



Paulist Today

LOOKING FORWARD



The work is now underway: the renovation of St. Paul's College in Washington, DC, and the creation of the Father Isaac T. Hecker, CSP, Ministry Center. What was the genesis of this project?

Almost four years ago our General Assembly began a process to address two questions: what is the best use of the resource that we have at St. Paul's College? and what is the best location for our formation program? Two different task forces, whose expertise was enhanced by the presence of non-Paulists, addressed the questions.

One group concluded that relocation of our formation program to another city would offer no real advantage; in addition, they recommended finding ways to heighten the interaction among the members of the formation community. When the renovations are complete, this will be the case.

The other task force presented various options to our General Council concerning the St. Paul's College property. We discerned that the prudent course was to retain the building. Some of the space will be adapted for the formation program. Renovations in the rest of the building will enhance our ability to provide office space for various national and international church organizations that resonate with the work of the Paulists—thus the creation of the Hecker Ministry Center. Some of our North American Paulist Ministry Offices will also be relocating to Washington, DC. We hope for increased collaboration among all of these groups.

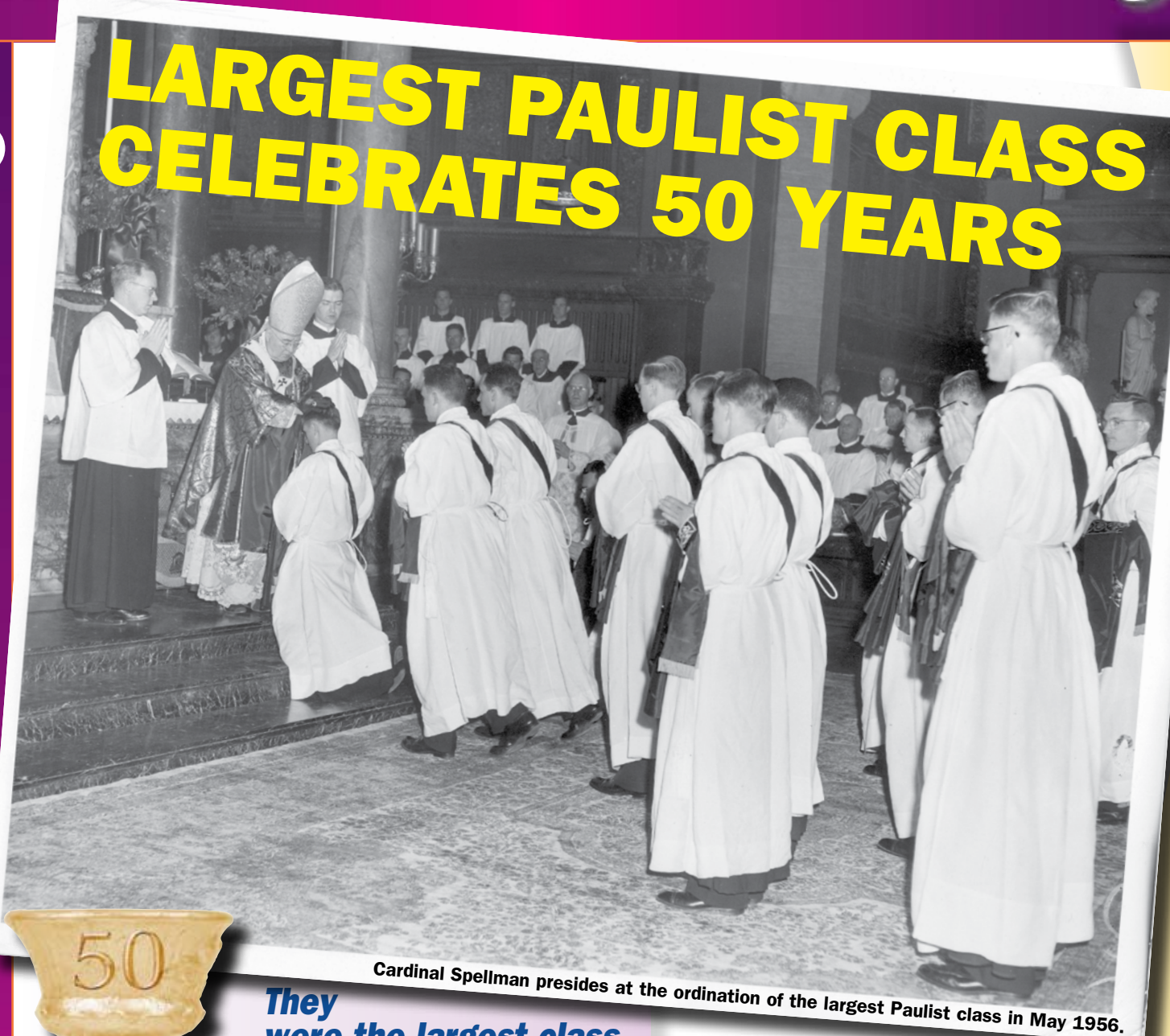
St. Paul's College is adjacent to the headquarters of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and one block from The Catholic University of America. Our presence in Washington has been a key part of our history. Paulists were instrumental in the beginning of Catholic University. And the late Paulist Msgr. John J. Burke helped to form and then directed the National Catholic Welfare Council which would later be transformed into the present United States Bishops' Conference.

I would be remiss not to point out that another significant element of our history entails close interaction with the leadership of the Catholic Church in Canada. For example, for many years the founder of our Paulist Office for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, Father Tom Ryan, was the director of the Canadian Catholic Conference's Centre for Ecumenism. He will be moving his Paulist office from New York City to St. Paul's College.

As we approach the 150th anniversary of our founding, we want to utilize to the fullest extent possible this wonderful resource, St. Paul's College, to foster our ministry of service to the church in North America.

Father John Duffy, CSP
President

LARGEST PAULIST CLASS CELEBRATES 50 YEARS



Cardinal Spellman presides at the ordination of the largest Paulist class in May 1956.

They were the largest class in Paulist history. Their ordination at the hands of Cardinal Francis Spellman on May 3, 1956, at St. Paul the Apostle Church, was reported in no fewer than seven New York City daily papers. And the eight Paulists who celebrate 50 years of priesthood this spring are still the largest Paulist class. One of their younger colleagues calls them "the backbone of the community."

Paulist Fathers William Cantwell, Thomas Connellan, Phillip Cunningham, Kevin Devine, Joseph Mahon, James McQuade, David O'Brien and Rudolph Vorisek share an accumulated 400 years of priesthood. To try to capture that history in a few short paragraphs is an effort bound to fall short.

Living in Paulist foundations from New York to Florida to Ohio to California, these priests have unique stories. At the same time, common threads run through their narratives. When they were ordained, seminary courses and liturgies were in Latin. Then, in 1962, Pope John XXIII opened the Second Vatican Council. "It was a time of great hope," Cunningham recalls. Others affirm that their seminary experience had already opened them to the ideas of reform and renewal fostered at the Council. O'Brien spent three months in Rome during the fourth session of Vatican II, reporting back to his diocesan paper and the Newman Center at the University of Texas on the vitality, hopefulness and openness that he encountered in formal meetings and especially in neighborhood trattorias where theologians gathered to

talk informally. He was able to call on some of those theologians later to bring their ideas to the college campuses where he was assigned.

An Army chaplain since 1962, **Father Kevin Devine** brought the consolation of the Gospel to soldiers in Greenland, Alaska, Germany, Korea and Vietnam, where he received the Silver Star for bravery in combat. Working closely with chaplains of other traditions and faiths, he says, "The key word for Paulists in the military is ecumenism. We are all brothers and sisters." In 1992, Devine returned to his childhood parish of Good Shepherd in New York City, and, on September 11, 2001, found himself near Ground Zero, ministering to police officers, firefighters and other rescue personnel. The next evening, he led a candlelight procession of thousands to the local firehouse and back to Good Shepherd for prayer. He continues to support those who felt the force of the attack and cherishes the memory of those who fell. With Mary, the Mother of God, and St. Paul, "my big brother," he says, "I keep moving along from day to day."

Each of the eight Paulists remembers his missionary assignments in their proper chronology, remembers his colleagues in mission and remembers the Paulist priests whose personalities and preaching drew them to the order as young men. A Naval Academy graduate, **Father Tom Connellan** was headed for a job with a locomotive company after he left the Navy. He remembers asking a Paulist, "What do you people do?" When he heard the answer, he thought, "I'd rather explain the church than locomotives," and, at 82, he still delights in explaining the church. Connellan spent years in campus ministry in New York, and as pastor, both in Knoxville and San Francisco. He served as vice president of the Paulists for eight years and as novice master for nine years. But he counts his time at the Catholic Information Center in Grand Rapids as "the best,"

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Photos: Courtesy of Paulist Archives

50 YEARS helping prospective Catholics “to know the Lord and the church a little better.” He is doing the same thing now from the house in Vero Beach that he opened at the request of the Paulists for their older priests. Assisting regularly at Holy Cross Church, Connellan says, “Priests can retire from administrative duties, but we never retire from being ordained.”

Father Bill Cantwell is also a member of the Vero Beach community and helps out at St. Helen Parish. “It’s like a shot in the arm to go there,” he says. Cantwell met his classmate Connellan on the way to the Paulist seminary at Oak Ridge, New Jersey, in 1949, and recalls that this largest class strained the resources of the building: “We had guys sleeping in the library.” An early assignment sent Cantwell traveling by Trailways bus through Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Nevada and Kansas to preach missions in far-flung parishes and to forge a bond with the Nez Perce Indians. “Bill has wonderful compassion for the poor,” says a Paulist brother. “You can see it in all of his assignments.” He did pastoral work in Minneapolis, New York, West Virginia, Colorado, Knoxville and Memphis—and for ten years in Plateau, a Mobile, Alabama, suburb. After Hurricane Frederick devastated

Mobile in 1979, Cantwell helped to rebuild Our Mother of Mercy Church. He fostered a free clinic there with volunteer medical personnel until liability issues shut it down.

Father Dave O’Brien has made his mark as a university chaplain—in Austin, Texas, from 1956 to 1968, and then in Storrs, Connecticut, and at Ohio State since 1995. The idea of reaching out to searchers drew him to the Paulists, and he found the searchers in university communities. Drawing on his Vatican II contacts, he enriched the faith experience of students and faculties alike. O’Brien’s successor as director of the Newman Center at Ohio State, Paulist Father Larry Rice has this to say: “Under Father Dave’s leadership, the St. Thomas More Newman Center at OSU has grown into the sort of faith community that exemplifies the Paulists’ mission: reaching beyond ourselves, and creating a place of welcome for seekers.” O’Brien served 12 years in full-time Paulist administration, as first consultant and later as vice president. For 30 of his 50 years, he has been a member of the Paulist Council. He also counts service as pastor in Boulder, Colorado, and in Austin.

Like Connellan, **Father Rudy Vorisek** counts his eight years at the Catholic Information Center in Grand Rapids as a high point of his missionary life. “We were teaching and receiving into the church hundreds and hundreds of new Catholics,” he recalls with enthusiasm undiminished by time or the spinal ailments that have disabled him in recent years. Vorisek spent his first year of priesthood earning

a graduate degree in modern history at Catholic University, part of a Paulist plan to upgrade the accreditation of St. Peter’s College, the Paulist preparatory seminary in Baltimore. He taught at St. Peter’s for 11 years, delighting in bringing Vatican II to future Paulists. Then, after eight years at St. Mark’s, the Paulist parish at UC Santa Barbara, Vorisek went to Grand Rapids. His mother’s illness called him home to New York in 1984, and he began a 20-year commitment to the patients at Roosevelt Hospital, across the street from St. Paul the Apostle Church.



Newly-ordained Paulist Father Kevin Devine asks God’s blessing on his brothers, Finbar of the 18th New York precinct, and Matthew, private, US Army.

Father Jim McQuade followed Vorisek in 2004 as chaplain at Roosevelt Hospital where, he says, “You see that all is not just Easter Sunday. Life is also Good Friday.” From 1965 to 1974, McQuade also served as chaplain at Austin State Hospital in Texas. He served patients and staff, and was involved in training seminarians and clergy, mainly Protestant, for hospital ministry. “This gave me an ecumenical appreciation of the life and ministry of other Christian peoples,” he says, “and strengthened my own faith.” A continuing conversion process, he insists, is essential for anyone who is called to bring the Gospel to others. McQuade also served at the Information Center in Grand Rapids, as campus minister at West Virginia University and as pastor at John XXIII in Knoxville. “Being a pastor made me realize what it means to be a father, especially in a university setting,” he says. He applauds the

firm foundation of his seminary experience, and declares that in 50 years of priesthood, “Wherever I hung my hat was happy.”

Father Phil Cunningham met the Paulists when he was a student at UCLA, and spent 21 years as a Paulist priest on college campuses, notably Johns Hopkins in Baltimore and the University of California at San Diego, finding energy in the mission itself—“doing what Paulists were founded to do,” especially in company with young people who are the future of the church. Cunningham wrote “A Believer’s Search for the Jesus of History,” other volumes on Scripture and many journal articles. At Johns Hopkins, he led students to the new ideas of Vatican II and also to local anti-war rallies. He served at Santa Susanna in Rome during the first two years of the pontificate of John Paul II. For 16 years, Cunningham gave Paulists a voice in their in-house newsletter INTRACOM.

“My whole Paulist life has been in the preaching apostolate,” says **Father Joe Mahon**, preaching missions and retreats and renewals, presiding at novenas and days of recollection. He recalls his days as a deacon on the trailer missions in Mississippi (with classmate O’Brien) as “good basic training” for his future as a preacher. The spirit emanating from Rome during the Council led him and other missionaries to recast the format of parish missions, saying Mass in homes, “in smaller settings like the early days of the church,” and in the language of the people. Preaching missions, he says, is a great opportunity for giving the Word a voice, a “marvelous vehicle” for reaching people in a short time and an opportunity to see the working of God’s grace. One of his Paulist brothers remembers hearing Mahon preach “the best homily I’d heard in 30 years. I sat in the pew listening to him and every word, every gesture was magnificent.” Mahon lives at St. Paul the Apostle in New York City.

A final thread that binds these histories together is the profound respect and affirmation these priests have for the lay people with whom they have worked throughout the country and the world. They do not hesitate to say how lay people have influenced the shape of their ministry. These priests are a persistent sign of hope, undiminished after 50 years.

THREE PAULISTS MARK THEIR FIRST 25 YEARS

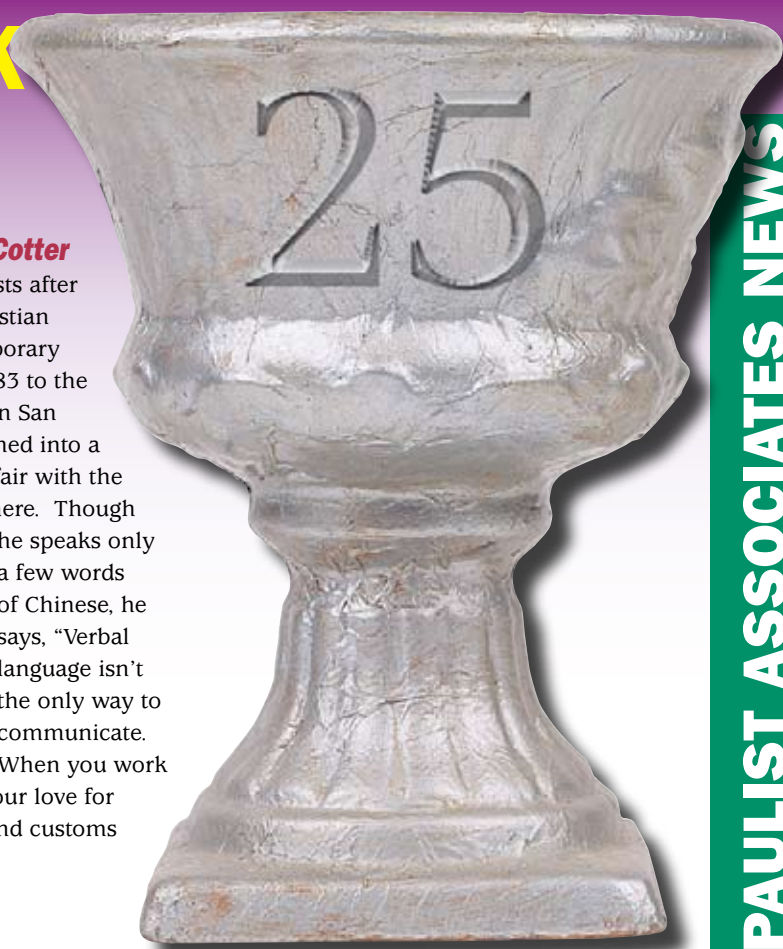
Father Tom Tavella is a preaching missionary, the vocation that called him to the Paulists. There is creativity, joy, challenge to be found in preaching, he says, but “the heart of it is the Word of God.” After six years on mission out of New York, he is now based in Grand Rapids, where, he says, he takes the Catholic Information Center on the road.

Father Paul Rospond has been a missionary to college students in Texas, Minnesota and California. He is enlivened

by the young people with whom he works, people “trying to figure out who they are,” people who are future leaders for the church. Both he and his uncle, Paulist Father Ed Pietrucha, have been called to suffer through the withdrawal of the Paulists from their places of ministry during the current reconfiguration of the community. Rospond will leave St. Mark at UC Santa Barbara and Pietrucha will leave St. Cyril in Tucson.



Father Dan McCotter came to the Paulists after 10 years as a Christian Brother. His temporary assignment in 1983 to the Chinese Mission in San Francisco has turned into a long-term love affair with the Chinese people there. Though he speaks only a few words of Chinese, he says, “Verbal language isn’t the only way to communicate. When you work from the heart, your love for Chinese culture and customs says a lot.”





INVITE! COME AND SEE. WE MISS YOU.

Words are the Paulists' stock in trade. Paulists are preachers, writers, broadcasters, using words in the service of the Gospel, "giving the Word a voice." In that Paulist tradition, the Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association uses words that are hard to ignore in a series of new materials for evangelizing parishes. Invite! Come and See. We Miss You. Reaching Out and Reconciling. Words as engaging and intriguing as the programs they describe.

Invite! Ask Someone to Share the Catholic Faith enables a parish to reach out to some of the 80,000,000 unchurched adults in the United States. For Invite!, PNCEA has

created Come and See, an appealing invitation to someone with no church family to make contact and initiate dialogue within the parish. A guide for each parishioner provides inspiration, motivation, and practical suggestions for extending the invitation. Mary Ann Sychalski of Our Lady of Victory Parish in State College, Pennsylvania, calls Come and See and the Parishioner Guide "user-friendly" brochures. "I've been working in Christian initiation for 15 years," she says, "and the Invite! materials are the best I've seen."

The Parish Manual helps parishes get started with Invite! by providing background material,

offering effective ways to encourage parishioners to participate, and assisting in the initial welcome of those who respond to the invitation. St. Dennis Parish in Chicago has been using Invite! as part of an evangelization effort in their African-American and Hispanic neighborhoods. Pastor Father Larry Dowling cites two winning features of the Parishioner Guide—it helps parishioners find the right words to offer an invitation and the Come and See brochure, and it grounds the invitation in prayer, reminding parishioners to pray not only for the success of this effort but also that they will continue to be God's instruments of evangelization.



PNCEA designed **Catholics Reaching Out** for parishes that want to raise awareness about the over 20,000,000 adults in the United States who were once active parishioners but who now are not participating in a faith community, and invite them to return to the practice of their faith. Similar to Invite!, Catholics Reaching Out provides a colorful and welcoming invitation called We Miss You. A Parishioner Guide and Parish Manual help cultivate a spirit of genuine desire for reunion. PNCEA director Father Ken Boyack,

CSP, says, "A parish that uses Catholics Reaching Out year after year will gain greater parishioner involvement in this outreach ministry and attract more and more inactive Catholics."

A third rich parish resource from PNCEA is **The Reconciling Community: Celebrating the Sacrament of Penance**. A brochure in question and answer format and an examination of conscience card accompany sample letters a pastor can send inviting parishioners to a penance service—all provided in print and on a CD.

For information on obtaining these new parish resources, go to the PNCEA website, www.pncea.org, and click on Evangelization Resources on the lower right section of the home page. The Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association is located at the Hecker Ministry Center in Washington, DC.



BOULDER DEDICATES CAMPUS MINISTRY CENTER



and his colleague Father Tom Holohan, CSP, for the dedication. Other Paulists on hand were Paulist president Father John Duffy, Father Dave Dwyer and Father Ivan Tou.

Campus ministry at UC Boulder began in 1908. The Paulists arrived on the scene in 1977. Chaput thanked the Paulists

The new St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish Catholic Campus Ministry Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder was dedicated in August. Denver Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, OFMCap, joined St. Tom's pastor Father Paul Heusing, CSP,

for their years of service, remarking that it was amazing that so much was accomplished in so small a facility. As part of their restructuring effort, the Paulists will withdraw from pastoral service at St. Thomas Aquinas in 2007.

THE LIGHT ON SUMMIT HILL IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH CELEBRATES 150 YEARS

The first church in the nation to be called Immaculate Conception was founded in Knoxville, Tennessee, in 1855, just after Rome proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. The Paulists were given the care of the parish in 1973.



Bishop Joseph E. Kurtz presided at the 150th anniversary liturgy on December 8, 2005, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, and Kurtz's sixth anniversary as bishop. IC pastor Father Joe Ciccone, CSP, preached the homily, welcoming Paulist president Father John Duffy and Father James Haley, CSP, who was pastor at IC for 12 years and who set the anniversary planning into motion. "I simply went with the flow," Ciccone said. Other Paulists at the celebration included IC's Father Jim Brucz and the other Knoxville Paulists Father Eric Andrews and Father Bob

Cary. In addition to Duffy and Haley, Paulist Fathers Bill Brimley, George Helmich, Paul Reynolds, Bill Cantwell and Tom Connellan flew in for the anniversary events. Connellan was the first Paulist pastor at Immaculate Conception.

The city's first town clock, in the church tower, was repaired and modernized for the sesquicentennial celebration, and continues to keep the citizens of Knoxville on time as it has since the late 19th century. Ciccone said that the refurbished steeple, illuminated by four spotlights, "has already been lovingly baptized 'Haley's Halo,'" according to a story in "The East Tennessee Catholic."

Almost 400 guests came to the anniversary dinner at the Knoxville Crowne Plaza after Mass. Speeches and songs completed the meal. Connellan and Haley were among those who shared memories of



Photos: Dan McWilliams/The East Tennessee Catholic

Immaculate Conception, and to conclude the celebration, Ciccone sung "The Way You Look Tonight," with words altered for the occasion.

Connellan remarked, "It's the first I knew we had a Paulist Sinatra!"

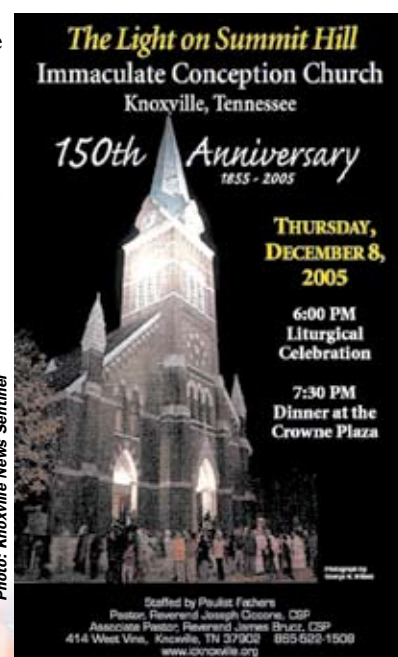


Photo: Knoxville News Sentinel

PAULIST ASSOCIATES NEWS

Paulist Associates have chosen Mount Paul, the former Paulist novitiate in Oak Ridge, New Jersey, as the site for their 2006 annual retreat. Over the weekend of June 16-18, members of Paulist Associate groups from across the country will gather for prayer and reflection. Paula Cuozzo, a Boston associate, and Father Ruben Patiño, CSP, who is on the staff at the Paulist Center in Boston, will help direct the retreat along with Paulist Father Mike Kallock.



In October, 16 Paulist Associates at St. Thomas More Newman Center at The Ohio State University

re-committed for another year, and 19 new associates made first promises. Father Michael Evernden, CSP, reports from St. Philip Neri Parish in Portland, Oregon, that eight new associates were welcomed in February.



New Paulist Associates at St. Thomas More.

Places & Faces



▲ **Jamie Baca, CSP**, was ordained a deacon on September 10 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. The ordaining bishop was Most Rev. Francisco Gonzales, SF, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC. Baca's ordination to the priesthood is scheduled for May.



▲ **Orthodox theologian Dr. Kyriaki Karidoyanes Fitzgerald** delivered the annual Hecker Lecture at St. Paul's College in Washington, DC, on January 20, offering an Eastern Orthodox perspective on women deacons for the church. Fitzgerald is pictured with Paulist Father John Behnke, superior of the Washington community.



▲ **Paulist Father Thomas Kane** has contributed to a new book on ecumenical hospitality, answering such questions as "What happens when one church group visits another church?" and "What is the biblical basis of hospitality in the Christian tradition?" *Receive One Another: Hospitality in Ecumenical Perspective* is published by the World Council of Churches. Kane is on the faculty of the Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, Massachusetts. As a matter of fact, he's on the front page of the school's website.

Mallori Harrel, of St. Augustine Catholic Church, won the title of 2005-2006 Teen-Ager of the Year for the Memphis NAACP. Proud pastor, **Father John Geaney, CSP**, says, "Our folks deserve lots of credit for supporting Mallori and the NAACP."



Photo: Ruben Patiño, CSP

▲ **Father J. Michael Joncas**, liturgical composer ("On Eagle's Wings"), arranger, author and teacher, was the featured speaker at the Liturgical Arts Conference hosted by the Boston Paulist Center in February. Over 400 persons attended the two-day event coordinated by **Timothy Westerhaus**, pastoral minister of liturgy and music at the Paulist Center.

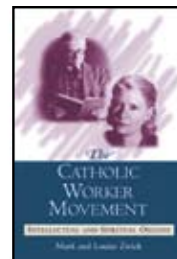


Photo: Tyrone Easley/West Tennessee Catholic



Paulist Press Picks

THE CATHOLIC WORKER MOVEMENT: INTELLECTUAL AND SPIRITUAL ORIGINS



By Mark and Louise Zwick.

The Zwicks' thorough research into the Catholic Worker Movement reveals who influenced Peter Maurin and Dorothy Day. Philosophers, theologians, economists, and saints come to life in the history of this movement.

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PILGRIMAGE TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

JULY 14-26, 2006

Paulist Father Thomas Kane is offering a journey along the Way of St. James, following the pilgrim route to Santiago de Compostela, Spain's most significant pilgrimage site, where Mass will be celebrated on the Feast of St. James. The trip includes many churches and historic locations, as well as the new Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao. The tour is limited to 12 pilgrims to allow for a comfortable journey. Accommodations are in the Paradors of Spain, historic pilgrim hostels converted to modern hotels with gourmet meals and fine Spanish wines.

For a brochure contact Kane at TKane@csp@aol.com.



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