

Our Lady of Guadalupe Medallions Bestowed Upon Leaders

The Institute for Priestly Formation recently bestowed The Our Lady of Guadalupe Award upon two distinguished friends of the Institute.

The Most Rev. Daniel DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and former Bishop of Sioux City, Iowa, was cited for his long-time friendship with the Institute.

The citation read in part: "Archbishop DiNardo serves on the Bishops Advisory Council of the Institute and has been a major part of IPF's national outreach in continuing spiritual formation for diocesan priests. For his prayerful and vigorous support, we are forever grateful."

Also honored was Monsignor David Bohr, Academic Dean of the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

Msgr. Bohr is perhaps best known for his substantive contribution to the teaching of Catholic moral theology. He is the author of the widely used text "Catholic Moral Tradition: in Christ, a New Creation."



Founders with recipients (from left): Fr. George Aschenbrenner, Fr. Richard Gabuzda, the Most Rev. Daniel DiNardo, Msgr. David Bohr, Kathy Kanavy, and Fr. John Horn.

His citation read in part: "His prayerful advice and generosity to IPF faculty and spiritual directors helped found, sustain and catalyze the mission of the Institute. Msgr. Bohr also provided three of the original six seminarians for IPF's opening summer at Creighton 11 years ago."

The awards were presented during a Mass at St. John's Church on the Creighton campus. The medallions were presented by the four Institute founders: Fr. George Aschenbrenner, S.J., Fr. Richard Gabuzda, Fr. John Horn, S.J., and Kathleen Kanavy.

Gifts and Bequest Opportunities for The Institute for Priestly Formation

The Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF) is a tax-exempt charity organized under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and dedicated to the spiritual formation of diocesan seminarians and priests in the Catholic Church. IPF complements the seminaries by offering a time and a place to focus more on learning to pray in a way that makes sense for busy diocesan priests.

Located on the campus of Creighton University since 1994, IPF is the only program of intensive spiritual formation that has a nationwide outreach. Currently, 25% of all future diocesan priests are being served by IPF's 10-week summer program.

Gifts may be made to the Institute in a variety of ways, some of which can take effect immediately; others can be deferred until your death. For more information, please contact the Institute for Priestly formation (402) 546-6384. If legal advice or other expert assistance is required, the services of a competent professional should be sought.



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A Newsletter for Alumni and Friends of The Institute for Priestly Formation

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THE INSTITUTE FOR PRIESTLY FORMATION

Deacon James Keating Joins Institute Faculty

The Institute for Priestly Formation welcomed Deacon James Keating as its newest staff member on July 1, 2006. Deacon Keating comes to IPF following thirteen years as associate professor of moral and spiritual theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum, a seminary for training diocesan priests located in Columbus, Ohio.



The Rev. Mr. James Keating joined the institute faculty this past July. He will be responsible for developing programs of spiritual growth for seminary faculty and staff.

His role in the Institute will be to develop programs of spiritual growth for seminary faculty and staff members, helping to fulfill the vision of the Institute's fourth symposium which asked the question, "How can spiritual formation be more at the heart of priestly formation?"

Keating will do research and writing on these and other related topics, as well as work with seminarians directly to assist them in discovering ways to receive the study of theology in a more contemplative manner.

Ordained a deacon in 2001, Deacon Keating identifies his calling to the diaconate as the vehicle that helped him hear the Lord's call to accept this position at the Institute.

"I began to see that my call to the diaconate included a more specific invitation to directly assist seminarians and priests in their formation and ministry while at the same time ministering to the laity in such a way that assists them to receive the gifts carried by the priest," Keating said.



United to the Heart of Christ.

Mission Statement

The Institute for Priestly Formation has been founded to assist in the spiritual formation of diocesan seminarians and priests in the Roman Catholic Church. Working as a complement to already existing programs of seminary formation, the Institute responds to the need for a more concentrated and integrated spiritual formation. Inspired by the biblical-evangelical spirituality of Ignatius Loyola, the Institute's programs present a spirituality that can inspire, motivate and thus sustain the busy daily lives of contemporary diocesan priests.

THE INSTITUTE FOR PRIESTLY FORMATION MISSION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Ex-officio Members:

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Rev. George A. Aschenbrenner, S.J.
Rev. Richard J. Gabuzda
Rev. John P. Horn, S.J.
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Please visit our web site at www.creighton.edu/ipf/



From Our Executive Director ...

Dear Friends,

As autumn makes its way into Omaha, we think back on this past summer's programs with deep gratitude and look forward to the coming months with great expectation.

In May we welcomed 122 seminarians to the program of spiritual formation for diocesan seminarians—a record number. A generous and gifted group of nearly 80 faculty, staff and guest lecturers served these seminarians for the 10 week program. The seminar for seminary spiritual directors hosted 15 priests while the Spiritual Exercises program exceeded last year's numbers as 27 priests and seminarians prayed through the 30 days.

Looking to the future, as mentioned in the lead article, Dr. Keating's arrival means that IPF can now begin to offer more programs for seminary personnel. He is "on the road" these days offering a workshop to seminary theologians helping them appreciate the possibilities of a "contemplative" approach to teaching and studying. Plans call for the development of a retreat for seminary theologians to deepen the fruits of this workshop.

In the coming months, Fr. George Aschenbrenner, S.J., Fr. John Horn, S.J., and Kathy Kanavy will also be traveling to dioceses and



Father Richard Gabuzda

seminaries for a variety of programs, including programs assisting seminary spiritual directors. The spiritual direction training programs in Austin and Chicago continue as well.

These specific programs and numbers of participants all manifest what lies at the center of IPF's mission: the desire to draw priests and future priests in closer union with the Heart of Christ, the place from which all of diocesan priestly life must flow. We are grateful to the many individuals and groups who support the Institute in carrying out its mission. The intercessory prayer, the labors of love offered by many volunteers and the generous financial sacrifices made by growing numbers of individuals help fuel the fire that burns in the heart of the Institute's programs.

Come, Holy Spirit, and lead us all in the path you desire for us; keep us and our mission ever more in union with the Heart of Christ!

Sincerely in the Lord,

Rev. Richard J. Gabuzda
The Institute for Priestly Formation

Archbishop John Michael Miller Visits, Learns About Institute

The Most Reverend John Michael Miller, secretary of the Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education, visited the Institute's offices on September 12.

The meeting with Institute staff members was part of the Archbishop's visit to Creighton University where he preached at the Mass of the Holy Spirit and delivered an evening lecture to the University community.

The meeting was a fruitful exchange in which the Archbishop learned more about IPF's programs



Father Richard Gabuzda and Archbishop John Michael Miller during his visit to the Institute.

and offered suggestions for its future growth. He showed enthusiastic support for the new programs being designed by Deacon James Keating for the benefit of seminary personnel. He also encouraged the Institute to disseminate information about the IPF mission to the widest possible audience world-wide.

At his invitation, IPF will continue to be in contact with Archbishop Miller as the Institute continues to grow and serve the needs of priestly formation in the United States and beyond.

SAVE THE DATE:
IPF's Sixth Symposium

Friends Gathering at St. John's Church Draws Supporters

The annual IPF Friends gathering was held at St. John's Church on the campus of Creighton University on July 19. The IPF Development Councils and friends joined the summer program's seminarians for the service of evening prayer, adoration and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

A social reception at the Parish Center followed, highlighted by reports from several seminarians on their personal growth during the summer session of spiritual formation.

The four founders of IPF, Fr. George Aschenbrenner, SJ; Fr. Richard Gabuzda; Fr. John Horn, SJ; and Kathleen Kanavy, were recognized with a gift from the Development Council to establish an endowment in their honor. Larry Dwyer, council chairman, made the announcement. He concluded the evening by presenting an inspiring portrait of Pope John Paul II to honor Father Gabuzda



on the occasion of his 25th anniversary of ordination in Scranton, Pa.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

March 15 - 18, 2007

SIXTH SYMPOSIUM ON THE
SPIRITUALITY AND IDENTITY OF THE DIOCESAN PRIEST

CHASTE CELIBACY:
Living Christ's Own Spousal Love

Keynote Speaker: Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron



Co-sponsored by:

The Institute for Priestly Formation
and the Saint Vincent De Paul Regional Seminary

The Institute returns to this theme in order to deepen the understanding of how one receives the gift of celibate chastity. Inspired by Ephesians 4, 12-13 (the Body of Christ being built "to mature manhood, to the extent of the full stature of Christ") the symposium will focus on affective maturity, brought about through God's healing power, blossoming into a life of virtue and a full peaceful receiving of the gift of celibacy.

Watch your mailbox. More information will be mailed to you in the coming months.
Contact: Rev. Richard J. Gabuzda • 402-546-6384 • ipf@creighton.edu

Father Gabuzda Celebrates Ordination Anniversary

The Executive Director of the Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF), the Rev. Richard Gabuzda, S.T.D. recently celebrated the 25th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Father Gabuzda was ordained on September 27, 1981, in the Church of St. John Nepomucene, Freeland, Pa. (his home parish).

Following ordination, he served for three years as an assistant pastor at the Church of St. Boniface, Williamsport, Penn., before beginning doctoral studies at the Pontifical Athenaeum, Sant'Anselmo in Rome. He then served as a faculty member at St. Pius X Seminary in the Diocese of Scranton for eight years before the founding of the Institute.

Father Gabuzda returned to his home diocese for an anniversary Mass and reception on September 3, 2006. In addition to many family members and friends, 50 priests were in attendance at the celebration. The retired Bishop of Scranton, James C. Timlin, and the Auxiliary Bishop of Scranton, John C. Dougherty also joined in the celebration.

Father Gabuzda continued the celebration by presiding at an anniversary Mass at Christ the King Parish in Omaha, Neb., on September 17th joined by many Omaha Archdiocesan priests and religious. In his homily Father Gabuzda highlighted the gift of having been called to found the Institute, a direct result of a



Father Gabuzda receives an anniversary gift from Council Chairman Larry Dwyer.

30-day retreat made on the campus of Creighton University in 1992. A reception hosted by the Institute for Priestly Formation staff followed the liturgy. Fr. John Horn, S.J., spoke with deep gratitude for the friendship, brotherhood and collaboration in mission that he has shared with Fr. Rich, as they, together with Kathy Kanavy and Fr. George Aschenbrenner, S.J., have advanced the vision of integrated spiritual formation for a holy, healthy priesthood.

Seminarians Tour Girls and Boys Town, Attend Mass at St. Cecilia

The annual summer event for IPF seminarians sponsored by the Serra Clubs of Omaha and Council Bluffs was held on July 15. A guided tour of Girls and Boys Town's Hall of History and Dowd Memorial Chapel informed the young men of the legacy of Father Edward Flanagan.

Following the Girls and Boys Town visit, the seminarians attended Mass at St. Cecilia Cathedral, with Archbishop Elden Francis Curtiss as presider.

A picnic dinner was held after the liturgy in the Cathedral social hall. Serran Claire "Tex" Oswald presented a brief profile of Blessed Junipero Serra, patron of Serra International.

The seminarians concluded the evening by introducing themselves and identifying their respective arch/dioceses.



Seminarians tour the Dowd Memorial Chapel at Girls and Boys Town.

