Loyola University Chicago.

# Michigan Golf, **A Touch of Paris**

Shepherd's Hollow Golf Club at the Midwest Jesuits Colombiere Center ushers in an inspired events venue

By Michael Austin

The Station at Shepherd's Hollow, a golf course on the land surrounding the Colombiere Center, is designed to incorporate the aesthetic of a 19th-century Paris train station.



In 2005, as Mike Bylen waited for a train in a Paris station, something about the building struck him. It wasn't just the sunlight streaming through the enormous windows and falling on the teeming crowd of travelers. It wasn't the elegance of the 19th-century iron arches or the other steel and glass urban design elements. It was the way it all tied together, in a seemingly expanding space. He thought, "I'm going to bring this feeling back to Shepherd's Hollow."

If you golf, you probably know that Shepherd's Hollow Golf Club, which Bylen owns, is regarded as one of the finest public courses in Michigan and, by extension, the United States. The 27-hole course curves, twists, climbs, and dips through the rolling, wooded land surrounding Colombiere Center, a residential health care facility for senior and infirm Jesuits of the Midwest Province.

When Bylen visited Paris, his renowned golf course didn't have a befitting banquet space. But in October 2020, Bylen evened that score by opening The Station at Shepherd's Hollow.

"I have wanted to build this building for 20 years now," says Bylen, who incorporated elements from the fabled Paris depot in its design. "It wasn't until the fall of 2017 that I was able to get the necessary approvals from my partners and the bank."

Since The Station's opening, it has hosted many weddings—its intended purpose—and Bylen expects to eventually host corporate gatherings, fundraisers, and golf outings in the 6,000-square-foot space. He also looks forward to one day hosting a function for the Jesuit community. Situated about 30 miles north of Detroit, Shepherd's Hollow is studded with pine trees (planted decades ago by Jesuits) and four varieties of oak on elevations spanning 160 feet. The Station is situated near the course's lake and 18th hole.

The whole idea, Bylen says, was to bring the outdoors inside via soaring windows and mullioned glass doors, while also suggesting the industrial aesthetic of a 19th-century European train station. To that end, the building incorporates custom Belle Epoque



John O'Donnell practices golf with his son.

light fixtures, a black and white marble floor, gas lanterns on the outside terrace and matching electric lanterns inside, steel columns, I-beams, exposed trusses, and a monitor roof.

"Dave Peterhans and I worked together to infuse the critical design elements into the building," Bylen says. "Together it was our vision to construct an urban building in a wooded setting. We did 98% of the design work. We hired an architect to do the construction drawings, but the nitty-gritty detail was all done by Dave and myself."

It's not easy to upstage the 7,236-yard, par 72 layout at Shepherd's Hollow, but somehow, the Station has a way of drawing the eye. Much like what Bylen saw in that Paris station years ago, it's not one thing that makes The Station special—it's everything working together. The facility is a focal point at Shepherd's Hollow, as Bylen hoped it would be, a glowing glass and steel oasis that stands in harmony with its natural surroundings—the placid water, the towering pines. ❖



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*.

## Jesuit golf connections, Jesuit perspective

It's easy to find golf folks with Jesuit connections, with PGA Tour players such as Jordan Spieth (Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas) and Scott Gutschewski (Creighton University) and LPGA Tour players Brittany Johnston and Kathleen Ekey (both Walsh Jesuit High School), as well as golf-adjacent business owners such as John O'Donnell (Loyola Academy) and Mike Keiser (Georgetown University) and his sons Michael (Saint Ignatius College Prep) and Chris (Ignatius and Georgetown) Keiser.

O'Donnell, a 1983 graduate of Loyola Academy, founded the Johnnie-O clothing brand in 2005. A scratch player for decades now, O'Donnell is also teaching his son Jack the game—as his own father taught him.

Lessons that O'Donnell learned at Loyola Academy often come in handy. "They've kept me grounded, a little more conscientious about how I treat people," he says. "They've also helped me maintain priorities and understand what's important in life. It's about perspective."

Many golfers, especially those who've duffed a drive or found themselves standing over a two-foot putt to make bogey, have a tendency to lose their perspective, even if only for a moment. O'Donnell says he's no different, but he reminds himself of the big picture. "I want to win. But sometimes I have to take a step back, because when all the smoke clears, it's a game. That's where that Loyola perspective comes into play."

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

### Fr. Terrence M. Brennan, SJ

November 10, 1946 – February 14, 2022

*“Terry was himself a prayer for generosity, the gift of himself as blessing for those who needed to be blessed.”*



Associate pastor and speech, English, and French teacher at St. Francis

Mission on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota; associate pastor at Ss. Peter and Paul Jesuit Church in Detroit; minister at the Jesuit Novitiate of St. Alberto Hurtado in St. Paul, Minn.; speech and drama teacher at Red Cloud Indian School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota; French and theology teacher at Creighton Prep in Omaha; Spanish and theology teacher at Marquette University High School in Milwaukee; teacher and minister at Nativity Jesuit Academy in Milwaukee; minister at the St. Camillus Jesuit Community in Wauwatosa, Wisc.

### Br. Michael R. Wilmot, SJ

October 5, 1940 – February 24, 2022

*“Mike has been a ‘poster-man’ for the stature of the vocation of the Jesuit brothers and the Society of Jesus within the Catholic and secular world.”*



Dean of students, English and

Theology teacher, assistant supervisor of buildings and grounds, and assistant football and basketball coach at Creighton Prep in Omaha; assistant basketball coach at Peru State College in Peru, Neb.; ministry with the Jesuit Refugee Service in northern Uganda; helped build Jesuit Academy and founded Gesu Housing in Omaha.

### Fr. Robert L. Faricy, SJ

August 29, 1926 – March 4, 2022

*“Bob lived his life with passion and a certain exuberance. He was a man of strong convictions, and he was action-oriented and always on the move.”*



Math teacher at Marquette University High School in Milwaukee; theologian and professor at The Catholic University in Washington, D.C.; professor emeritus of spiritual theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome; worldwide ministry of lectures and workshops in spirituality and charismatic renewal; writer and researcher in the Marquette University Jesuit Community in Milwaukee.

### Fr. James K. Serrick, SJ

April 22, 1931 – May 6, 2022

*“Jim loved Christ and the Society of Jesus. He was passionate about the liturgy and music.”*



Latin teacher at St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati; socius to the master of novices and community service at Colombiere Center in Clarkston, Mich.; liturgy teacher at the Jesuit School of Theology in Chicago; associate pastor and pastor of Gesu Parish in Detroit; pastor of Detroit Urban Cluster; retreat director, superior of Jesuit community, and director of the retreat house at Manresa Jesuit Retreat House in Bloomfield Hills, Mich.; superior of Jesuit communities at Gesu Rectory and St. Mary’s Jesuit Residence in Detroit; provincial assistant for pastoral minister for the former Detroit Province and former Chicago-Detroit Province.



**Father Lorn Snow, SJ**, will serve as assisting priest at Gesu Church in Detroit.



**Father Ben Osborne, SJ**, has been named pastor of Church of the Gesu in Milwaukee.

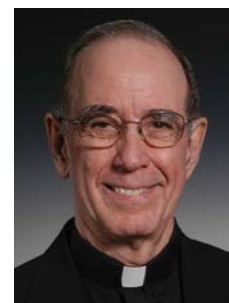


**Father Paul Shelton, SJ**, has been named provincial assistant for vocations.

### Fr. George E. Von Kaenel, SJ

October 15, 1927 – May 19, 2022

*“George was a welcoming presence that opened people to the Lord and to the Gospel.”*



English, Latin, and speech teacher and assistant director of athletics at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland; theology professor at Xavier University in Cincinnati; spiritual director at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Ill.; director of campus ministry and assistant to the president at Loyola University Chicago; director of adult Catholic education for the Archdiocese of Denver; producer, general manager, and executive director at Sacred Heart Radio and Television in St. Louis; codirector of campus ministry at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minn.; chaplain at St. Joseph Hospital in Omaha; provincial assistant for social and international ministries for the former Chicago Province; pastoral ministry at St. John the Baptist Church in Buffalo, Wy., and St. Louis Church in Glenrock, Wy.; pastoral prison ministry in Lexington, Kentucky.

V. Rev. Karl Kiser, SJ  
PROVINCIAL

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COMMUNICATIONS & PROVINCIAL ASSISTANT

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Nancy Hrdlicka; Dave McNulty;  
Br. John Moriconi, SJ; John Sealey;  
Becky Sindelar

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## Introducing Andrew McKernin

The USA Midwest Province Jesuits are pleased to welcome Andrew McKernin as the newest gift officer. McKernin comes to the Jesuits from Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago, where he managed their volunteer relations department and numerous client services. He highly values his Jesuit education, having received his undergraduate degree from Fordham University, and he looks forward to the opportunity to contributing to the USA Midwest Province Jesuits' mission.



## Fr. Jake Martin's JFAN Events Attract Sold-Out Crowds

Comedian-turned-Jesuit Fr. Jake Martin, SJ, has been the presenter at Jesuit Friends and Alumni Network (JFAN) events in three midwestern cities recently, with more to come. In "A Jesuit Walks into a Bar," Fr. Martin has performed "sit-down" comedy in front of sold-out crowds. With excitement, candor, and humor, Fr. Martin recalls his faith journey, from a cradle Catholic with devout grandparents to a non-religious comedian to being ordained as a Jesuit priest. Father Martin discusses the difference in the joy that he felt when he was working in comedy versus when he started to consider religious life. Disillusioned by the fleeting nature of success that comes with a career on the stage, Fr. Martin found that the joys and comfort of religious life last longer and come with greater satisfaction.

## Save the Date: First Vows 2022

This year, five Midwest Jesuits will pronounce first vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience on August 13 at Saint Thomas More Catholic Community in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The Mass will begin at 9:00 a.m. CDT and livestream information will be available at

**[JesuitsMidwest.org/Vows2022](https://JesuitsMidwest.org/Vows2022)**



**Brennan Dour, SJ**



**Patrick Fenner, SJ**



**Austin Kleman, SJ**



**Brian Martindale, SJ**



**Kyle Vieth, SJ**

## World Youth Day 2023

Fifty students from five Midwest Jesuit universities will be journeying to Portugal next summer to meet the pope and participate in service initiatives with other young people from around the Jesuit world. If you're interested in making a contribution to help send these students to Portugal, please email Fr. Paul Shelton, SJ, at [UMIVocations@jesuits.org](mailto:UMIVocations@jesuits.org).

