

VIANNEY NEWS

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY COLLEGE SEMINARY
NOVEMBER 2022



HELPING MEN BECOME FATHERS

How the structure at college seminary prepares young men for their vocation.

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Bringing Out the Best

Dear friends and patrons,

I've been privileged to serve as chaplain for the University of St. Thomas football team for just over a year. Before the home games, I've been with the team as they make final preparations before they enter the field.

There's a sign that hangs at the entrance to their locker room, and it captures a kindred spirit that the seminary shares with the football team. It reads something like: "If you do not bring your best, allow me to bring it out in you. If you are not willing to do so, then do not enter these doors." This message reminds me men want to be challenged and to live for a greater purpose. And that they cannot do this on their own.

In the same way, when a man enters through the doors of college seminary, he wants to bring his best and offer God his "first fruits." The demands of seminary life are such that he realizes very quickly he cannot do this on his own. He needs the strength and support that comes from God through a vibrant community life.

As rector, it is my responsibility and joy to help create an environment that will bring out the very best in these men, one that will allow God to take them beyond themselves. I see it happening every day in the silent, quiet ways they are growing in fidelity, sturdiness, and holiness.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our mission. We cannot do this on our own. Your generosity inspires our formation team to bring our best.

May God bless you with His peace.

Coraggio!

Fr. Jonathan Kelly
Rector, Saint John Vianney College Seminary

SJV welcomes Father Norfolk to its formation team

Father Jeffrey Norfolk, a priest of the Diocese of Sioux Falls, joined Saint John Vianney College Seminary as a formation adviser at the start of the 2022-23 academic year. The role involves accompanying and mentoring seminarians through their journey of discernment and growth in discipleship.

Originally from Mitchell, South Dakota, Norfolk was ordained to the priesthood in 2009. He spent four years as an associate pastor while also serving in chaplaincy at Northern State University, the University of South Dakota, area hospitals, prisons and jails. He most recently worked as parochial vicar at St. Joseph Cathedral in Sioux Falls.

“I’m very eager to join the staff and men in formation at SJV,” Norfolk said. “My time in seminary was the most important human formation I received in my life. I hope to help the men be formed in both their human and spiritual formation and to seek their help in drawing me closer to Christ.”



Fr. Jeffrey Norfolk



Fr. Gregory Alberts,
Diocese of Joliet

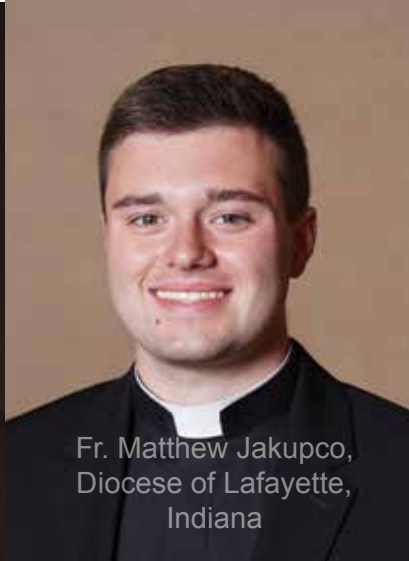
Congrats to Our
SJV Alumni
Ordination Class of 2022



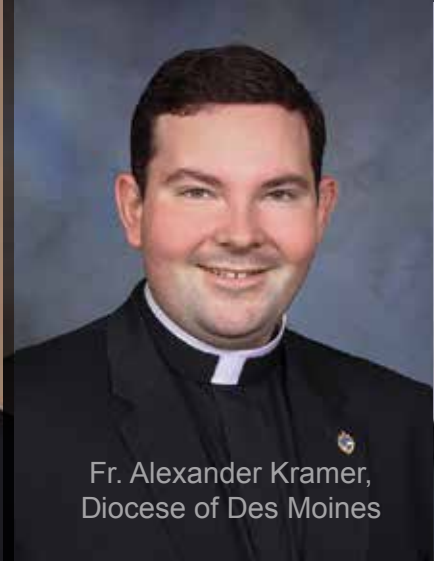
Fr. Joshua Bot,
Diocese of New Ulm



Fr. Nathan Hansen,
Diocese of New Ulm



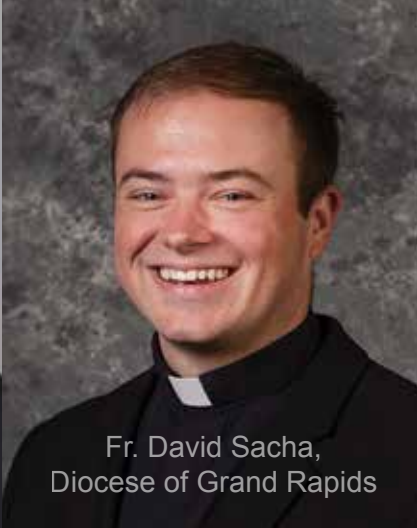
Fr. Matthew Jakupco,
Diocese of Lafayette,
Indiana



Fr. Alexander Kramer,
Diocese of Des Moines



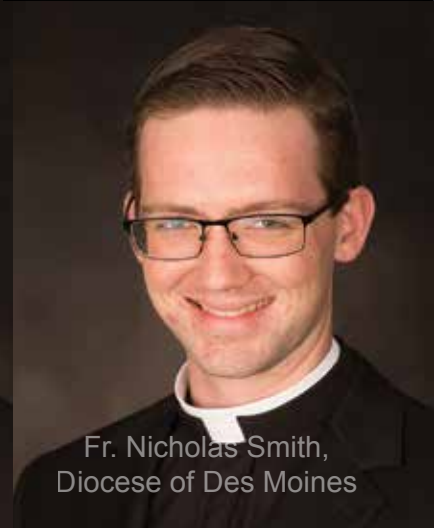
Fr. Logan Obrigewitch,
Diocese of Bismarck



Fr. David Sacha,
Diocese of Grand Rapids



Fr. Zachary Schaeftbauer,
Diocese of Sioux Falls

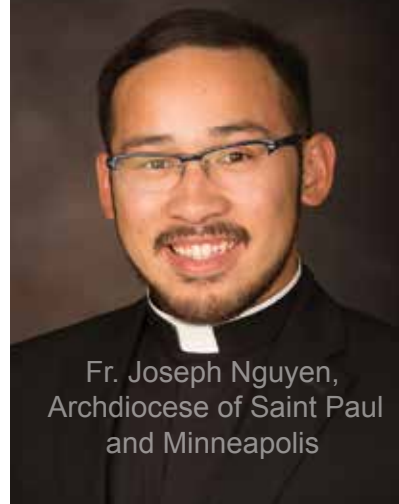


Fr. Nicholas Smith,
Diocese of Des Moines

18 Saint John Vianney College Seminary alumni enter priesthood

Eighteen men who graduated from St. John Vianney College Seminary were ordained to the priesthood this summer.

SJV's class of 2018 includes ten different dioceses from around the Upper Midwest; they completed their major seminary studies at various seminaries in the United States and Rome.



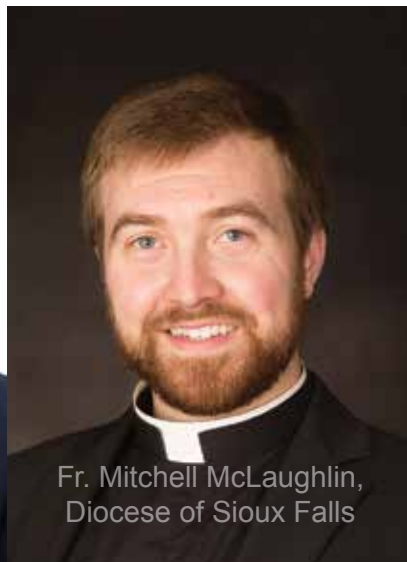
Fr. Joseph Nguyen,
Archdiocese of Saint Paul
and Minneapolis



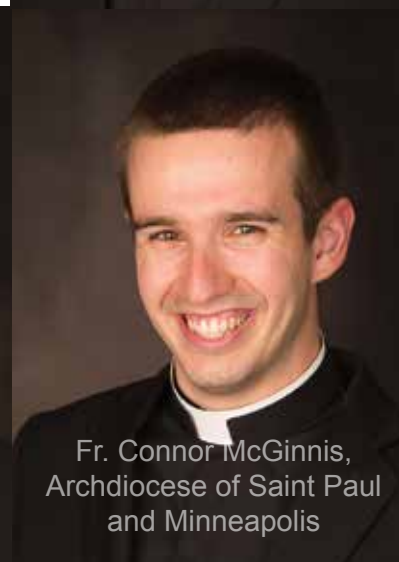
Fr. Thomas Logue,
Diocese of Joliet



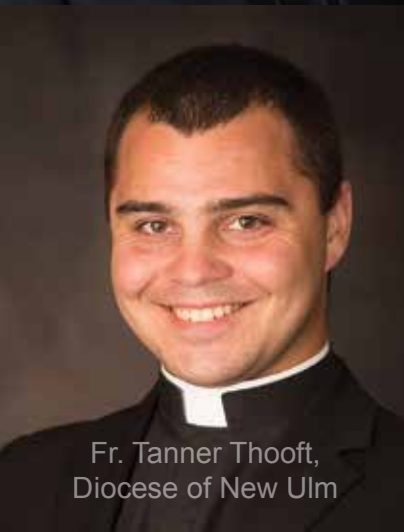
Fr. Peter Ludwig,
Diocese of Lansing



Fr. Mitchell McLaughlin,
Diocese of Sioux Falls



Fr. Connor McGinnis,
Archdiocese of Saint Paul
and Minneapolis



Fr. Tanner Thooft,
Diocese of New Ulm



Fr. John Utecht,
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and
Minneapolis



Fr. Benjamin Wanner,
Diocese of Bismarck



Fr. Steven Weller,
Diocese of La Crosse



Help with the transition into seminary life comes from upperclassmen who went through the same change not so long ago.

'A place of deep community'

Upperclassman leadership is essential to seminary formation

Caleb Kosch admits to feeling more than a little overwhelmed during his first few days at Saint John Vianney College Seminary.

Here's your hour-by-hour schedule, known in the seminary world as an horarium (translated "schedule," inspired by St. Benedict and the way he and his monks ordered their lives). Here's your dorm – don't close the door unless you're changing or sleeping. Here's your flip phone; it makes calls, sends and receives texts, has a map app and plays music. That's it.

Yes, entering a countercultural existence can come with some culture shock. But the seminary is structured in such a way that help with the transition comes from fellow seminarians who went through the same process not so long ago.

"The first guys you start to meet when you arrive are the seniors, which I feel like is the opposite in most scenarios," said Kosch, now a senior from the Archdiocese of Omaha.

"They actually invested their time into us, hearing our stories and asking how we're doing.

"It was a joy to have them look out for us."

Leadership of the first follower

Today, that's Kosch's job. As one of three residential assistants – yep, RA, who has been chosen by his peers, and a priest – his final year of discernment at college seminary includes leading a floor of fellow young men discerning the priesthood.

Each of the seminary's floors has an RA and a priest formation adviser. The RAs oversee a group of "trainers," who are in charge of 4-5 "new men" throughout the year.

The older men learn how to become servant leaders by developing relationships and showing the youngsters the ropes. The freshmen and other newcomers get the lay of the land not just from those at the top of the organizational chart, but from their fellow seminarians.

All of our seniors exercise leadership," SJV Rector Fr. Jonathan Kelly said. "Some by being RAs, some through other leadership positions, and others by supporting their decisions. It is a principle called the 'leadership of the first follower.' This kind of support from your peers increases confidence and brings out your best. It also leads to greater unity as the whole is always greater than the sum of its parts.

One in three seminarians at SJV go on to become Catholic priests. Many more become husbands, fathers and workers. All of them, in some way, will be expected to lead.

"It will prepare them," Kelly said. "Their time is not their own."

Each floor meets once a week, and each trainer meets with his group separately once or twice a week through Thanksgiving. The floors have their own periodic outings – a trip to a local state park for a hike or an evening out bowling – and often compete against each other in recreational sports.

The seminary's "open door policy" ensures plenty of open, honest dialogue – from the necessary fraternal correction of upperclassmen to deep conversations about vocation and discernment.

"It's a really cool atmosphere," said senior Marty Longsdorf, another RA who comes from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. "There's been a couple of really awesome conversations I've had with guys on the floor

continued on next page



... there's a couple of guys that you're able to see that they need something and check in with them and even pray with them, too; that has been super fruitful."

Balance and respect

Of course, this is still a dorm full of 18-22-year-old men. The seriousness of formation, discernment, and intense philosophical study are balanced with good, old-fashioned fun.

"Yeah," Kosch smiled. "It's pretty much a college dorm floor – guys being a little chaotic."

"But it's also a place of deep community."

It's against this backdrop, Kelly says, that men are able to become true disciples. The roadmap laid out in Catholic seminary

formation calls for a man to grow from self-awareness to self-possession to self-gift.

That's the definition of "leadership" SJV seeks to instill in its future priests, husbands, fathers and single laymen.

"I think the buy-in and the leadership of the older upperclassmen and their willingness to follow it is what inspires the younger men," Kelly said. "The force of a good example ... is important in any community. And one of my favorite definitions of authority is 'if someone's willing to do what you ask of them, for no other reason than you asked him to do it.' That's the kind of authority that they're exercising -- not because they're going to punish them, but just because they asked him to do it."

"That's respect."

Meet the men



John Kleis IV

Home Diocese:
Saint Paul and
Minneapolis

Favorite part of the seminary: "The fraternity, the way that the brothers are genuinely attentive to each other's spiritual growth. We're all on the same team striving for the same goal, holiness. Different backgrounds and personality types come together in our love for Christ."

Favorite saint: "Saint Moses the Black, whose life is a testament that sainthood comes slowly, like the night giving way to the day."



David Shamblin

Home Diocese:
Grand Rapids

Favorite part of the seminary: "The brotherhood and fraternity."

Favorite Bible verse: "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." – Jeremiah 29:11

Fun facts: Shamblin served as the color analyst for his high school's hockey team broadcast and the play-by-play broadcaster for the baseball team.



Dominic Romportl

Home Diocese:
Saint Paul and
Minneapolis

Favorite part of the seminary: "The culture for growth, especially with the guys in the fraternity and with the priests in formation."

Favorite saint: St. Augustine

Fun fact: Romportl attended both a public and a Catholic high school.



Dericgladio Shammi

Home Diocese:
St. Thomas Syro-
Malabar Catholic
Diocese of Chicago

Favorite part of the seminary: "The structured life that is offered to the seminarians."

Favorite Bible verse: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done to me according to thy word." – Luke 1:38

Fun fact: Shammi is an Eastern Rite Catholic.

News bites

Stories and updates from around the SJV community

In September, SJV Rector **Fr. Jonathan Kelly** was elected **President of the National Association of College Seminaries (NACS)**. He will represent the Association to the Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations Committee (CCLV) of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The bishops of the United States have issued a new Program of Priestly Formation which anticipates a **propaedeutic stage** of formation for all seminarians (a time of discernment and preparation for further seminary studies). In consultation with its sending dioceses, SJV has developed a pilot program for the propaedeutic stage which will launch this spring. Kelly looks forward to working with the rectors of other college seminaries across the country as they develop best practices for the propaedeutic stage of formation.

SJV welcomed **36 new men** from 16 (arch) dioceses to campus this fall. The group includes two dioceses that are new or returning to the seminary: Gaylord, Michigan and Green Bay, Wisconsin.

The 18th annual **Vianney Cup** golf tournament took place Sept. 19; SJV's generous benefactors contributed more than \$180,000 while enjoying a beautiful day at Midland Hills Country Club in Roseville, Minnesota.

Fall means **Football**. SJV won the 22nd Annual Rector's bowl against the Saint Paul Seminary in a riveting game that had tremendous athleticism and even better sportsmanship. SJV has kept the trophy since 2019. Mason Abbott, from the Diocese of Lansing, serves as foreman of Caruso's Crew.

Each academic year is also marked by a series of **retreats** for SJV seminarians. The seniors went to a local Boy Scout camp and received talks on prayer and leadership. They also mentored the new men at the adjacent Dunrovin Retreat Center. Second- and third-year men had separate silent retreats. "My time spent in silence and contemplative prayer was nothing short of life-changing," Andrew Glotzbach of the Diocese of Kalamazoo said. "I not only learned more deeply of Jesus' own desire to be with me, but profoundly experienced it in the time I spent with Him in prayer."

Seven men made the trip to **Rome** to spend the fall semester in the Eternal City. SJV is the only college seminary to offer a semester in Rome.

SJV is pleased to welcome two **new bishops** to the seminary family. Bishop Chad Zielinski was installed as bishop of the Diocese of New Ulm on Sept. 27, and Bishop Joy Alappat's installation as bishop of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church in the United States took place Oct. 1.



Caruso's Crew



Bishop Joy Alappat



Bishop Chad Zielinski



Semester in Rome



Rectors' Bowl



Vianney Cup

Helping men become fathers

SJV alumnus and Virtuous Business Leader help men walk through unplanned pregnancies

“I’m terrified to hold a baby.”

A gentleman told Saint John Vianney College Seminary alumnus Luke Spehar this as they sat down at Pregnancy Choices pregnancy resource center in Apple Valley, Minnesota. The man’s wife was pregnant, and he was preparing to become a father.

The fragility and preciousness of a small child caused him to panic.

Spehar took his concerns seriously, providing resources and life coaching - not only on how to hold a baby, but how to be a good father in general. After multiple sessions, the client felt equipped and confident. As it turns out, it was necessary.

Following the delivery of his first child, his wife had to receive emergency medical attention for multiple hours.

“I immediately picked up my baby,” he told Spehar. “I knew I was good from then on.”

It’s moments like these that mean the most to Spehar, now married with four kids. In addition to his career as a musician, Spehar is employed as a certified life coach and fatherhood program manager for men facing unexpected pregnancies.

Of course, women facing these types of situations need support and care. But so do men.

It was seven years ago when Spehar held his first child, Jane. That spurred his interest in pro-life causes.

“The issue of abortion became personal to me,” Spehar said.

In a search for the root causes of what leads people to abortion, Spehar visited Pregnancy Choices.

When he asked what he could do to help during the visit, a worker responded, “We really need people to walk with the men who come through our doors.”



Luke Spehar

Up for the challenge, Spehar started calling other pregnancy resource centers around the country to learn what a men’s support program would look like. He found very little information. In fact, no center he called had any sort of formal support for men involved in an unexpected pregnancy.

“We had to start blazing our own trail,” Spehar said.

But it wasn't without some help. Ferdinand Uy from All Saints Parish in Lakeville, Minnesota joined the Pregnancy Choices team in 2018 as another certified life coach to serve men. And two years later, Tim Rethlake, a successful businessman and participant in SJV's Virtuous Business Leaders program, learned about what Spehar was doing and became inspired.

"I wanted to get involved," Rethlake said. "There are always three people in a pregnancy: the mother, the baby and the father."

Today, it's known as "The Good Father Program." With four coaches across two different centers, the program does what its name says: it supports and equips men to be good fathers.

"It's about meeting a guy right at the decision point and providing him with a space to be heard," Spehar said.

Across eight different sessions, a man who opts into the program is free to raise any concerns or questions with his coach. It could be his career, a difficult romantic relationship, fear of bringing a child into the world, or how a child will change his social life.

"We see a need to support men and not just for the hope they choose life, but also simply because they are humans navigating a difficult decision," Spehar said. "We're there to walk with him. We're with you."

One client's fear was not having a stable enough career to support his child. Luke asked him, "What type of job are you interested in?"

"Well, I've always wanted to be a fireman."

"What's holding you back?" Spehar asked.

"I don't know."

At his final session, the same client came back with some news: he had officially applied for the Saint Paul (Minnesota) Fire Department.

"The men are often forgotten in the process of an unexpected pregnancy," Spehar said, "but their support and buy-in to choose life and take on the role of fatherhood is crucial."

The program first launched at Pregnancy Choices in Apple Valley. It has now expanded to Guiding Star Wakota in West Saint Paul.

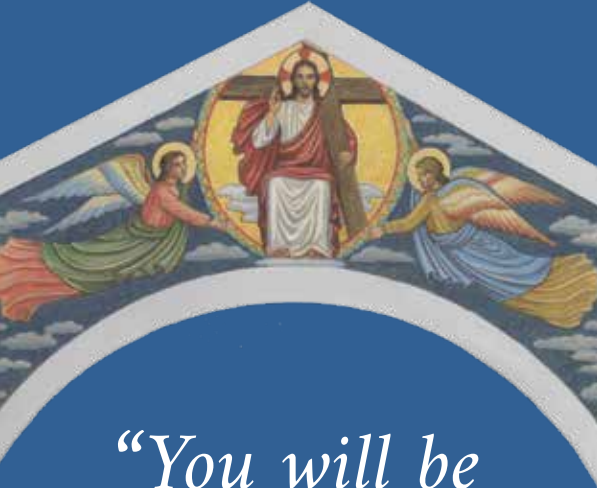
SJV's formation has had a large impact on both Spehar and Rethlake.



"It's people like Tim Rethlake who would come speak to us at SJV and show me what it looked like to live out fatherhood as a Catholic man," Spehar said.

Together with his team, Spehar hopes to provide The Good Father Program in more locations across the Twin Cities and Minnesota.

More information is available at:
thegoodfatherprogram.com.



“You will be my witnesses.”

Like the fastest roller coaster you’ve ever been on, but you’re in control and there is no track.

That’s how Saint John Vianney College Seminary alumnus Phil Weir describes the sensation of flying an F-15E Strike Eagle fighter jet. After spending 2013-15 at SJV, Weir felt God calling him to service – as a husband, a father and a pilot in the U.S. Air Force.

Now a member of the 391st Fighter Squadron – nicknamed the “Bold Tigers” – Weir is currently stationed at Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho, where he resides with his wife Sarah, who works for the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, and 1-year-old son Dennis. The family is expecting its second child.

Vianney News recently caught up with Weir to discuss family life and his military career – and how his time at SJV helped shape it all.

Q: So how does one go from becoming a seminarian discerning the priesthood to becoming a fighter pilot in the Air Force?

A: Well, my dad was in the Air Force, so growing up I was always around aviation; I had my private pilot’s license before I had my driver’s license. It was funny; I could take my friends flying, but my mom had to drop me off at the airport. That was always a fun thing. I even got to take some of my seminarian brothers and Totus Tuus (summer ministry for college-age students who help form Catholic youth) team members flying as well. I was always interested in aviation; it was still an interest of mine even during my time in the seminary. I was still flying when the Lord called me out of the seminary, so it was just a natural next thing to pursue as a “backup.” After I graduated from ROTC, I was chosen to compete for a pilot slot; then after that, you compete for different jets out of pilot training -- bombers, cargoes or fighters, etc. I think being a fighter pilot ended up being a solid backup to being a priest.

Q: How did the seminary prepare you for military life?

A: In every way. I think in the seminary you learn a lot about discipline, accountability and fraternity. A fighter squadron is a fraternity, although there are some things that aren’t that wholesome about it; it can be a culture of work hard during the week and party on the weekends. But it is still a fraternity – these are the same guys and gals I fly with every day, train with, study with. These are the people you’re paired up with as you move up the ranks and receive different upgrades and gain qualifications, and the unique thing about fighter squadrons is that the whole squadron deploys together. It’s all of us together, and then our spouses at home share in that same fraternity during our deployment by spending a lot of time together at home.

But discipline is the biggest thing. Fr. Paul Hoelsing was the vocations director for Omaha when I was at SJV, and his biggest thing was “we’re not sending men to the seminary to become priests, but we’re sending them to become well-formed men who will become fathers – whether it’s at home or in the priesthood.”

It’s actually paid dividends with squadron members returning to the Catholic Church and some conversions. In my pilot

training class, all but two of the Americans were Catholic but only one other was practicing. But two more started going to daily Mass, and one of them went back to confession for the first time in 15 years. There are some crazy stories where the formation and training I received at SJV allowed me to be a quiet witness for Christ and help lead others back to Him.

Q: How did the seminary prepare you for military life?

A: Also in every way. Fr. Hoelsing was exactly right; seminary makes you a well-formed man and father. Virtue is the first thing that the seminary does a really great job cultivating in men, being able to live a virtuous life. In a marriage, it's pretty hard to encourage your spouse to be virtuous and your kids to be if you're not. Virtue is the bedrock of seminary life, along with accountability to Christ and to your brothers, knowing you don't have to do everything by yourself.

I know it's our slogan, but I can honestly say SJV did a great job trying to teach us to be men in Christ, men of the Church and men for others. That teaches you service, and marriage is entirely about service. Learning how to lay down your life for your diocese and your floor brothers in a variety of ways and let go of your will ... it's the same in marriage. I'm going to lay down my life for Sarah and I'm going to serve. That idea of forming men for others is a really great way they've prepared me to be a husband, to serve and to serve well.





SJV alum

*Fr. Michael Pawlowicz
joins Holy See's
diplomatic team*

Throughout his time at Saint John Vianney College Seminary, Michael Pawlowicz – now Fr. Michael Pawlowicz – of course knew the word “Catholic” means “universal.”

But now that he's working for the Vatican as Secretary to the Apostolic Nuncio for Indonesia, Pawlowicz has seen the Church's universality in a whole new light.

Vianney News caught up with Pawlowicz to learn about his new role with the Holy See and gain some personal insight on how his formation has prepared him for this ministry.

Q: Tell me about where you're ministering right now – how did you end up there and what is the nature of your work?

A: This past summer, I graduated from the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy, the Holy See's diplomatic academy, and have just begun in a new role as the Secretary to the Apostolic Nunciature in Jakarta, Indonesia. I work to support the Apostolic Nuncio in his dual mission, firstly “to make stronger and more effective the bonds of unity which exist between the Apostolic See and particular churches” (CIC can. 364), and secondly, to represent the Holy Father before the state and international organizations accredited here. Our most important role is to facilitate the lines of communication between the Holy See and Church in Indonesia.

Having just joined the Holy See's diplomatic service, everything is still very new to me. At this point, I am still very much just beginning. My chief job right now is to learn and better understand the contours of this service which is unique in the life of the Church, to be open to new experiences and new ways to live out the priesthood, and to be docile to suggestions and advice from those who have the benefit of experience.

Q: What are 1-2 of the most interesting or inspiring stories you'd like to share from your time abroad?

A: It has been neat to see how the Church really is the same wherever in the world you might be. I have been able to experience in prima persona what we say in the Creed, that the Church is “One” and “Catholic.” Assuredly, there are cultural nuances and different customs and traditions which change from one place to another, but the substance is the same, the faith is the same, the Mass is the same, the faithful and the priests are all the same. We belong to a single community that is so much bigger than I could have imagined. Only God Himself could have brought about such communion from such diversity. It is not for nothing that Sacred Scripture said that Divine Wisdom “orders all things sweetly” (Wis 8:1).

This especially struck me years ago on a mountain in Latin America. I was there working with a religious order visiting Catholics who were especially removed from their local parishes. These families were generally remarkably poor, and so separated from society that they even spoke little Spanish, preferring their earlier indigenous dialects. As we visited a

couple that lived in little more than a one-room cabin, I attempted to tell her a bit about where I was from and my own family. When I started to say that I was Catholic and explain a bit about my parish, the woman looked up with a smile and big eyes, pointed at me and said in slow and broken Spanish, “That is what makes us one!”

The woman was right. At that moment, in that house, there were three different cultures, three different languages, three different skin colors, all united in happy communion by Christ and His Church.

Q: Let's go back to the beginning. Walk us through your vocation story and how the Lord led you to the priesthood.

A: The Lord has never been anything but kind and overwhelmingly generous to me. After a strong “reversion” to the faith at the Newman Center at the University of Illinois, I decided to go to seminary not so much because I was interested in the priesthood, but because I wanted to learn how to pray, to be around men who were striving to be virtuous, and to learn how to listen to the Lord.

It is amazing what dedicated and daily time in prayer does to orient the mind and virtuous companionship to spur you on to higher things. Both of these I found at SJV.

It occurred to me that God is omniscient and that He loves me. If He is omniscient, He certainly knows better than I how I am to make it to heaven and be happy. If He loves me, He will point me only to that path which He knows to be the correct one for me. At that point, I prayed to the Lord and told Him, “I’m in seminary to be a diocesan priest, that’s where this road leads. If you want me to be a diocesan priest, keep me on this road. If not, get me kicked out of here as soon as possible.”

Q: How did SJV prepare you for your current role in ministry?

A: Entering SJV, I was introduced to a world that I didn’t even know existed. The esprit de corps, the love of everything Catholic, the commitment to prayer and to the brotherhood all impressed me deeply. It seemed like everyone at the seminary – priests and seminarians alike – were devoted to making one another the best Catholic man they could be. The philosophy courses ignited my love for the Catholic intellectual tradition, especially the Church Fathers and St. Thomas Aquinas. The weekly Marian procession – rain, shine, or blizzard – to the imposing but beautiful statue of Our Lady of Peace, armed with the sword which is the Word of God and the holy rosary, imprinted upon me the preeminent importance of the Blessed Virgin. However, it was the silence of the morning holy hour with Eucharistic Adoration that opened to me the possibilities and depths of the interior life. Those mornings taught me why the Catechism speaks of “The Battle of Prayer” (CCC #2725), and, although I have not succeeded as I ought, I gained the hope to keep up the fight. Finally, I had an excellent spiritual director in Fr. Paul Gitter, who was extremely generous and helpful in navigating what was, for me, *terra incognita*.

Q: What's your advice to a young man discerning the priesthood?

A: Decide first that you are going to do the Lord’s will, wherever it may lead. Loving the Lord above all things is the stuff of heaven; your vocation is merely how you will get there. If you are already living the stuff of heaven, then your discernment will be joyful and free, because you are already committed to follow the Lamb wherever He may go.

Dear friends of SJV,



As I was settling into my new office at the start of this semester, an old clipping from a daily meditation from a Magnificat pamphlet fell out of a book in which I'd used the sheet as a bookmark.

I have no idea when or why I saved this particular reflection from Saint John Paul II. But as I picked it up and began scanning, I had one of those possibly-providential, "this-is-why-you're-here" moments.

"We are reminded of the Lord's words, 'I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled,'" the former Holy Father said. "When we consider the potential of young people for holiness, self-sacrifice, heroic virtue, chastity, and love, we can take heart that these words of Christ will not lose their force in the future."

Friends, the future is here. Inside the walls of Saint John Vianney College Seminary and on the campus of the University of St. Thomas, our seminarians and the formation they're receiving give you a glimpse into the future of the Catholic Church.

When I became Director of Development at SJV, one of the first people I talked to was my predecessor, Tizoc Rosales. A longtime friend, Tizoc loves to say the seminary provides "a front-row seat to the future of the Church." Tizoc left some gigantic shoes to fill. And I'll start by echoing his words.

It's why your support is so important. Our Church and our world need men who go on to become disciples – whether they go on to major seminary and, God willing, the priesthood, or discern a different vocation.

The meditation from Saint John Paul II concludes "we can be confident that if the Good News of salvation is faithfully proclaimed ... it will achieve the end for which [God] sent it."

Thank you for your important role in ensuring this Good News is proclaimed -- from our ambos and altars to our families and workplaces.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Roeser". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Phil Roeser
Director of Development

SJV's new building, chapel on course for spring opening

Peek through the door that by spring will open into Saint John Vianney College Seminary's new chapel, and you'll see the interior of a beautiful and sacred space taking shape.

Interior work on the capstone of SJV's reimagined facilities has begun, with metal framing – including the archways that line each side of the chapel – starting to appear. The exterior is more than 75 percent complete and is on schedule to be water-tight by Thanksgiving.

The chapel remains on track for spring completion.

SJV seminarians, alumni and other visitors have been given the opportunity to write their favorite verse from Scripture on one of the columns of the chapel before finishing begins.





SAINT JOHN VIANNEY COLLEGE SEMINARY

2115 SUMMIT AVENUE
ST. PAUL, MN 55105-1048

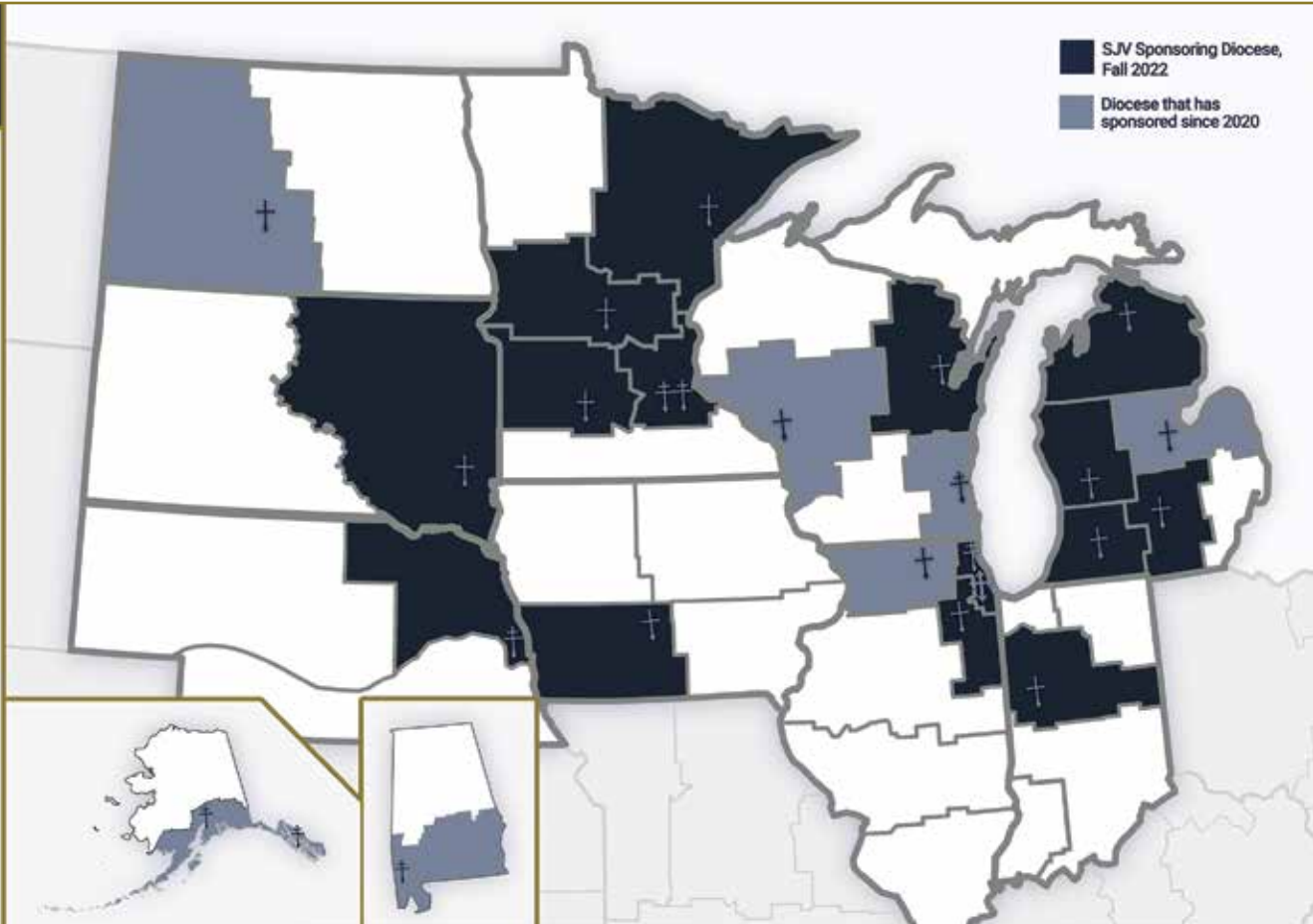
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