

ORACLE



THE SAINT PAUL SEMINARY SCHOOL OF DIVINITY

SPECIAL EDITION
SPRING 2018



*A
Faithful
Leader*



Monsignor Aloysius R. Callaghan

My dear friends,

As I take pen in hand to write this letter as rector of our wonderful seminary for the past 13 years, I thank God for the special grace He has given me to help form men to be good priests and dedicated lay men and women to be leaders of our Church. It has been the tremendous joy of my priesthood to be the father of a seminary community where men and women train to be co-workers in the vineyard.

In so many ways, these years have brought me back, again and again, to the God who gives joy to my youth. It is truly a miracle of God's goodness to be reminded of my own priestly ordination – to re-live the love that comes from an undivided heart as one kneels

in the consciousness of one's own nothingness before the Bishop and rises a priest forever. The gift of priesthood – the configuration to Christ – is the blessed work of priestly formation.

An undivided heart is the gift of God Himself. It comes from the heart of Jesus, through the heart of Mary, in wholehearted love for Christ's spouse, His Church.

Each day the priest goes to the altar and he takes bread and a chalice of wine in his hands and says Christ's words. And God is with us – the Word made flesh. The priest holds in his hands the same Lord and God that Mary held as a tiny baby in her arms. Then he gives the Lord, the Christ, to our world just as Mary did in order to help them see the face of Christ. "O beauty ever ancient, ever new!"

Only by God's grace can a priest be the Word of God in a lonely world, the hand of God in a helpless world, and the touch of God in an isolated world.

For this very reason he must run to Mary, that "gentle woman, quiet light, morning star so strong and bright," and ask her for the grace to be Christ's light for others. Her Immaculate Heart is the heart of priestly formation.

Serving as rector of The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity has been a tremendous blessing and a special grace. I will be eternally grateful to my superiors for allowing me to serve God's Church and His people in this way.

And to you, my dear friends, I ask a special favor as we look to a future full of hope. Please join me in prayer to Our Lady of Confidence that our seminary will continue to fan the flame of hearts on fire for the love of Jesus and His Church. Let us ask our good and gracious Lord to bless us with many more shepherds after His own heart.

May God bless you!

M. Aloysius R. Callaghan

Monsignor Aloysius R. Callaghan
Rector and Vice President

2005-2018



- Msgr. Aloysius Callaghan is appointed 14th Rector and Vice President.

2005

- The Saint Paul Seminary Golf Tournament is reinstated and moved to Town & Country Club.
- The Women's Auxiliary is formed and Adopt-a-Seminarian program is established.

2006

- First Annual Rector's Dinner is held in October.
- The Catechetical Institute is established.

2008

- The Saint Paul Seminary and Saint John Vianney College Seminary coalesce governing boards.

2010

- 100 seminarians enroll, marking the largest class in 31 years.
- Msgr. Callaghan is appointed to a second six-year term as Rector.
- The "I Will Give You Shepherds Campaign" concludes with \$28.5 million, surpassing the goal of \$23 million.

2011

- The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity's accreditation is reaffirmed for a period of 10 years.
- Msgr. Callaghan receives the "Christ Brings Hope Award" from Relevant Radio.

2013

- The institutes for Diaconate Formation and Ongoing Clergy Formation are established.

2015

- Msgr. Callaghan receives the "Bishop Paul Dudley Servant Leadership Award" from St. Paul's Outreach.
- **Msgr. Callaghan celebrates 46 years as a priest!**

2017



2005-2018 BY THE NUMBERS

Men ordained to the priesthood = more than **170**

Graduates from lay degree programs = **119**

Catechetical Institute alumni = **1,487**

Men ordained to the permanent diaconate = **43**

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS: MORE THAN \$42 MILLION

A TALE OF TWO CITIES: THE GUIDING FORCES BEHIND A LEGENDARY RECTOR

by Christina Capecchi

Step into Monsignor Aloysius Callaghan's office, and the first thing you see is an homage to his hometown – line art of Heckscherville, Pa., originally known as The Irish Valley, “just a little patch in the coal-mining region,” he says.

One framed drawing shows St. Kieran's Church, named after the Irish patron saint of coal miners, its narrow windows and faded stones set against barren trees. “The parish,” Monsignor Callaghan says, his eyes shining, “that was your life.”

Another drawing lays out a snug row of faith formation: the convent and rectory nestled between the little church and school. “The nuns took the place of your folks when you were with them,” he says. “The community was so tight knit. Everyone knew you so you couldn't get away with anything.”

A third drawing captures the town's skyline, a coal breaker towering above the school, coal miners like his grandfather toiling in overalls and hard hats with lamps.

They tell Monsignor Callaghan's origin story, a map of his 1950s childhood – hundreds of lines etched into his mind just as surely as the creases on the palm of his hand – the place that first directed a bright-eyed altar boy to the priesthood.

But the story does not end there. The next chapter is also on prominent display. Throughout his office, images of his Rome years recur: reminders of his seminary days, his ordination at St. Peter's Basilica and his service to the Vatican; tributes to Mother Teresa, a close friendship forged in Italy; his framed canon law degree. Beginning in his early 20s, these were formative years that turned the Pennsylvania boy into a Roman man, fluent in Italian, finger on the pulse of the throbbing universal church.

Only then do you have a complete understanding of the rector of one of the nation's top seminaries. These are the twin strands that animate Monsignor Callaghan, uniquely preparing him for leadership and lending an unusual range: blue-collar coal-mining town and gold-leafed Eternal City. Street smarts and book smarts. Grit and elegance.



Top: Young Aloysius (right) and his younger brother Brian are on the front steps of their home in Heckscherville, Pennsylvania.

Below: A school photo dated 1957.

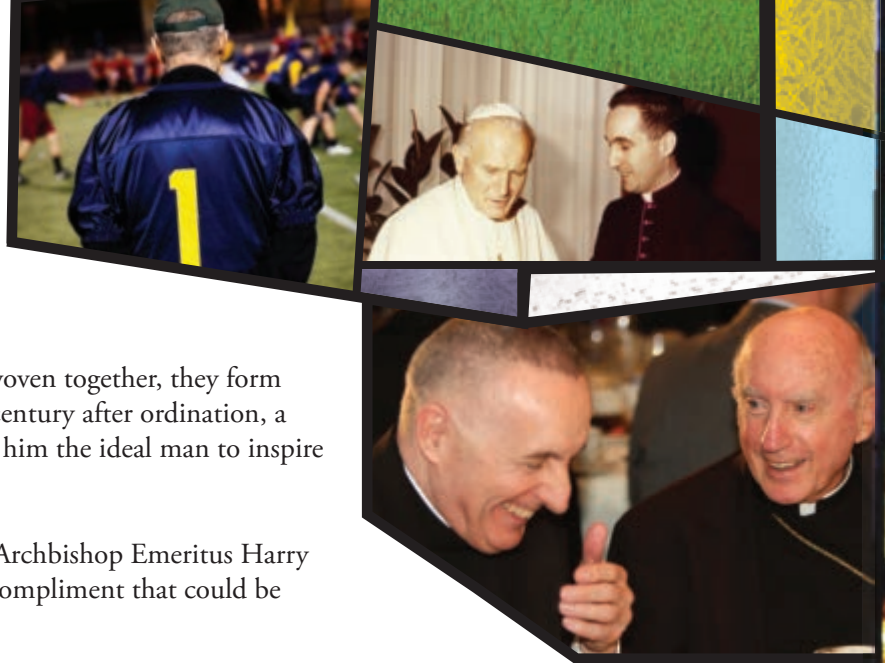


Top: Then seminarian Aloysius Callaghan assists Blessed Pope Paul VI in Rome.

Below: Seminarians gather around Venerable Fulton J. Sheen. Msgr. Callaghan is third from left.

A Tribute
to
Msgr.
Callaghan





Both strands are steeped in Catholicism, and woven together, they form a priestly identity so strong that, nearly half a century after ordination, a childlike zeal for his vocation remains, making him the ideal man to inspire the next generation of priests.

“He is a priest from his head to his foot,” says Archbishop Emeritus Harry Flynn, a close friend, “and that is the greatest compliment that could be attributed to anyone.”

The two strands inform all that Monsignor Callaghan does. One tempers the other; other times, they work in tandem.

His devotion to the Blessed Mother, for instance, was first cultivated in Heckscherville, where he prayed the rosary with the nuns at school, on his grandma’s lap and piled into the family’s 1946 Dodge, each member leading a decade. At the annual May procession, the town’s Marian devotion perfumed the air just as sweetly as the cherry blossoms.

That devotion deepened in Rome – at chapels dedicated to the Blessed Mother, in the heart of a maturing priest far from home, in conversation with Mother Teresa, who urged Monsignor Callaghan to be “pure and humble like Mary so as to be holy like Jesus.”

It was the coal miners whose example made Monsignor Callaghan industrious, a doctorate student poring over canon law and later a rector whose office light illuminates the courtyard until 9 or 10 at night. “I learned discipline from him,” says Father Matthew Quail, a Saint Paul Seminary graduate ordained in 2017. “You work until it’s done.”

Left to right: Jersey number 1 is reserved for the rector during the annual Rectors’ Bowl in the fall. Then Fr. Callaghan meets St. Pope John Paul II in Rome. Msgr. Callaghan and Archbishop Harry Flynn share a laugh at a Rector’s Dinner.

Msgr. Callaghan serves Michael Kapperman in the cafeteria.





Left: Msgr. Callaghan, Fr. James Stiles and Fr. Scott Carl are pictured on campus.

Right: Msgr. Callaghan directs the seminarians as they sing a medley of favorite songs.

Msgr. Callaghan is pictured in St. Mary's Chapel with Fr. John Meyer, Class of 2008, and college seminarian Cullen Gallagher. Msgr. Callaghan has maintained close friendships with many of his former seminarians after ordination. "Msgr. Callaghan has been a great mentor, friend and second father to me," Fr. Meyer said. "His support, advice and presence has made a tremendous impact on my life, and I owe him a huge debt of gratitude."



It compels Monsignor Callaghan on Monday mornings to join the seminarians at the Binz Refectory on campus for coffee. "He would always be full of life, even when you could see he was tired," recalls Father Jayson Miller, a fellow 2017 graduate. "He would say, 'Gentlemen, it's the best day of the week!' He had a love of Mondays."

It's why he prepares for every appointment, prefers an advance agenda and begrudges pointless meetings. "He wants to be useful," says Dr. Julie Sullivan, president of the University of St. Thomas. "He has a desire to serve – that's what fulfills him most."

He never complained last year when pressure on his sciatic nerve caused hip pain and forced him to use a cane. At a wedding reception, when Frank Sinatra's "New York, New York" was played, he got up and danced, using his cane to tremendous effect and delighting the guests.

Of course, Irish mirth was also learned in Heckscherville, where families found levity amid poverty. It was often expressed in song, uniting and uplifting, and it explains why Monsignor Callaghan calls on the seminarians to pipe up at Mass. "Men, you need to be singing in the Communion line!" he'll say.

In his hometown, fraternity was the glue among the coal miners and the teachers, who chose to work one school year with no pay. Years later it was reinforced in Rome, from the close-knit seminarians in black to the College of Cardinals, a sea of red.

Cultivating fraternity at The Saint Paul Seminary was a priority for Monsignor Callaghan, who encouraged community meals, now a Monday-night tradition among the men. It is also fostered in communal prayer, which has become the heartbeat of the seminary: 6 a.m. Holy Hour, 7 a.m. Morning Prayer, 11:35 a.m. Mass, 5 p.m. Evening Prayer and 8:45 p.m. Rosary.

Monsignor Callaghan leads by example: He is in Eucharistic Adoration every morning at 6 a.m. "That's what I needed to see," Father Quail says. "It all starts there."

Life can be messy, and the ruptures that played out in Heckscherville helped prepare him to do sensitive, insightful work for the Allentown diocese as Secretary to Bishop Joseph McShea and Diocesan Vocations Director in the late 70s, and then as Judicial Vicar and Pastor of Holy Trinity Parish in Whitehall

beginning in 1984. It also enabled him to appreciate the sacrifice demanded of the military, equipping him for his tenure as Vicar General of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, a position that felt like meaningful service to both God and country.

It was in Pennsylvania, too, that Monsignor Callaghan learned to be direct, “to call a spade a spade.” It set him up to be an effective decision maker, bringing an East Coast clarity to a boardroom of polite Midwesterners.

This was refined in Rome, where he developed the skill set for diplomacy: to listen well, to learn about the person behind the issue, to build consensus.

Combined, you have a rector who can get things done – as evidenced by his governance of the remodel of the seminary chapel. “It had been discussed over and over and over,” Archbishop Flynn recalls, “and so finally he took care of it, and he did it in a New York second, as they say, and he did it very well.”

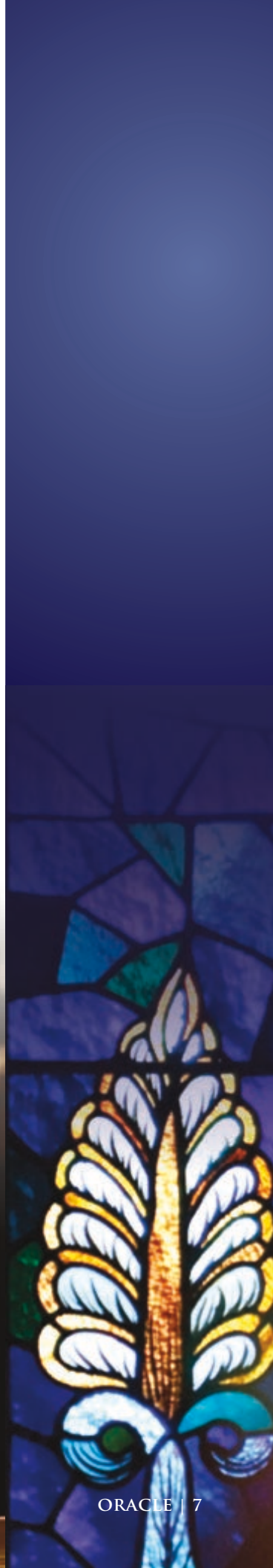
Monsignor Callaghan was at once respectful and decisive, Archbishop Flynn says: “a steel hand in a velvet glove.” Heckscherville and Rome.

The latter was a major influence, inspiring Monsignor Callaghan to add color to the white-washed space, to return the tabernacle from the side chapel to the main chapel, to establish a central crucifix and to commission statues made by Italian sculptors to fill the empty alcoves. The goal was to transport the beauty of the universal church in Rome to St. Paul. “There’s a vibrancy to that,” he says. “It’s something you can bring with you.”

He also signaled the seminarians’ return to wearing clerics, a move that strengthened their sense of identity and their visibility in the community.

All the while, there were two fixed points in his mind: little St. Kieran’s in the valley, St. Peter’s Basilica on the hill.

“He strikes a balance between practicality and alluring people with the beauty of our Church,” Father Quail says. “Our rituals are exceptional. Yet you can’t be so rigid in all things, so he’s going to show you the beauty of the rituals but also say, ‘Boys, you probably won’t have this in your parish, to this extent, but what can you take back to your church?’”





Msgr. Callaghan and University of St. Thomas President Dr. Julie Sullivan are natural colleagues and friends.

The rector has both an attention to detail – using italics in a document, adjusting a crooked wall hanging – and a sense of humanity, of the grand scheme of things. Are these men healthy? Are they getting enough sleep? He alternately challenges the seminarians, spelling out his high expectations, and advocates for them, occasionally calling for a three-day weekend because they get so few breaks.

As a member of the University of St. Thomas' president's cabinet and through his monthly meetings to report on the seminary, Monsignor Callaghan's diplomacy impressed Dr. Julie Sullivan. He deftly navigated tasks that were fraught with strong opinions, such as reconfiguring the curriculum and re-examining the calendar. "He has a lot of wisdom and a way of putting things in perspective to help people not react too emotionally and minimize the personality differences," she says.

She has witnessed the steel hand and the velvet glove. "He finds a way to get things done but he doesn't create unnecessary waves or conflicts. He maneuvers in a gentle, empathetic way to minimize disruption."

And he does it all with good cheer, which inspired Dr. Sullivan, the university's first non-priest president. "My visits with him were always fun, even if we had to talk about difficult things," she says. "He has a bright spirit, a twinkle in his eyes. I just love his joyfulness. You can't let all the swirl suck you down. You have to rise above it. You have to exude the joyfulness and focus on the bigger picture."

The effect has been remarkable: As rector, Monsignor Callaghan has boosted the seminary's stature and scope, elevating it to a position of national renown. When he arrived in 2005, there were 59 seminarians and approximately 70 students in the lay program. Now there are more than 800 people in a variety of formation programs for lay and ordained any given year.

The surging quality preceded the quantity. Monsignor Callaghan had a vision for the seminary, making an important distinction between lay and clergy formation, making the case for its acclaimed study abroad program and instilling confidence in prospective donors to help make it all a reality.



Fr. Michael Becker (right), rector of Saint John Vianney College Seminary (SJV), is pictured with Msgr. Callaghan and Archbishop Bernard Hebda during a seminary event. Fr. Becker has worked with Msgr. Callaghan since he began at SJV in 2010 and shares the following thoughts: "Monsignor Callaghan is a true Churchman! Overflowing with Irish wit, he knows the history of the Church - both universal and local - and has passed it on in culture and through joyful storytelling. His love for Our Lady is contagious, and the annual Borromeo celebration, which he began 14 years ago, is rich in blessings and friendship for both seminaries. The SJV staff, seminarians and I are very grateful for his generosity and witness. Thank you, Monsignor Callaghan, for your 'yes' to Jesus!"





He was “master sergeant” of the “I Will Give You Shepherds” capital campaign (2004-2011) that surpassed its goal of \$23 million by \$5.5 million, says longtime board member Bill Reiling, chairman of Sunrise Community Banks.

Msgr. Callaghan and Tom Ryan, vice president for institutional advancement, take in the scenery in the valley of Glendalough, Co. Wicklow, Ireland.

“Instead of just being an in-house administrator, he saw his role as reaching out to the region and beyond, to the bishops and the vocations directors,” Reiling says. “He had a broader vision of things, and it set the table for what’s going to come in the future.”

Monsignor Callaghan won over sending bishops across the country. “A lot of it boils down to trust in the rector,” says Archbishop Bernard Hebda of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, who was a new seminarian when he first met Monsignor Callaghan in Rome. “He was a model priest,” Archbishop Hebda recalls. “He was so affirming of seminarians even at that point. He had such a positive attitude about everything in the Church.”

Msgr. Callaghan and brother Brian celebrate at the Rector’s Dinner in the fall.

That positivity stems from his certainty of God’s love, an unequivocal embrace of Church teaching and a steadfast prayer life that has always helped him discern the next step, always putting others’ needs ahead of his own.

It is a positivity enriched by a lifetime of friendships, the kind of rich, layered social network that the Irish Catholics of Heckscherville seemed so well suited to build.

“Monsignor Callaghan has this charm about him,” says Vice President for Institutional Advancement Tom Ryan. “It’s the monsignor ‘pixie dust.’ It works internationally.”





Rectors' Bowl 2017

Earlier this year, Ryan recalls, Monsignor Callaghan recognized a waiter at a restaurant in Rome – a waiter who had begun serving there in 1966, Monsignor's first year as a seminarian. The reunion was joyful.

"There are not many people like him anymore," Ryan says. "He's old-school church with many formalities. But at heart, he's a blue-collar, hardworking guy from the coal mines of Pennsylvania. It's a great blend."

And if you bring up the Rectors' Bowl, that hotly contested annual football game between seminarians of The Saint Paul Seminary and the archdiocesan minor seminary, Saint John Vianney College Seminary, he's likely to pull out his iPhone and show you a picture of himself at the latest showdown, hoisted on the men's shoulders after scoring an end-of-game touchdown.

That knack for relationships manifests itself wherever Monsignor Callaghan goes – making the rounds through the hallways, stopping to visit with seminarians and staff, seizing a bus ride on a seminary pilgrimage to inquire about their vocation stories.

In this highly regarded rector, you can still see the altar boy who was awed by his front-row seat to the consecration, who clamored to hold the communion plate at St. Kieran's and who – glory to God – years later lay prostrate in St. Peter's Basilica to be ordained a Roman Catholic priest.

He chuckles to think how his path kept returning to vocations work: being chosen for a newly formed vocations committee in Allentown, Pa., serving as adjunct spiritual director for Mount St. Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., culminating with his leadership in the Heartland. "I guess God never wanted me to get out of the seminary," he says.

The gift of his priestly vocation has never diminished. Each opportunity to celebrate Mass, he says, is a marvel and miracle, “that God would allow you to act in His person and be Christ for others. It’s the summit and source of all we do. If you do it with all your heart, you know that you keep people close to the Lord.”

Being rector, as he sees it, is a profound joy and solemn responsibility.



“You’re like the father of the family. You have to lead, with all of your flaws. The seminarians look to you. If you don’t try to model priesthood, you’re not going to succeed. I was always aware that I owed it to them and to the Church to not mess it up. That energizes you when you’re with young people. I see the young men come in each year. It reminds you what you felt like the first time; it renews you. You might not be able to run as fast as they do, but you can keep up.”

– Monsignor Aloysius R. Callaghan



Mother Teresa & Monsignor

It was 1986, and Mother Teresa's order was growing. It was time to make a business trip to the Vatican to refresh its constitutions.

"Here comes this tiny nun in blue and white," recalls Monsignor Callaghan, who worked as an official in the Vatican Congregation for Religious at the time. "She was as big as a munchkin, God's little bundle of love and joy."

He spent the day with her visiting the sick. "That day," he later recalled, "I began a marvelous adventure of learning real service to the poorest of the poor with Mother as the guide."

She must have sensed in the young American a genuine, grounded priest – an ally in her service to the Church – and once her business in Rome was done, she gave him a copy of the constitutions, striking up a correspondence and a friendship that would span the rest of her life. It would bring him to Calcutta to witness her ministry first hand, a trip that took his breath away and stretched his heart.

Over the years he celebrated Mass for her whenever possible and introduced her to his own mother. He still chuckles over his mother's well-intentioned suggestion that the nun with the creased face try Oil of Olay.

Mother Teresa was faithful in her correspondence to Monsignor Callaghan, sending birthday greetings, Mass cards and prayer booklets, signing each with her familiar handwriting: an upward slanting printed T trailed by rounded, cursive vowels. Her letters express a close friendship and a yearning to be united in the Eucharist.

"I need your prayers," she once wrote, "especially when you put the drop of water in your chalice. Let me be that drop."

When Monsignor Callaghan's mother died in 1995, she graciously offered to adopt him. "I am most unworthy to take your mother's place," she wrote, "but I am very grateful to God for giving me this great grace to take her place on earth and to have a priest as my son is a gift of God. Often I think and pray for you."

Indeed, Mother and Monsignor shared the same wiring: a deep, mature prayer life and a pure, youthful joy in service. "Unless you become as a little child," he reflected, "you cannot enter the kingdom of heaven: that was the secret and beauty of Mother's love."

She often invoked the Blessed Mother, who is near and dear to Monsignor Callaghan. "Let us ask Our Lady to help us be pure and humble like her so that we can become holy like Jesus," Mother Teresa wrote him in 1993.

The words are ingrained in Monsignor Callaghan, ever pointed toward this mission as he forms tomorrow's priests.



May God's
blessing be
with you
always.
God bless you
A. Teresa

messages from the sending bishops



Msgr. Aloysius R. Callaghan is a priest with a big heart. Like Jesus Christ, he exudes great joy and welcomes people from all cultures and continents. When I met him for the first time in 2007, he welcomed me warmly and he made every seminarian, regardless of his home country, feel at home at The Saint Paul Seminary. We cherish and admire him as a true and exemplary priest who loves the gift of priesthood. He always encourages the seminarians to reach out and bring the joy of the Gospel to the people. We shall ever value his tremendous contribution in the education and formation of our priests and seminarians. We pray that God grants him good health and abundant blessings.

Most Reverend Callist Rubaramira – Bishop of Kabale, Uganda

On behalf of myself and all the faithful of the Diocese of Crookston, I offer our heart-felt thanks to Msgr. Callaghan for his faithful service as Rector of St. Paul Seminary these past 13 years. Msgr. Callaghan's enduring love for Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, and his own joyous and humble appreciation of the great gift of the ministerial priesthood, have permeated his ministry at The Saint Paul Seminary and have been an inspiration to all. His vision and competency have provided solid direction for the education and formation of outstanding priests. Through them God continues to bless his people in every diocese in which they serve.

Thank you, Msgr. Callaghan, for your priestly service, which has touched the lives of so many. May God continue to bless you each and every day.



Most Reverend Michael J. Hoepfner – Bishop of Crookston



I am pleased to have had the occasion to know Msgr. Callaghan personally and to meet with him. He is a man of deep spirituality and has a great love for the Church. The Diocese of Navrongo-Bolgatanga is grateful to him for welcoming two groups of seminarians from the diocese who have become great assets as pastors to our local Church. Accompanying our sentiments of profound gratitude to God for the gift of Msgr. Callaghan to the Church is our assurance of prayers for good health and continuous joy and fulfillment in his priestly ministry.

Most Reverend Alfred Agyenta – Bishop of Navrongo-Bolgatanga, Ghana

messages from the sending bishops



As Bishop of Rockford, I am especially grateful for the priestly example and service as rector of The Saint Paul Seminary carried out by Msgr. Aloysius Callaghan. I have known Msgr. Callaghan for many years. His service to the Church is longstanding. His particular and most recent contribution of forming young men to the priesthood is a lasting service that will benefit the young men who have passed through The Saint Paul Seminary, all their dioceses and the Church Universal.

Most Reverend David J. Malloy – Bishop of Rockford

I am deeply grateful for Msgr. Callaghan's dedicated service to the faculty, staff and students of The Saint Paul Seminary. His commitment and impact on this institution, and in particular the students, will leave a lasting impression for many years to come. With assurances of my prayers, I wish him many blessings as he moves into the next phase of his life and ministry. God bless you, Msgr. Callaghan.



Most Reverend Robert D. Gruss – Diocese of Rapid City



Msgr. Aloysius Callaghan has made a significant and lasting impact on the formation of young men for the priesthood. He has brought priestly formation to a new and higher level at The Saint Paul Seminary. He can be proud that he has had his hand in forming priests in conformity to the heart and mind of Christ. Ad multos annos!

Most Reverend John M. LeVoir – Diocese of New Ulm

I congratulate and applaud Monsignor Aloysius Callaghan on the celebration of his remarkable 13 years as rector of The Saint Paul Seminary. With an upbeat, Irish demeanor, he has instilled an infectious, positive spirit among the entire School of Divinity community. He has been particularly successful in modeling for the seminarians the priest as servant leader. His continuing relationship with the seminary will be a blessing for all.



Most Reverend Richard Pates – Bishop of Des Moines



I am very grateful to Msgr. Aloysius Callaghan for his faithful service as rector of The Saint Paul Seminary. He has been a great model to our seminarians of love for Christ, love for the Church, and love for the priesthood. He brought a fatherly spirit to his office and taught by example what it means to be a spiritual father to others. I wish him every blessing and hope he will continue to share his wisdom and joy with our future priests for many years to come. Ad multos annos!

Most Reverend John T. Folda – Bishop of Fargo



With Irish wit and the patience of a shepherd, Msgr. Callaghan has guided The Saint Paul Seminary with pastoral wisdom and grace. He has not only helped form seminarians for the Diocese of Sioux Falls but also touched their lives personally. May God reward him and bless him as his spiritual journey continues.



Most Reverend Paul J. Swain – Bishop of Sioux Falls

Thank you, Msgr. Callaghan, for your dedication to forming our seminarians to be men of integrity and gentle servants of the Gospel. May God continue to bless you in all your future endeavors.



*“May St. Patrick guard you wherever you go,
and guide you in whatever you do,
and may his loving protection
be a blessing to you always.”*

Most Reverend Donald J. Kettler – Bishop of Saint Cloud

I had the privilege of serving with Msgr. Callaghan for three years at The Saint Paul Seminary. He is an extraordinary priest. I appreciate his undying love of the priesthood and the untold sacrifices he has made to make the seminary most like the Cenacle of Jesus. Msgr. Callaghan, I wish you the Lord’s choicest blessings as you transition to Rector Emeritus!



Most Reverend Paul Sirba – Bishop of Duluth



I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to Msgr. Callaghan. After so many years of service to the Church in forming men for the priesthood, a rest is well-deserved. The Diocese of Davenport is grateful for Msgr. Callaghan’s significant role in preparing seminarians for priestly ministry in our diocese. May God bless you in this new chapter of your life!

Most Reverend Thomas Zinkula – Bishop of Davenport

INSTALLATION OF LECTORS

On February 27, thirty-three men were installed as lectors in St. Mary's Chapel. Celebrating the Installation of Lectors Mass was Archbishop Bernard Hebda who received 22 Theology I seminarians and 11 men preparing for ordination to the permanent diaconate.

Theology I seminarian Jake Epstein, from the Diocese of Des Moines, explains what this rite means to him: "Installation as a lector is a beautiful step towards ordination. A lector's role is to read from the Old Testament and Epistles during Mass, of course, but also to instruct others in the faith and to bring the Good News to those outside the faith."

Epstein's sentiments echo Archbishop Hebda's as he received each man kneeling saying, "Take this book of Holy Scripture and be faithful in handing on the word of God, so that it may grow strong in the hearts of His people."

The Archbishop also reminded each of the men that "in all you say and do show forth to the world our savior, Jesus Christ."



Archbishop Bernard Hebda presents Jake Epstein with the Word of God.

Archbishop Hebda is surrounded by seminarians and candidates for the permanent diaconate who were installed as lectors on Feb. 27.



Dr. Charlotte Berres, CSJ, associate director of pastoral formation, and **Fr. Allen Kuss**, director of pastoral formation, attended the Catholic Association of Theological Field Educators meeting in January. Held at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, California, Dr. Berres and Fr. Kuss presented The Saint Paul Seminary's Evangelization in Action, Spiritual Pastoral Ministry and Teaching Parish programs to the 18 Catholic seminaries in attendance.

Dr. John Froula, Assistant Professor of Dogmatic Theology, published an article, "Joy as Spiritual Perception in C.S. Lewis," in the *Heythrop Journal*, January 2018, vol. 59 (1).

Sr. Katarina Schuth, OSF, Professor Emerita, presented a keynote address "Priestly Formation after Pastores Dabo Vobis" at an International Symposium on "Models of Priestly Formation" at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Ireland, on November 16-18, 2017.

Dr. William Stevenson has been granted tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor at the University of St. Thomas. This award was based on his fine record of achievement as a teacher and scholar and is a tribute to his contribution to The Saint Paul Seminary, the University, and the broader academic community.



Dr. John Froula

"I am grateful to President Julie Sullivan for this," said Msgr. Callaghan, "and I know Dr. Stevenson will continue to contribute to the mission of The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity with the great energy and enthusiasm that we have experienced since he joined our faculty."



Dr. William Stevenson

On February 11, 2018, **Dr. Christian D. Washburn**, associate professor of dogmatic theology, delivered a paper entitled "500 Years of Lutheran-Catholic Dialogue: Achievements and Future Challenges," at Sacred Heart Parish Center in Owatonna, Minnesota.





Thomas Ryan

It was the summer of 2005 when I received a phone call from Mike McGovern, then a board member of The Saint Paul Seminary.

Mike: “Tom, there’s a position open at the seminary that I think you would be ideal for.”

Me: “Mike, you know I’m trying to get out of Church work.”

Mike: “I think you should at least have a conversation.”

Me: “For you, I will. But I’m telling you, I am not interested.”

Fast-forward a couple of months. I met with Quent Hietpas and Bill Reiling and gleaned an inside look at what was taking place at the seminary, and perhaps more importantly, what would soon be taking place. My heart and interest made an about-face. There was only one problem—a rector had not yet been named.

Fast-forward another couple of months. Monsignor Callahan had been named rector, and I was headed to an interview with him. Suffice it to say, the interview did not get off to the best start.

Monsignor had come from an unnecessary and long meeting — his pet peeve number one.

We were supposed to meet in his office, but it was in shambles as they worked to replace his computer — his pet peeve number two.

As we prepared to go to the conference room, he realized he had left his glasses at the previous meeting across campus — his pet peeve number three.

As I waited in the conference room, I could sense the agitation through the walls. I remember raising my mind to heaven and thinking, “At least I know what I am getting into.”

In that first meeting, Monsignor told me three things. First, the Eucharist would be the center of everything at the seminary. Second, he was going to entrust the work of the seminary to Our Lady. Third, the seminary doors would be open to the many good works and apostolates in the archdiocese. Over the past 13 years, this is exactly what Monsignor has done and what, I believe, will be his lasting contribution to The Saint Paul Seminary.

On a personal note, I have never met anyone quite like Monsignor. He is a beautiful blend of father, brother, boss and cherished friend. We have spent countless hours together, and my life will never be the same. But let me tell you, the first few years were not the easiest. We were both new to the seminary and to each other. Our positions had been vacant for some time, and we were embarking on a major capital campaign. The early years were intense and not without a conflict or two.

Yet, it did not take long to see that Monsignor is fiercely loyal to his Church, to his seminary and to his friends. And he loves to laugh and tell stories. Over the years, I have heard hundreds of Monsignor’s stories and never tire of listening to them. I am happy to say that I have entered into a story or two in his vast repertoire. I have been edified to witness his ardent dedication to the seminary and have been blessed by his personal loyalty. All of us at the seminary are forever indebted to Monsignor for the contributions he has made to our venerable institution.

A couple of months ago, while raising a glass for my wife’s birthday at a local establishment, I texted Monsignor. A short time later, he joined the celebration. I thought back to that prayer I offered during my first interview. The reality is I had no idea what I was getting into. Thankfully, God did.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas R. Ryan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Thomas R. Ryan

Vice President for Institutional Advancement



Reflecting back on the 10 years I served The Saint Paul Seminary as academic dean, I am grateful for the privilege of working with Msgr. Callaghan.

Monsignor is a tireless worker, completely committed to the success of the institution in every phase of its operations. His energy alone is a force to be reckoned with. Even after 46 years as a priest, he approaches his assignment with the energy and enthusiasm of the newly ordained. He is a man on a mission – you are either with him or have the good sense to get out of the way. The running of the bulls in Pamplona comes to mind.

Monsignor has an extraordinarily generous heart. Over time, one could learn to predict the outcome of virtually every scenario. When a difficulty would arise, the resolution would inevitably come down to one thing: “I went and talked to Monsignor.” A reconciliation would occur, a solution would emerge, and all of us knew it was the right thing to do. Moreover, were the situation ever otherwise, you could count on Monsignor to extend to you the same generosity. A landowner who gives a generous wage comes to mind.

Monsignor loves the priesthood. There is no other way to say it than in a declarative sentence. It is clearest to anyone that when it comes to Monsignor, there is simply nothing more attractive, more inviting and exciting than the priesthood of Jesus Christ. Once a young man expresses a desire to pursue the vocation, Monsignor is on it. He is completely committed to creating the conditions in which a man’s early and sometimes ambiguous “perhaps” matures into a full-throated, “Yes!” It pains him to see a man “discern out.” Only when the taillights of the moving van sink over the distant horizon and the dust finally settles, does Monsignor finally concede that perhaps it is best not to list him on the roster for next year. He knows the priesthood demands standards and he never relents on his responsibility; but he also knows that the Holy Spirit accomplishes great things if only a man permits it. A father waiting on his front porch for one of his sons to return comes to mind.

Monsignor is a romantic. He not only loves the Church, he is in love with the Church. It is not unusual to catch him in one of his more giddy moments, singing Dean Martin’s “Volare” as he walks the hallway with a cup of coffee a half inch below his lip, poised to wet his whistle in order to be adequately prepared for the next verse. Here is a man with the weight of the world placed on him, crooning at the top of his lungs like a man – well, frankly, a man in love comes to mind.

Monsignor is a priest. More than any other task placed on him, Monsignor knows that his deepest reality is to be a priest of Jesus Christ. His commitment to the sacrifice of the Mass is palpable; his love for the sacraments undoubted. He can change gears in an instant, from a no-nonsense administrator to a heart-felt pastor. You can approach him with any concern without a moment’s notice, and he adjusts immediately. His pastoral instinct remains intact despite years of administrative tasks.

“You have to learn to see the faces behind all the papers,” he once told me in a moment of my own self-pity, “and learn to love through the work you’ve been given by God.”

To love the task you have been given by God ... perhaps that is why one sees the Father’s affection in his attention to every detail and his zeal for souls. Christ comes to mind.

Christopher J. Thompson

Dr. Christopher Thompson
Associate Professor of Moral Theology



The Saint Paul Seminary

SCHOOL OF DIVINITY
UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS
2260 SUMMIT AVENUE ST. PAUL, MN 55105-1094
www.saintpaulseminary.org

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
University of
St. Thomas



Our Lady of Knock

There were people of all ages,
Gathered round the gable wall.
Poor and humble men and women,
Little children that you call.
We are gathered here before you,
And our hearts are just the same.
Filled with joy at such a vision
As we praise your name.

**Golden Rose, Queen of Ireland,
All my cares and troubles cease.
As we kneel with love before you,
Lady of Knock, my Queen of Peace.**

Though your message was unspoken
But the truth in silence lies.
So I gaze upon your vision
And the truth I try to find.
Here I stand with John the teacher
And with Joseph at your side.
And I see the Lamb of God
On the altar glorified.

And the Lamb will conquer
And the woman clothed in the sun
Will shine her light on everyone.
And the Lamb will conquer
And the woman clothed in the sun
Will shine her light on everyone.

Lyrics by Dana Rosemary Scallon