

Rev. Joseph C. Taphorn, JCL

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Curriculum Vitae

Personal

I was born on July 6, 1971, in Omaha, Nebraska, the youngest of five children of Jim (deceased) and Joan Taphorn. I attended a parochial grade school and a Jesuit high school. I was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Omaha on June 7, 1997.

Education

Juris Canonici Licentia, magna cum laude, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome 2002
Thesis: "The Academic *Mandatum*: Its Theological Roots, Expression in Law, and Enforcement."

Master of Divinity, Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, OH 1997

Master of Arts in Theology (emphasis in morals), *magna cum laude*, 1996
Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, OH.

Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude* (majors: Philosophy and Spanish), 1993
Benedictine College, Atchison, KS

Certification

Certificate in "Seminary Formation for Missionary Discipleship," 2021
Seminary Formation Council, Boyton Beach, FL.

Certificate in "The Spirituality of Diocesan Priesthood and Spiritual Direction," 2017
Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF), Omaha, NE.

Current Assignment

Rector / Vice-President of The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity, 2019-present
Saint Paul, MN. This role also includes serving as Vice-President
of the University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul, MN.

Academic Instruction

DVST 701, Christian Marriage (specifically canon law on marriage, 2020-2021
Part 2 of the course), The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity

Current Board Affiliations / Committee Memberships

- Advisory Council Member, Pentecost Today USA 2022-present
- Member, Board of Directors, Seminary Formation Council 2022-present
- Member, McGrath Seminary Study Group of the McGrath Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame 2020-present
- Member, Board of Trustees, The Saint Paul Seminary 2019-present
- Member, Board of Trustees, St. John Vianney College Seminary 2019-present
- Assistant Secretary (corporate officer), Catholic Mutual Group 2010-present

Past Assignments – Curia of the Archdiocese of Omaha

- Judge of the Metropolitan Tribunal Dec. 2015-2018
- Consultant to Archbishop George Lucas on ethical matters / Archdiocesan relationship to Catholic hospitals. 2009-2019
- Moderator of the Curia 2010-2017
- Vicar for Clergy 2010-2016
- Judicial Vicar 2012-2015
- *Censor librorum* 2007-2012
- Judge of the Metropolitan Tribunal 2002-2011
- Defender of the Bond 2010-2011
- Chancellor and Spokesman 2005-2010
- Vice-Chancellor 2002-2005
- Diocesan Director for Catholic Relief Service and Catholic Campaign for Human Development 2002-2005
- Master of Ceremonies (liturgical) for Archbishop 2002-2004; 2008-2011
- Ecumenical Officer 2002-2004

Past Assignments – Other

Served in two regional dioceses / tribunals to assist in resolving matters related to clergy misconduct. 2013 and 2016-2018

Past Parish Assignments

- Founding Pastor and Director, St. John Paul II Newman Center, Omaha, NE. Aug. 2016- Dec. 2018
(Served as chaplain for University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) students, July 2015 – Aug. 2016, leading into the establishment of the Newman Center parish.)
- Resident, St. Margaret Mary Parish, Omaha, NE 2009-2016
- Parochial Administrator, St. Francis Borgia Parish, Blair, NE 2008
(Administered the parish while the pastor was away for treatment.)
- Resident, Christ the King Parish, Omaha, NE 2007-2009
- Parochial Administrator, St. Ann Parish, Omaha, NE 2007
(Administered the parish during the process of its suppression and winding down of its spiritual and temporal affairs.)
- Resident, St. Agnes Parish, Omaha, NE 2002-2005

- Parochial Vicar, Sacred Heart Parish, Norfolk, NE 1997-2000

Past Board Affiliations

- Vice-president ('21-'23) and Executive Committee Member ('20), National Association of Catholic Theological Schools (NACTS) 2020-2023
- Marianna, Inc. Board of Directors (a rural retirement village for priests in Nebraska) 2002-2022
- Archdiocese of Omaha College of Consultors 2013-2018
- Nebraska Catholic Conference 2010-2018
- Archdiocese of Omaha Finance Council 2010-2018
- Catholic Cemeteries Board of Directors 2010-2018
- Archdiocese of Omaha Deposit and Loan Board 2010-2018
- Archdiocese of Omaha Presbyteral Council 2003-2016
- Archdiocese of Omaha Clergy Sexual Abuse Review Board (Archbishop's Delegate) 2005-2016
- FOCUS Spiritual Advisory Council 2012-2013
- "Promise 2020" Parish and School Pastoral Planning, Archdiocesan Leadership Team and Steering Committees 2011-2012
- Archdiocesan Synod Steering Committee 2003-2004
- National Workshop on Christian Unity / National Association of Diocesan Ecumenical Officers, National Conference Planning Committee 2003-2004
- Archdiocesan Eucharistic Congress Steering Committee 2002-2003
- Ethics Committee of Faith Regional Health Services, Norfolk, NE 2001-2002

Retreats

One of my interests as a priest has been to provide powerful retreat and conference experiences for young people that introduce them to Christ and the healing power of the Holy Spirit. As pastor of the JPPII Newman Center, my staff and I have also offered a fall weekend retreat to college students that teaches them how to pray, largely following the IPF curriculum. I have also served as an individual spiritual director for Ignatian retreats for both seminarians and priests.

- Spiritual director for diocesan priests' retreat, Diocese of Rapid City 2020
- Spiritual director for IPF's Summer Program for diocesan seminarians. 2016-2018 and 2022-2023
- Fall retreat for college students (UNO and Wayne State, NE), "Heart Speaks to Heart" 2015-2018
- FOCUS Prayer Team Training / chaplain to prayer teams at national FOCUS conferences 2015-2018
- FOCUS Spiritual Impact Bootcamp Retreat (approximately 12 retreats, including local, regional and national venues) 2011-2019
- Core planning team to bring Omaha archdiocesan youth to Franciscan University of Steubenville Youth Conferences 2005-2015

Presentations

- Diocese of Duluth Priest Conference, 2 presentations on the personal and communal discernment of the Holy Spirit 2023
- Seminary Formation Council, 4 presentations during a weeklong module on “Seminary as a Culture of Encounter” 2023
- Seminary Formation Council, “Principles of Confidentiality and the Internal/External *Fora*” and “The Rights and Responsibilities of Those in Formative Relationships” 2022
- Twin Cities Chapter of Legatus, “The Complementary Roles of the Clergy and the Laity” 2021
- Advent Day of Recollection for Priests of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, “Advent Themes in Priestly Ministry” 2020
- Spirit Catholic Radio “Ask a Priest” live weekly morning segment 2005-2018
- Testimonial, IPF Celebration of Priesthood Banquet 2018
- Homilist, Benedictine College Mass of the Holy Spirit 2017
- Address to permanent deacons of the Archdiocese of Omaha, sponsored by the St. John Paul II Foundation, “Pastoral Accompaniment of those Seeking a Valid Marriage, Convalidation, or Annulment” 2017
- Curia Lenten Day of Recollection, Diocese of Lincoln 2017
- Clergy Assembly (2-day), Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, “The Parish Priests’ Guide to Canon Law” 2016
- Dinner address to FOCUS Chaplains on the Year of Mercy, SLS National Conference 2016
- Address to permanent deacons of the Archdiocese of Omaha, Deacon Day of Prayer, “The Deacon as a Bridge to Jesus Christ and His Church” 2014
- One Heart, One Fire Ministries, “The Holy Spirit in Catholic Prayer.” 2013
- National Diocesan Association of Attorneys, Rocky Mountain Regional Area, “The Convergence of Civil Law and Canon Law in Diocesan Administration: Case Studies from the Archdiocese of Omaha.” 2013
- Homilist, Vigil for Life Mass prior to State of Nebraska Walk for Life 2009

Languages

- Spanish (moderate fluency)
- Italian (basic proficiency)

Memberships

- Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem
- Jesus Caritas Fraternity of Priests
- Institute for Priestly Formation (a public association of the faithful)
- Canon Law Society of America
- Midwest Canon Law Society

Personal Interests

- Offering spiritual direction
- Charismatic renewal / teaching on and exercising the spiritual gifts
- Pro-life movement
- Running
- Alpine skiing
- Recreational sailing
- Italian food and red wine