



# Paulist Today

## FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE



In less than three months the 150th anniversary year of the founding of our community, the Paulist Fathers, will begin. Not only will each local foundation celebrate this milestone, but

also in June there will be a gathering of Paulists, our Associates, some bishops, lay collaborators and friends on the campus of The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. This locale is quite appropriate: the Paulists were instrumental in the founding of the university and in 1889 became the first religious community to arrive there.

Yes, during the coming year, we will be celebrating 150 years of service to the church in North America. But it is not just a moment to reminisce about how the Spirit has worked through the community; it is also a time to recommit ourselves to the legacy of Father Hecker and the first Paulists. Our mission continues to be needed.

Over the last few years, a development committee of Paulists and lay leaders with experience in finance has been meeting. Their recommendation was that we engage in a capital campaign in conjunction with the 150th anniversary. Our General Council and our most recent General Assembly concurred with them. The endeavor titled in the words of Father Hecker, "A Future Brighter Than Any Past," has begun.

The goal for the campaign is \$12,000,000. This will enable us to support and expand our reconciliation, young adult, communications and evangelization ministries. Furthermore, it will fund the services that are provided to our increasing number of senior Paulists and will assist us in preparing the next generation of Paulists for ministry. Finally, some of the monies will be returned to local foundations to begin or expand ministerial initiatives in line with our Paulist mission.

I have been deeply heartened by the initial response to the campaign in three ways: first, the willingness of many friends like you to make a pledge to the campaign; second, the enthusiasm of the volunteers in the foundations where the campaign has already begun. Not just the Paulists, but so many others are committed to our future. In their telling of the Paulist story, they often narrate how they have been spiritually enriched by their contact with us over the years. Finally, the active participation of my Paulist brothers at the local level and their willingness to speak with others to seek their support is a welcome response.

The campaign will continue into the coming anniversary year. May the Lord reward the generosity of so many who want for the Paulists "A Future Brighter Than Any Past."

Father John F. Duffy, CSP  
President

## STEVEN BELL IS NEWEST PAULIST DEACON

Steven Bell, C.S.P., made his final Paulist promises in the chapel of St. Paul's College in Washington, D.C., on September 7. With his eyes sparkling and a constant smile on his lips, he was called forth to make his lifetime pledge as a member of the Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle.

"This is my articulation of my intention, my public proclamation of my desire to be a Paulist," he said just hours before the Mass. "I take a lot of pride in that identity."

The following day, in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Steven Bell took another step toward the priesthood when he was ordained a transitional deacon by Auxiliary Bishop Martin D. Holley of Washington, D.C.

Growing up in the Church of Christ, Deacon Bell followed the example of faith set by his parents and grandparents. "If you lived in my house, you went to church," he said. "Ever since I was 16 years old,

I knew that ministry was going to be a major part of my life."

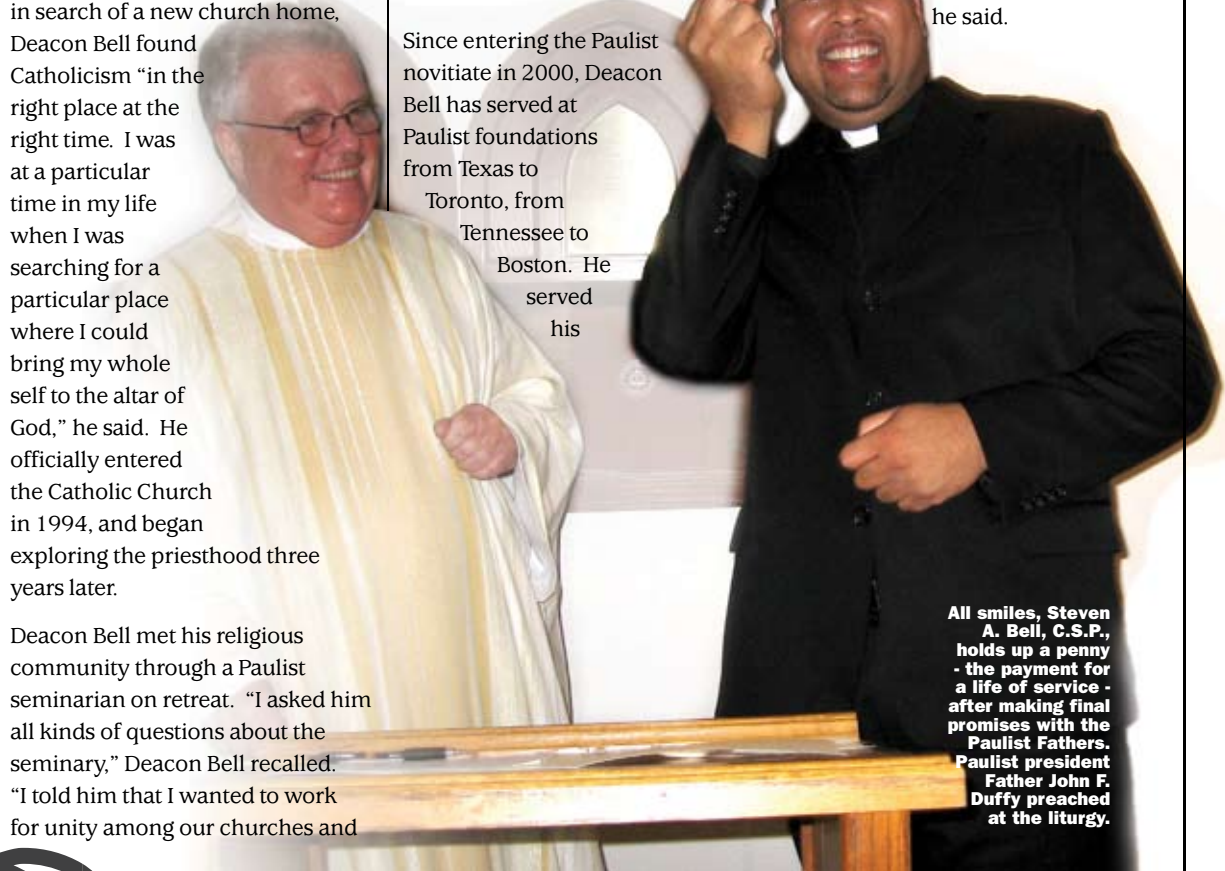
After a self-described "pilgrimage" in search of a new church home, Deacon Bell found Catholicism "in the right place at the right time. I was at a particular time in my life when I was searching for a particular place where I could bring my whole self to the altar of God," he said. He officially entered the Catholic Church in 1994, and began exploring the priesthood three years later.

Deacon Bell met his religious community through a Paulist seminarian on retreat. "I asked him all kinds of questions about the seminary," Deacon Bell recalled. "I told him that I wanted to work for unity among our churches and

that I loved to let people know that God really loves them. He looked at me and said, 'Oh my God! You really are a Paulist!'"

Since entering the Paulist novitiate in 2000, Deacon Bell has served at Paulist foundations from Texas to Toronto, from Tennessee to Boston. He served his

pastoral year at Old St. Mary's in Chicago. "After Chicago, it was clear to me that I was built for this," he said.



All smiles, Steven A. Bell, C.S.P., holds up a penny - the payment for a life of service - after making final promises with the Paulist Fathers. Paulist president Father John F. Duffy preached at the liturgy.

Mark your calendars!

## THE PAULIST 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONVOCAATION IS COMING IN JUNE

By Stefani Manowski.

The Paulist Fathers and friends of the Paulists will gather **June 19-21, 2008**, for a poignant moment in the history of the order - the 150th Anniversary Convocation in Washington, D.C.

This milestone three-day event begins with a welcome barbecue dinner at St. Paul's College on June 19. Things will get in full swing at Catholic University's Przybyla Center the next day with morning prayer and two of the convocation's four top-notch speakers: David O'Brien, who wrote a book on Paulist history and will speak on "The Paulists: From the Beginning," and D. Scott Appleby of the University of Notre Dame, who will speak

on "The Paulists: At the Crossroads of Faith and Culture."

Breakout sessions are scheduled for Paulists, Paulist Associates, Paulist collaborators

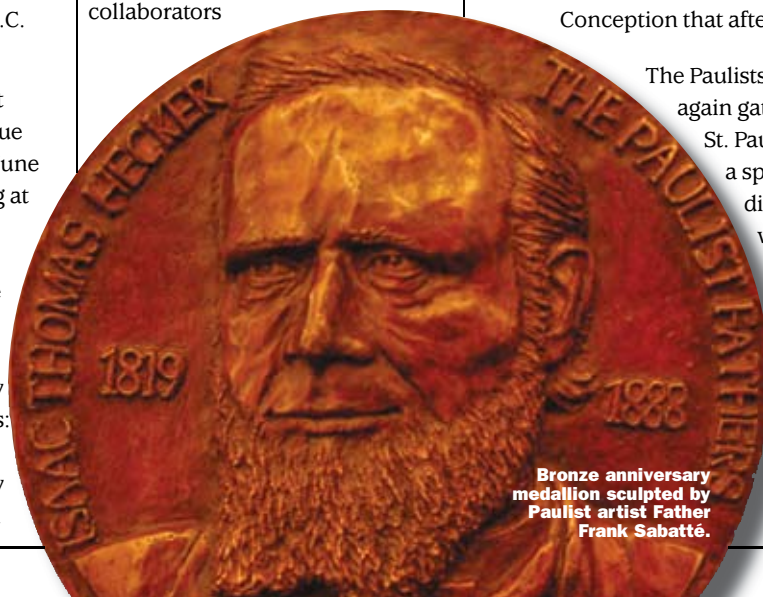
and friends of the Paulists. A Mass in honor of deceased Paulists will be celebrated in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception that afternoon.

The Paulists will again gather at St. Paul's for a special dinner, while other

convocation participants enjoy a seafood buffet and a D.C. monuments tour.

June 21 also begins with morning prayer and keynote addresses on "The Paulists: Spirituality in North America" by noted columnist Father Ron Rohlheiser, O.M.I., and "The Paulists: Impacting the Church of Tomorrow" by Vatican analyst and author John Allen. The breakout sessions will be based on ministry - evangelization, reconciliation, ecumenical and interfaith relations, young adult ministry and national ministries.

The summit of the convocation will be the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass in the basilica's Crypt Church that evening and *Continued on pg. 2...*



Bronze anniversary medallion sculpted by Paulist artist Father Frank Sabatté.





The music and the movement, the colors and the calls streamed from the African American tradition. The prayers and praise were anchored in the Gospel as St. Augustine Church celebrated 70 years as the primary parish for black Catholics in South Memphis. During the last week of

August, folks gathered from the neighborhood and from across the country to socialize, dine, pray and parade in honor of the parish, its school, its priests and its people. "The folks had a wonderful time greeting old classmates, sharing memories and telling stories," said pastor Father John Geaney, C.S.P.

Sunday Mass for the feast of St. Augustine was the crown of the festivities, Father Geaney said, burnished by St. Augustine's gospel choir and liturgical dancers. In the photo, choir members Lillian Payton, right, and Sheila Branch greet each other with a sign of peace during the Mass. Father

Geaney was joined at the altar by Franciscan former pastors and St. Augustine's deacons Robert Atkins and Andrew Terry. St. Augustine's anniversary celebrations will conclude later this year with Bishop Terry Steib, S.V.D., presiding at the closing Eucharist.

Photo by Mike Brown, courtesy of The Commercial Appeal.

## PAULIST FATHER JOHN E. HURLEY HEARS THE CALL TO PASTORAL LIFE

**Paulist Father John E. Hurley took up a new post as director of the National Pastoral Life Center in New York City on September 17.**

The NPLC is an independent non-profit organization founded in 1983 with the encouragement of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The center serves the Catholic Church's leadership in pastoral ministry, providing support to clergy and lay leaders in parishes, dioceses and national organizations.

"These are exciting times for us as disciples, and I hope that NPLC will be on the cutting edge of the church's life as we move forward," said Father Hurley in his letter of acceptance to the board of NPLC. "As Paulist founder Father Isaac Hecker said, 'Our future is brighter than any past.'"

Father Hurley will continue to oversee the Paulist Office for Reconciliation until a successor is named next year, and he will maintain his service on the Paulist General Council. He will also continue as coordinator for the Paulist Campaign for the 150th Anniversary until the end of the

## START PLANNING NOW!

### Do you have a will?

Every adult should have a carefully planned will based on his or her estate, no matter what the value of your assets.

Your will is one of the most important documents you will ever sign. It will enable you to:



- **Memorialize yourself and other loved ones**
- **Contribute to the financial security of your loved ones**
- **Minimize taxes your estate will owe**
- **Benefit charities whose missions you believe in**
- **Distribute assets accumulated during your lifetime.**

There are several types of bequests you can make in your will: general, specific, residuary and contingent. The most common type of bequest to charities is residuary or contingent. If you would like more information on these types of planned gifts, please contact the Development Office at [development@paulist.org](mailto:development@paulist.org) or call (888) PAULIST. When requesting information by email, please type Wills & Bequests in the subject line.

*We hope you will consider the Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle as a beneficiary in your will. Any gift directed to the Paulist Fathers will help to continue the mission of Father Isaac Hecker and the Paulists for years to come—and will be greatly appreciated.*

### CONVOCATION *Continued from pg. 1...*

the gala dinner which follows in the Great Room of the Przybyla Center.

"I hope many of our friends and partners in ministry can join with us not only to celebrate a century and a half of carrying on the vision of Father Hecker, but also to be with us as we recommit ourselves to expand the Paulist legacy," said Paulist president Father John F. Duffy.

We hope you will be able to join us for this milestone event in the history of the Paulist Fathers! Registration begins on January 1, 2008. Log on to [www.paulist.org](http://www.paulist.org) and watch your mail for convocation registration, news and details.

## LAST CHANCE!

If you are 70½ years or older and have an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), this is your last chance to take advantage of the Pension Protection Act of 2006. Congress passed this Act to provide you with significant tax savings by donating directly from your IRA to a non-profit. Qualifying individuals will not have to pay taxes on the amounts transferred. You can transfer any amount you desire up to \$100,000 on or before December 31, 2007. For more information contact your tax advisor.

**Please consider making a donation to the Paulist Fathers today if you qualify for this tax discount. Call 888-PAULIST to speak with a member of the financial development staff.**

### FORMATION

## PAULISTS WELCOME THREE NOVICES

Three men were received into the Paulist novitiate program during a September 1 liturgy at St. Paul's College in Washington, D.C. Phillip Andrews, Matthew Sanders and Gaurav Shroff have begun a year of discernment and formation within the Washington Paulist community under the guidance of Father John Behnke, C.S.P., director of novices.

Mr. Andrews, 30, and Mr. Sanders, 25, both were received into full communion of the

Catholic Church as young adults. The Paulist focus on ecumenism and young adult ministry was especially appealing to Mr. Sanders. "I like that the Paulists are involved in all different media," he said. Mr. Andrews was engaged by the Paulist charism of evangelization, reconciliation and ecumenical/interfaith relations. "The charism really seems to be one of compassion," he explained.

Mr. Shroff, 34, was accepted into last year's novice class, but returned temporarily to his native India

in response to family obligations. "It is good to be back," he said. "I enjoyed my experience last year, and am looking forward to continuing my discernment and getting a better sense of the community." Coming to the Catholic Church from a Hindu background, Mr. Shroff is "energized by the Paulist missions of evangelization and interfaith dialogue."

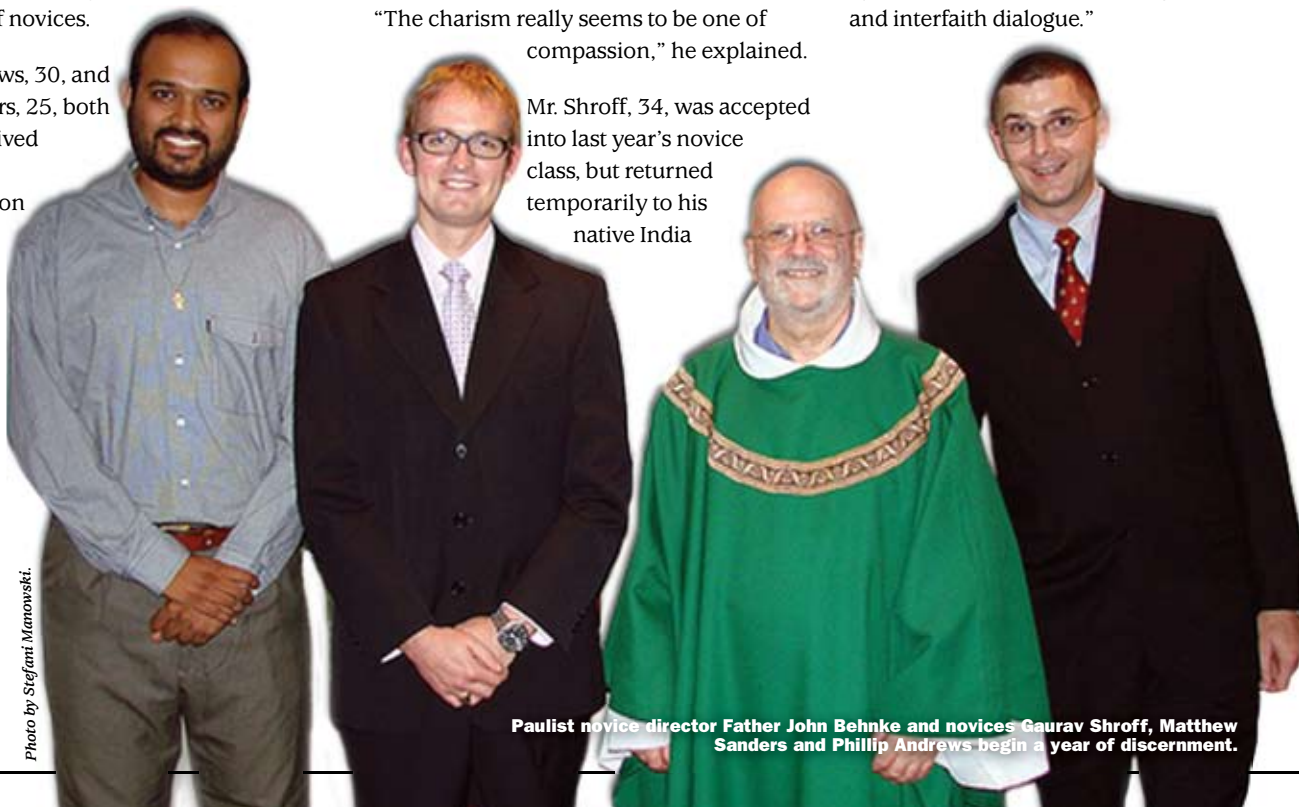


Photo by Stefani Manowski.

Paulist novice director Father John Behnke and novices Gaurav Shroff, Matthew Sanders and Phillip Andrews begin a year of discernment.



# FATHER JOHN DUFFY DEDICATES NATIONAL LIFE CENTER

program's public phase in April 2008.

The new position at the NPLC will only further his Paulist ministry, Father Hurley said, acknowledging particularly the areas of evangelization and reconciliation, both significant missions for NPLC and the Paulists.



# PAULISTS DEDICATE HECKER CENTER FOR MINISTRY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

After morning rain, sunshine greeted the scores of people gathered on the afternoon of September 11 for the dedication of the Hecker Center for Ministry in Washington, D.C.

"Congratulations to the Paulists as they recommit this facility to the church," said Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl of Washington, D.C., who was presider and homilist for the dedication prayer service attended by approximately 20 of his brother bishops. "This is opening up to a whole new manifestation of the Spirit. ... The center will continue to be a home for a whole range of ministries."

**"I am grateful to the Paulists, and express gratitude on behalf of many others, for this manifestation of their pledge to continue to serve the church, to continue to be one more sign of Father Isaac Hecker's vision,"** Archbishop Wuerl said.

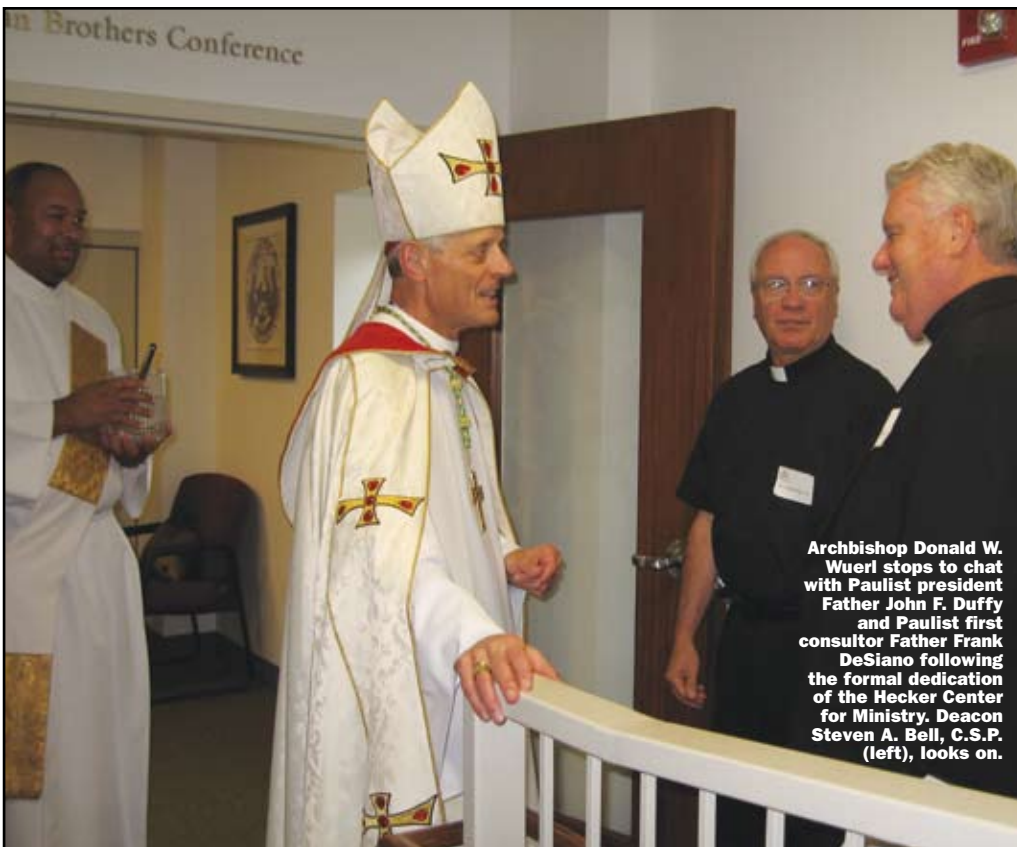
During the service's opening remarks, Paulist president Father John F. Duffy told the more than 150 bishops, Paulists and friends of the Paulists that each person gathered on the

portico of the Hecker Center that day was in some way a part of the Paulists' past. "We look forward to working with you in the future, a future brighter than any past," he said. "Today what we celebrate, what we build upon, is the tradition of Father Isaac Hecker and his spiritual family."

With thousands of square feet of space incorporating state-of-the-art technology, the Hecker Center is poised to continue the Paulist

mission in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond.

What is now the Hecker Center was originally part of St. Paul's College, the house of studies for Paulist seminarians established in 1914. Earlier additions were constructed in 1942, 1955 and 1958. The center now houses the Canon Law Society of America, Carmelite Institute, Christian Brothers Conference, Fair Trade Federation, Newman Bookstore and U.S. Catholic Mission Association.



Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl stops to chat with Paulist president Father John F. Duffy and Paulist first consultant Father Frank DeSiano following the formal dedication of the Hecker Center for Ministry. Deacon Steven A. Bell, C.S.P. (left), looks on.

## FORMATION FIRST PROMISES: A STEP TOWARD PRIESTHOOD

Rene Constanza, Tom Gibbons, Tim Shannon and Claradon "Buster" Woody made first promises in the Paulist community on August 4 at the completion of their novice year. The four men committed themselves to live for the next 12 months according to the society's constitution as they continue formation and discernment with the Paulist Fathers.

Paulist president Father John F. Duffy presided at the first promises liturgy at St. Paul's College in Washington, D.C. He recalled that Paulist founder Father Isaac T. Hecker "read the signs of the times," seeing in his contemporary society the need for a new religious community. "As (these four men) read the signs

of the times in August of 2007, this is what they feel called to do," Father Duffy said. "... One can say that Buster, Tim, Tom and Rene, in making their first profession, are engaged in a process of setting their hearts on what pertains to the higher realm."

These newest members of the Paulist community will study at The Catholic University of America or the Washington Theological Union, both in Washington, as they continue their formation for the priesthood.



Photo by Father Ron Roberson, C.S.P.

## PAULIST PRESS BOOKSTORES FROM COAST TO COAST

Paulist Press Book Center in Costa Mesa, California, is celebrating 25 years of service to readers in Southern California. Father Michael Kerrigan, C.S.P., an editor at Paulist Press, checked in with bookstore manager Patty Broesamle at the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress in March.



On the East Coast, Newman Bookstore has moved into the Hecker Center in Washington, D.C. Paulist Press president Father Larry Boadt, C.S.P., paid a visit to manager Carl Spiers and staff members Sister Lorna Riordan, O.P., and Paula T. Gomez in September.





# Places & Faces



Festival organizer Greg Martin, left, introduces Jean-Michel Cousteau, founder of Ocean Futures Society and a world-renowned advocate for ocean protection, at the Second Annual Muddy Boot Festival at St. Philip Neri in Portland, Oregon. A "soulful celebration of sustainable living," the city-wide festival offered booths, workshops, music and food promoting care for creation.



Father Bradford Schoeberle, C.S.P., far left, stands with students after the first Mass at St. Luke University Parish serving Grand Valley State University and the community of Allendale, Michigan, September 2.

These music ministers from the University Catholic Center at UCLA joined over 300 musicians for the closing liturgies at the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress in March. Almost 50 UCCLA students—the music ministers and members of the Student Leadership Team and the Spring Retreat Team—attended the Congress. To learn more about the University Catholic Center, go to [www.ucccla.org](http://www.ucccla.org).



Mike Hayes—and Father Isaac Hecker—display their books. "Googling God: The Religious Landscape of People in their 20s and 30s" is a how-to book on ministering to young adults. Mr. Hayes is managing editor of BustedHalo and associate director of Paulist Young Adult Ministries. More information at [www.bustedhalo.com](http://www.bustedhalo.com).



## Paulist Press Picks

### BLOGGING TOWARDS BETHLEHEM

#### DISCOVERING THE ETERNAL IN THE SEASONS OF ORDINARY TIME



By Eugene Kennedy

Eloquent, powerful reflections on recent events in time by a popular syndicated columnist and award-winning author of numerous books on Catholic faith and culture. Originating as blogs, these timeless reflections center around a common theme: finding hope and transcendence in our everyday lives.

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## PAULIST ASSOCIATES EXTEND TO FLORIDA

By Father Frank DeSiano, C.S.P.



Father D. Bruce Nieli, C.S.P., leads the Holy Spirit Retreat in June at Mount Paul in Oak Ridge, N.J. Many of the 40 people at the retreat were Paulist Associates.

The Paulist Associates continue to grow. More than a dozen people in Grand Rapids have been preparing throughout the summer and fall to make their promise by the new year. Father Tom Tavella, C.S.P., has been facilitating their training and preparation. A group of people in the Tampa area, where Paulists have never had a foundation, are beginning preparation with an initial retreat in October. Terry Modica, an Associate long interested in evangelization, is spearheading this effort. Several Associates have entered the fullness of the Kingdom this summer: Tom Shortt (New York), Gretta Salas (New York) and Antoinette Battaglia (Toronto). They continue to share in the Paulist fellowship through the ongoing prayers of Paulists and Paulist Associates.

## REGISTER NOW FOR IN ROME!

The Office for the 150th Anniversary is proud to present Hecker Week in Rome. From March 1-7, 2008, you will be able to participate in 150th anniversary events at Santa Susanna, the Paulist-run American church in Rome; pray where Father Hecker prayed in the Redemptorist House; join Paulist president Father John F. Duffy for a Mass and tour of the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls; attend Mass and a papal audience at the Vatican; and more!



The cost is \$1,499 per person (double, land only). For more information or to register, call the Office for the 150th Anniversary at 202-269-2521 by December 15.

email: [paulisttoday@paulist.org](mailto:paulisttoday@paulist.org)

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