

on consecrated religious life and Bishop expressed his appreciation for the role of both active and contemplative consecrated women religious in the Church

SCHOOLS AND PARISHES ORDER CHILDREN'S VOCATION PRAYER CARD



The Office of Vocations made the 2006 Children's Vocation Prayer Card available for purchase by our Catholic Schools and Religious Education programs. The card was the result of this year's National Vocation Awareness Week prayer card contest. Participants entered either artwork or prayers relating to vocation awareness. The contest winners were Patty Fabijanczyk, an 8th grader at St. Leo the Great, for her art work and Brendan Miller, a 2nd grader at St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School, who wrote the winning prayer. Thirteen schools and parishes placed orders for the prayer cards and will be giving them out before the end of the school year in order to encourage their students to pray daily for insight into their own unique vocation in Christ.

Please contact the Office of Vocations if you would like to place an order.

HOLY THURSDAY BREAKFAST AND CHRISM MASS

Once again the priests of the diocese enjoyed the tradition of Bishop Loverde and the seminarians preparing and serving breakfast on Holy Thursday. With the assistance of Emma Siapno, who runs the STM Cathedral School kitchen, the seminarians gathered early to get the pancake batter and coffee ready. Bishop Loverde donned his chef's hat and manned the pancake griddles, spatula in hand. There was a good variety of healthy (and not so healthy) fixings and everyone had their fill. There was only one complaint...NO SCRAPPLE! After enjoying the food and fraternity the seminarians made fast work of the cleanup before heading to the Cathedral to serve at the Chrism Mass.



ROB KENNEDY TO BEGIN THEOLOGY STUDIES IN ROME

On July 10th, Arlington seminarian Rob Kennedy will arrive in Rome for his Theology studies. He will be joining Robert Wagner who has just completed his first year at the Pontifical North American College. Their comments follow. Please keep them in your prayers!

This past semester, I was blessed to receive a great gift from Bishop Loverde when he asked me to study at the North American College in Rome. Having been graduated from Saint Charles Borromeo College Seminary this past May, the next several months will bring exciting changes in my life. In early July, I will travel to a language immersion program in the Appenine Mountains where I will study Italian and live with a family. In October, I will begin my studies at the Gregorian University. I am looking forward to this great and challenging opportunity to experience life in the Eternal City, but I look forward even more to coming back in four years, God willing, as a priest to serve the people of the Diocese of Arlington .-Rob Kennedy

I am certainly looking forward to Rob joining me at the NAC in August. We will be studying Italian together for a few weeks in Italy, so I will actually have the chance to get to know him even before orientation starts! Since he and I arrived in the formation program for Arlington at the same time in the Summer of 2003, we have been at different seminaries, so to finally be in the same seminary and

be able to develop our friendship will be a great opportunity for me. I know what a blessing it was to have Deacon Phil Cozzi here to help me when I came here last Summer, and God willing, I will be able to help Rob with his transition to a new seminary and a new country! -Robert Wagner

SEMINARIANS STUDYING SPANISH

Three of our diocesan seminarians will be bettering their Spanish language skills in order to serve the blend of cultures living in the Diocese of Arlington. Steve Schultz, Matthew DeForest, and Jason Weber will participate in the immersion experience in Quéretaro, Mexico. The three men will be enrolled in the Organización Lingüística de Español which provides three hours of daily instruction and lodging with local families. They will pray Morning Prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours in Spanish and have several weekend excursions. Their pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City will be one of the highlights of the summer. The seminarians will return to Arlington on August 5th.

SERRANS HOST DINNER FOR PARISH VOCATION PROMOTERS AND THEIR PASTORS

On May 3rd the Serra Club of Arlington hosted an appreciation dinner for the Parish Vocations Promoters and their Pastors. It was held at the Knights of Columbus Hall at All Saints. In addition to and parish promoters and pastors the Serrans welcome Sr. Eloína, PSSJ and representatives from the Spanish Vocations Committee. Serran Dave Maurer gave the welcome and spoke about the Serra Club of Arlington before introducing All Saints pastor Fr. Bob Cilinski who lead the blessing before the meal. During dinner Fr. Bashista showed the new USCCB dvd “Fishers of Men” which was very well received by all.



Between juggling feats, Fr. Francis Peffley, pastor at Holy Trinity, gave the keynote address. Using the acronym **V-O-C-A-T-I-O-N**, Father Peffley, highlighted the reality that there is no vocation crisis, but rather a “listening crisis”. He pointed to eight ways to foster holiness and vocations. **V**: listen to the **Voice** of God; **O**: be **Open** in prayer to God’s will; **C**: foster **Consecration** to Jesus through Mary; **A**: serve through **Apostolates** of the Church; **T**: have a **True devotion** to Mary (*St. Louis de Montfort*); **I**: deepen **Interior life** through prayer and spirituality; **N**: **Now** what can we do?...**pray a rosary for vocations every day!**

DIOCESE BLESSED WITH ONE NEW DEACON AND SEVEN NEW PRIESTS



June is ordinations month for the Diocese of Arlington. The following men were to the priesthood ordained on June 10th: Rev. Phillip Cozzi, 30 (parish assignment: St. Leo the Great Church, Fairfax), Rev. Kevin Fimian, 43 (parish assignment: St. Agnes Church, Arlington), Rev. Bjorn Lundberg, 31 (parish assignment: Cathedral of St. Thomas More, Arlington), Rev. Charles Smith, 41 (parish assignment: Our Lady of Angels, Woodbridge), Rev. Gregory Thompson, 34 (parish assignment: All Saints Church, Manassas), Rev. Joseph Vu, 40 (parish assignment: St. Philip Church, Falls Church),

and Rev. Jamie Workman, 30 (parish assignment: Blessed Sacrament Church, Alexandria). Rev. Mr. Chris Vaccaro was ordained a transitional deacon on June 3rd and will serve at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More.



Bishop Loverde commented that *“The large class of ordinands this year is so encouraging for the future of the Church. Their witness and sacrifice are an inspiration to all of us. I see in them the ability to lead the members of the Church faithfully during these ever-changing and constantly demanding times.”*

ON THE NATURE OF THE PRIESTHOOD BY POPE BENEDICT XVI

“...the priesthood of the New Testament, which appeared first in the apostles, presupposes a true communion with the mission of Jesus Christ.”

The person who becomes a priest is grafted into His mission. For this reason, an intimate personal relationship with Christ is fundamental for priestly life and ministry. All priestly formation should lead to the fostering of this relationship. The priest should be a person who knows Jesus intimately, has met Him and learned to love Him. The priest should therefore be a man of prayer, a truly "spiritual" man. Without strong spiritual substance he cannot last in his ministry. From the mystery of Christ he should also learn in his life not to seek himself nor his own promotion. He should learn to spend his life for Christ and for his flock.



Such a way of living is opposed to our natural inclination, but little by little it becomes clear that only he who is capable of forgetting himself is truly free. One who works for Christ learns by experience that one sows and another reaps (cf. Jn 4:56). He has no need to look for success and thus have to rely on himself. Since he is working for the Lord, he leaves the outcome to the Lord and in joyfulness of spirit he places his concerns in the hands of the Lord.

Excerpt from a speech given by Pope Benedict XVI as Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, on October 1, 1990. It is from a translation of the Cardinal's 22-page Latin speech entitled, "On the Nature of the Priesthood".

MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH AND MOTHER OF VOCATIONS, PRAY FOR US!

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