



10701 S. Military Trail
Boynton Beach, FL 33436

By The Numbers

SVdP Alumni

Miami

140

Orlando

32

Palm Beach

93

Pensacola/Tallahassee

22

St. Augustine

28

St. Petersburg

55

Venice

22

Out of State

91

Save the Date

The Remembrance Tree

November 2, 2012



Donor Mass & Brunch

December 2, 2012



Friends of the Seminary

February 8, 2013



Joe-Paddy Festival

March 14, 2013

ANGELUS

A periodic publication of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary ~ Spring 2012

Fr. David Toups Appointed 12th Rector

After serving St. Vincent's as Rector for more than seven years, Msgr. Keith R. Brennan will be returning to his home diocese of St. Augustine.

"Msgr. Brennan led this major seminary with distinction. As a man who radiates peace, his leadership provided a steady and firm program for the future priests of the region. I applaud him for being the first priest of the Mother Diocese of Florida to lead a major seminary. He has made an important contribution to hundreds of new priests for Florida and beyond," said Bishop Felipe J. Estévez of St. Augustine.

"The memories of my years here will never fade."

~ Msgr. Brennan

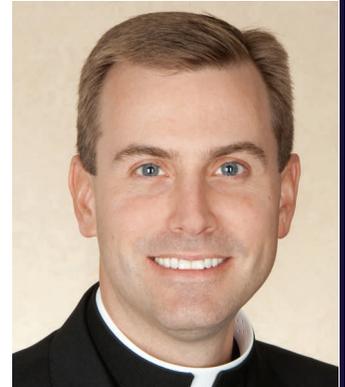
When asked about his time at St. Vincent's, Msgr. Brennan replied, "As the 11th rector of the St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary I have seen many men enter the priesthood with faith, love of Our Lord, a pastoral commitment, and the desire to preach the good news. The memories of my years here will never fade and I am grateful for the confidence the board of trustees placed in me."

Father David L. Toups, ordained in 1997, is a priest of the Diocese St. Petersburg in Florida. He attended both the Gregorian and Angelicum Universities receiving his doctorate in dogmatic theology in 2004. He has served as parochial vicar, seminary professor and dean of students at St. Vincent's. He has also served as the Director of the Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations at the United States Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in Washington, DC. Most recently he has been the pastor of Christ the King Catholic Church in Tampa, Florida.

In an interview with Fr. Toups, he spoke about his vocation, the path that lead him back to St. Vincent's and his vision for the future of the seminary.

Do you remember the moment you realized your calling to the priesthood?

"Yes and no— what do I mean by that? Well, every vocation is an unfolding event that doesn't simply happen as an isolated incident. Having grown up in a loving and faithful Catholic family the thought of being a priest certainly crossed my mind as a young altar server. Those thoughts faded as I entered into high school and college and



things of the world that I thought were more important. Then halfway through college I experienced a deep awakening to our Catholic faith, and went "all in" as they say. At that point in my life, the thought of being a priest of Jesus Christ flooded me once again, and I knew that I had to at least "try" the seminary. Well, once I did that, I guess it stuck!"

How have your experiences as former Dean of Men at SVdP, working at the USCCB and as Pastor of Christ the King prepared you to take on the role of Rector and President of the Seminary?

Again, God's plan in each of our lives continues to unfold, and I can look back now and see how all of these pieces fit together. In my fifteen years of priestly service, the Lord has prepared me well for this new role that the bishops of the

(continued on Page 2)

SEMINARY SAYS FAREWELL



Stanton Cadow the seminary's Director of Development since January, 2007, announced he will be leaving the seminary. He has accepted the position of Director of Development and Stewardship for the Diocese of St. Augustine. Under Cadow's direction the seminary's development program has seen sharp increases in the number of donors and volunteers, and a number of improvements in special events, and publications. On an annual basis, funds raised under Cadow averages \$1 million. "Having served the seminary has been an honor. I can't say enough about how generous and dedicated our supporters have been. I am thankful for all the well wishers and relationships we have built. I will miss everyone," said Cadow. Stanton, a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) and veteran development professional, has raised or has assisted in raising more than \$86 million in his career, primarily in the Catholic Community.

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Interview with Fr. Toups Continued

State of Florida have entrusted to me and the seminary faculty. Before being the Dean of Men at the seminary I wrote my doctoral dissertation on priestly identity, which prepared me academically for my years on the faculty. I really enjoyed my prior placement at SVdP, a time which taught me how to be a "father" to the seminarians. I found it quite edifying to work with these men who are so zealous in their faith and deep desire to seek God's will for their lives. That time was seemingly cut short as I was called to DC to work for the USCCB in the office of Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations. This assignment too was a part of the unfolding of where God has lead me. As part of my work for the bishops, I visited many different seminaries and presbyterates across the country which intensified my appreciation for the utter importance of the work we do in the seminary system. My time with the USCCB also taught me how to work for a committee of bishops. Since our seminary is presided over by the seven bishops of the State of Florida that experience will be invaluable in communicating with such a board of trustees. Little did I know when I left DC that this too would come in handy! And, finally, my most recent posting, my shortest, but I believe the most important, was that of being a pastor of 350 wonderful families in Tampa.

They formed my heart into a better priest who is now more prepared to form priests of the future.

The future of vocations looks bright. What do you perceive the role of St. Vincent's to be in the State of Florida and nationally as this positive trend continues? Believe it or not, all of our seminaries across the country are reporting an increase in the number of men preparing for priestly service. The State of Florida is no different, thanks to the emphasis of our bishops and the hard work of our vocation directors. Our seminary continues to be a model of what a regional seminary is supposed to be. It will also be important to reach outside of the Province, to any diocese who is looking to train their men in a bilingual environment. We have such a distinctive program, broadening our exposure should result in an ever increasing student populace.

During the time of the scandals in our church many found themselves discouraged. What would you say to those who feel marginalized or have left the Church altogether? Do not despair and do not lose hope. There is one Church that Christ gave us two thousand years ago, and we need to stay close to that Church despite the serious flaws and sins of a limited number of individuals. Our

faith is in Christ and in the Church - not individuals. I would invite them to "come home" without fear and experience His peace once again. The Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Reconciliation, fill us with the strength needed to face the struggles of our everyday lives—Christ gives us the confidence to face the future with self assurance and hope. This ties into our mission in the seminary, as Blessed John Paul II said, "The formation of future priests is considered by the Church one of the most demanding and important tasks for the future of evangelization of humanity." Thus our work at St. Vincent's is invaluable as we form healthy and holy priests who will bring healing and vibrancy to our parish communities. Again, I echo the words of Blessed John Paul II first spoken by our Lord: "Be not afraid!" Fear not, the future is bright and filled with hope!

"As I prepare for my move to the seminary, I have reflected a great deal upon the good work Msgr. Brennan and our seminary faculty have been doing for years. My job is simply to continue to build upon that foundation with the joy, passion, and deep love that we all share for Christ and His Church. Thank you for your prayerful support as I prepare to embark on this new mission."



The Remembrance Tree

THE PALM BEACH DIOCESAN
COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

On All Souls Day, November 2, 2012 the Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women in partnership with St. Vincent's, will host the 4th Annual *Remembrance Tree* ceremony.

You can honor your departed loved ones with this special memoriam. For a small donation, the names of your deceased loved ones are inscribed on a scroll which is buried at the base of The Remembrance Tree on seminary grounds. *All named will be remembered during a prayer gathering presided over by Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito.* Seminarians who walk the grounds offer prayers for those souls throughout the year.

If you are interested in remembering your loved ones with a Remembrance Tree memoriam, please visit us at www.svdp.edu to download an enrollment form or for more information, call Sharon Melancon (561) 732-4424, ext. 163.

Visit us for more info at www.svdp.edu

Record Number Ordained to the Diaconate



The Most Reverend Gerald Barbarito, Bishop of Palm Beach presided over St. Vincent's Diaconate Ordination of sixteen new transitional deacons. This is the largest number in over a decade. The ceremony took place at St. Thomas More in Boynton Beach on Saturday, April 21. As newly ordained, transitional deacons, these men will be assigned to local parishes where they will exercise their ministry as deacons on weekends during their final year of formation. Among other duties, they will be able to preach, perform baptisms, and matrimonial ceremonies, as well as preside over wakes and funerals. "It is clear that the Church is

going through a rebirth of sorts," said Fr. Jose Alfaro, Vice Rector. For the first time in the seminary's recent history, the ordinations took place off campus, because St. Vincent's Chapel could not accommodate the invitees for each of the sixteen ordinands. "This is a wonderful problem to have, and it appears this trend will continue, as the future of vocations looks bright," added Fr. Alfaro.

The following men were ordained into the transitional diaconate: **Archdiocese of Miami:** Elvis Gonzalez, Daniel Martin, Fredy Yara; **Diocese of Orlando:** Dominic Buckley, Benjamin Lehnertz, George A. Nursey;

Dioceses of Palm Beach: Michael Cairnes, Pierre Soul Estefant, Dennis Gonzales, Chamindra Williams; **Diocese of St. Augustine:** Blair Gaynes, Richard J. Pagano; **Diocese of St. Petersburg:** Viet Vu Nguyen, Justin Paskert; **Diocese of Venice:** Joseph R. Gates, Duong T.T. Nguyen.

In addition, Evelio Ramirez of the **Diocese of Kalama-zoo**, was ordained to the diaconate over the Easter Holiday in his home diocese.

Please continue to pray for these fine men as they continue to discern God's call to the priesthood.

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Dan Meister, Don Bosak, and Mimi Meister enjoying the festival

Joe-Paddy Festival Breaks Records

The gates of St Vincent's opened to a record crowd of more than 770 people clad in red and green, as the 4th Annual Joe-Paddy Festival kicked off. The festival, which celebrates the feasts of St. Joseph and St. Patrick has more than doubled in attendance since it's inaugural year.

Fr. Lou Guerin kicked off the evening as Master of Ceremonies. Throughout the night, Bob Hoose and Art Poco entertained with Sinatra and Martin favorites, while Echoes of Erin performed classic, Irish folk music. A commanding performance by the St. Vincent Ferrer Irish dancers, delighted guests

The festival brought in \$86,315 in revenues which included \$18,800 for the student pilgrimage to the Holy Land. A portion of the proceeds goes directly to the Student Council to benefit student life on campus. Thanks to our volunteers and sponsors, the event was a tremendous success.

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Academic Year Comes to an End



Seminarians to be ordained into priesthood: (Front left to right) Victor Amorose, Duong T.T. Nguyen, Chamindra Williams, Biju Vells, Bernard Ngila, Leonard Dim, Casey Jones, Luis Marrero Padilla, Tom Wanitsky, Carlos Lerma, James Grebe, Mark Librizzi, Blair Gaynes

On Thursday, May 10, the 49th Commencement exercises took place at St. Vincent's Chapel on seminary grounds. The ceremony was presided over by Rector/President Msgr. Keith R. Brennan, and Academic Dean, Deacon Dennis Demes.

Rev. Msgr. Franklyn M. Casale, M.Div. the President of St. Thomas University in Miami, gave the Commencement address. He inspired graduates with a quote from the Holy Father's speech recently given to the American Bishops during their trip to Rome. He said, "The deposit of faith is a priceless treasure which each generation must pass on to the next by winning hearts to Jesus Christ and shaping the minds in the knowledge, understanding and the love of His Church." He con-

cluded, "that about sums up the content of what we are communicating to people." Msgr. Casale continued, "may you be great teachers of the faith!"

The degree of Master of Divinity was conferred upon eleven seminarians. **Archdiocese of Miami:** Biju Vells; **Diocese of Orlando:** Mark Librizzi, Bernard Ngila, Thomas Wanitsky; **Diocese of Palm Beach:** Leonard O. Dim, Chamindra S. Williams; **Diocese of Pensacola/Tallahassee:** James Grebe; **Diocese of Richmond:** Carlos Lerma; **Diocese of St. Petersburg:** Victor Amorose; **Diocese of Venice:** Casey Jones, Duong T.T. Nguyen.

A Master of Arts in Theology was awarded to: Sylvester T. Buczek, Joseph W. Coicou, Rev. Robert V. Reagan.

and Mr. David N. Ugokwe. Please join with me in congratulating our Class of 2012 and pray they may each provide many years of faithful service in ministry to the people of God." said Msgr. Brennan.

Thirteen men will continue on to be ordained into the priesthood in the coming months. **Archdiocese of Miami:** Biju Vells; **Diocese of Orlando:** Mark D. Librizzi, Bernard N. Ngila, Thomas R. Wanitsky; **Diocese of Palm Beach:** Leonard O. Dim, Chamindra S. Williams; **Diocese of Pensacola/Tallahassee:** James P. Grebe; **Diocese of Richmond:** Carlos H. Lerma; **Diocese of St. Petersburg:** Victor J. Amorose; **Diocese of Venice:** Duong T.T. Nguyen.