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Celebrating a century

St. Philip Neri Church turns 100

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President's Message

Don't despair!

We Catholics have been through a lot over the last number of weeks: the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI, the election of Pope Francis – with all the novelty that these events brought (e.g., the first Pope from the Southern Hemisphere, from the New World, from the Jesuits).

In the normal course of life, we focus on the unusual, the topical, the flashy. So we were glued to our television screens and/or smartphones, watching Benedict fly to Castel Gandolfo, Pope Francis address the throngs in St. Peter's Square and all the other activities around the Papal transition. And why not? These were certainly moments of Catholic drama.

But not only have we been through a number of exciting moments, sad to say, we have witnessed a number of Church scandals, both in our country and abroad.

So it may not have been surprising that, amid the whirlpool of feelings, some of Pope Francis' first words struck me deeply.

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PT/Courtesy Austin Schafer

BuckeyeWorks 2012 participants gather for a group photo. The leadership-building retreat program recently received national accolades.

Leaders of tomorrow

Program at Ohio State receives national award

Invitation is the key to building a faith community, as exemplified by Ricky Baylis. The 21-year-old biomedical engineering student at The Ohio State University in Columbus was invited by a friend to check out the Paulist-run St. Thomas More Newman Center on campus.

"It has been a second home ever since," said Mr. Baylis, a Cincinnati native. "The Holy Spirit is ablaze in everyone I have met here. You can't help but become a better person by interacting with those around you."

The opportunity for self-development helped attract Mr. Baylis to the BuckeyeWorks Leadership Retreat, a three-day interactive leadership training retreat for students wanting to grow in the knowledge and skills necessary for successful leadership in campus ministry. The retreat program is so impressive that the Newman Center was presented with the Exemplary Campus Ministry Program Award for Developing Leaders for the Future during the national Catholic Campus Ministry Association Convention, which took place in Clearwater Beach, Fla., this winter.

"Having this program recognized allows others in campus ministry to create opportunities to set solid groundwork for the development of young adults," said Father Joseph Ciccone, CSP, Newman Center director. "What they receive, they can eventually pass on. The award also becomes a reminder for our entire Newman Center community of the reason why we exist across the street from such a large university: to nurture the faith of college students and help them become articulate and understanding leaders in order to serve the Church, both locally and globally."

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Austin keeps Active

The University Catholic Center in Austin was a flurry of activity the weekend of Jan. 26-27. On Saturday, thousands of pro-lifers came through the center's doors for the Party for Life after attending the Texas Rally for Life. Father Edward Novak, CSP, the center's director, joined center volunteers in handing out the doughnuts and other desserts that completed the guests' meals (top left). The next day, Father Novak led the annual renewing of promises for the Austin Paulist Associates during Mass (bottom left).
Photo is PT/Stefani Manowski

Let the Easter Mystery reinvigorate your faith

Continued from Page 1

To the Cardinals who had elected him, he preached: "Do not give in to pessimism and discouragement. We have the firm certainty that the Holy Spirit gives the Church with His mighty breath, the courage to persevere and also to seek new methods of evangelization, to bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth."

In those words, I felt the Holy Father speaking directly to us Paulists … and to all of you who associate yourselves with our mission to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to the peoples of North America. Our baptismal commission to share our faith with others has certainly been tested by the serious scandals that have assaulted us. Sad to say, some of them have come from leadership in our Church. And these certainly can lead to "discouragement and pessimism" which Pope Francis referenced in his homily. That's the temptation to which they push me! And, as important as the papal transition has been, what moves us in our faith lives is not, in the end, our human leadership, as much as we wish and have a right to expect them to edify us. As the Hebrew Scriptures regularly remind the Jewish people, "Put not your trust in princes!"

Rather the Holy Spirit sends forth a mighty wind of hope, drawing its power from the Easter Mystery, that becomes our one anchor, our only foundation. And that's why I say that, of all that we Catholics have experienced over the last few dramatic months, the most important are the reinvigorations which only the Easter Mystery can bring: more important than any Papal resignation, any Papal election (however hopeful it may be), any reorganization of the Vatican or any changes we hope might come about. What ultimately is preeminently important is our re-immersing ourselves in the mystery of those three days: Holy Thursday's breaking the bread, Good Friday's walking the Passion, and Holy Saturday/Easter's embracing the risen Lord, who beckons us to follow him individually and as a Church.

Finishing his talk to the Cardinals, Pope Francis reminded them that the true vocation of the Church is to reflect the splendor of the Risen Christ, for "one day we'll look upon that beautiful face of the Risen Christ."

So, much more important than all these incredibly engaging events, we have walked our Lenten journey. This journey culminated in The Three Days: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday/Easter. Refreshed by our Easter celebrations, we recommit ourselves to sharing this most life-giving faith.

Father Michael B. McGarry, CSP
President of the Paulist Fathers

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PT/file

St. Philip Neri Church in Portland, Ore., will end its 100th anniversary celebrations with a May 22 Mass.

100 years of faith

St. Philip Neri to close centenary celebrations in Portland

By Stefani Manowski

Oregon has long been one of the most unchurched areas of the country, but to the Paulists, it is fertile ground from which has grown a 100-year legacy of faith. After a year of celebrations, St. Philip Neri Church in Portland will close its centennial year with a Mass on May 22.

Pastoral care, outreach and missionary activities have been a part of St. Philip Neri since the Paulists founded the parish in 1912. The current team of Father Charlie Brunick, CSP, and associate pastors Father Michael Evernden, CSP, and Father Jim McCauley, CSP, are striving to attract new parishioners, "especially among families with young children," Father Brunick said.

In addition to increasing and providing pastoral care to the parish's approximately 300 families (including eight who are in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults program), Father Brunick and Father Evernden continue the Paulist tradition of preaching missions and retreats in the Portland archdiocese and the surrounding regions while Father McCauley has developed an outreach ministry to the homebound or in local nursing or extended care facilities.

St. Philip Neri may be a small community, but that doesn't mean it lacks innovation. "B-Catholics" attracts Catholics seeking a deeper knowledge of their faith while "The Questionable Forum" provides a group atmosphere where no question is off limits. Both monthly gatherings are facilitated by Father Evernden – who works part-time for the parish and part-time at the Northwest Paulist Center – and have "become popular get-togethers for people from many local parishes and some unchurched as well," said Father Brunick.

Father Charlie Brunick, CSP

Father Michael Evernden, CSP

Father Jim McCauley, CSP

The past

Archbishop Alexander Christie of Portland invited the Paulists to establish St. Philip Neri in 1912 as a parish for Italian immigrants and a base for Paulist missionaries in the Pacific Northwest. Father Thomas Cullen, CSP, was dispatched to Portland to lay the groundwork for the new faith community. After about three months, Father Michael Smith, CSP, came to Portland as the parish's first pastor. He soon began the planning of church and school buildings that would bear the name of St. Philip Neri, the apostle of Rome and a patron of the Paulist community.

The cornerstone of St. Philip Neri Church was blessed on June 1, 1913, by Archbishop Christie. The first Mass in the new church building was celebrated by Father Smith on Christmas Day, 1913.

The current church building, designed by Portland architect Pietro Belluschi, was dedicated in October 1950.

The future

Like many parishes, St. Philip Neri is struggling financially but has "some very generous people who help us make ends meet," according to Father Brunick.

The parish has been going through a strategic planning process, with the report and plan due this spring. It will contain "specific recommendations for trying to grow the parish and establish a firm financial basis," Father Brunick said.

"The greatest strength of the parish is of course the people and their commitment for outreach to the 'nones,' who comprise a great number of the spiritual but not religious seekers of the Northwest," he said.

‘Joy is not a waste of time’

Father James Martin, SJ, delivers 2013 Hecker Lecture

By Stefani Manowski

Joy, humor and laughter are underappreciated values in the spiritual life, but values that are desperately needed in our personal spiritual lives, the Church and the life of anyone who works in the church.

That was the message of Father James Martin, SJ, who delivered the 2013 Hecker Lecture to the more than 200 people gathered at St. Paul’s College in Washington, D.C., at the end of January.

“Joy is not a waste of time,” said Father Martin, a Jesuit priest, culture editor of *America* magazine and author of *My Life with the Saints* and *The Jesuit Guide to Almost Everything*. “Far from it. For joy is what we’ll be sharing when we are welcomed into heaven. We will be joyful. We may even laugh for joy.”

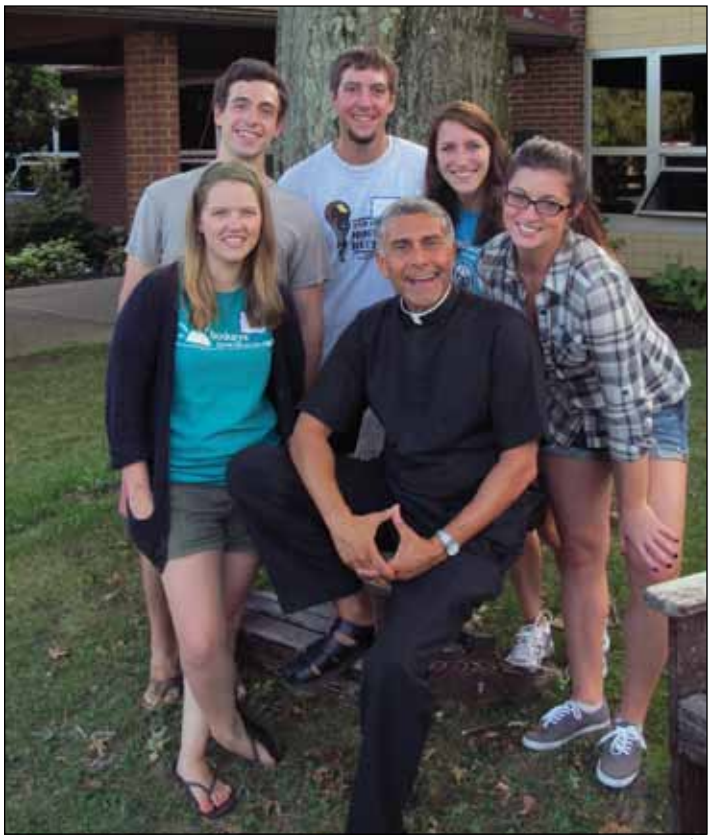
The Hecker Lecture – named for Paulist Fathers founder Father Isaac T. Hecker – has been a tradition in the Washington theological community since 1975. Held on a date near the Jan. 25 Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle, a guest speaker is invited each year to expound and reflect upon one of the core aspects of Paulist spirituality: evangelization, ecumenism, interfaith relations and reconciliation. This year’s Hecker Lecture officially begins the yearlong celebrations of the 100th anniversary of St. Paul’s College.

PT/St. Paul’s College

A line forms for Father James Martin, SJ, to autograph books after he delivered the 2013 Hecker Lecture at St. Paul’s College in Washington, D.C.

“Humorous” is one of the four key qualities of Paulists as seen in the community’s new vocations video, according to Father Paul Huesing, CSP, rector of St. Paul’s College and Paulist director of formation.

“This lecture was a good reminder of the importance of joy and humor,” he said. “Certainly there are times to be serious, but there are also times to experience joy and put things in perspective.”



PT/Courtesy Austin Schafer

Father Joe Ciccone, CSP, director of the St. Thomas More Newman Center at The Ohio State University in Columbus, poses with a few BuckeyeWorks participants.

Retreats build church leaders of tomorrow

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BuckeyeWorks was developed by Austin Schafer, pastoral associate for campus ministry at the Newman Center since 2009. During the annual retreat, some 17-28 students participate in a series of workshops, activities, discussions, and prayer experiences to deepen their understanding of their baptismal call to serve both the Church and the world.

The goal of the program, Mr. Schafer said, “is to “help students more fully and fruitfully receive God’s gifts, hear God’s call, and develop their leadership potential in the church community.”

Young people truly long to be of service to society and also want to feel confident in the reasons they choose to be Catholic for their Christian journey, Father Ciccone said.

“They can recognize their responsibility to model servant leadership now as well as being able to grow into solid and involved citizens for the good of society in the future,” he said. “They will take their college experiences with them and BuckeyeWorks can become an important part of the memory.”

BuckeyeWorks will long be a part of the memory of 20-year-old public affairs major Stephanie Shoenfelt.

“The mission trips, retreats and daily activities have kept my faith alive and thriving while encouraging me to always dig deeper into the Catholic faith and my relationship with God.”

Man of Gold

Father William Dougherty celebrates 50 years as a Paulist

Father William Dougherty can't exactly say why he became a priest, only that he found it "something that would satisfy my outlook on life. The Paulist vocation was the answer to that." He is now celebrating the 50th anniversary of his 1963 ordination and can look back on a rich legacy of faith.

Father Dougherty, now 83 years old, was born to George and Dorothy Dougherty. Mr. Dougherty was a Prudential insurance agent and worked at the Philadelphia Navy Yard while Mrs. Dougherty worked at raising young William and his five siblings.

"We weren't a pray-the-rosary type of family, but we went to Mass," said Father Dougherty, who mentioned that his childhood parish – the now-closed Most Blessed Sacrament Church – was a hotbed of vocations in its heyday.

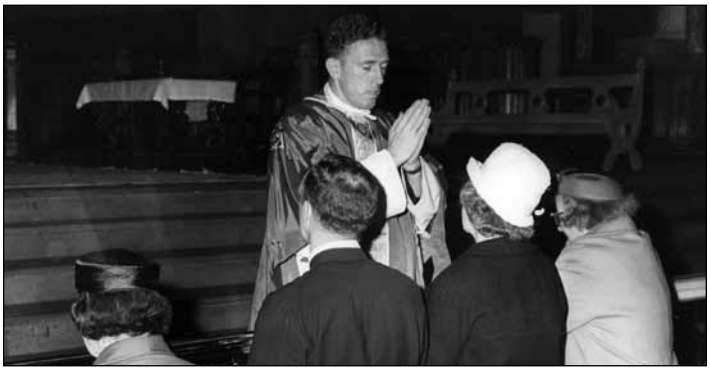
"There were about 1,000 vocations of priests and sisters in the '30s, '40s and '50s," he recalled.

After graduating from high school, the future Paulist worked at a bank for a couple years before serving in the Air Force from 1954-51. Father Dougherty then studied philosophy at LaSalle University in Philadelphia for two and a half years before deciding to pursue the priesthood. He finished his collegiate career at St. Paul's College in Washington, D.C. He was ordained a Paulist priest on May 11, 1963.

After serving a summer assignment at Good Shepherd Parish in New York City, Father Dougherty spent his pastoral year at the Paulist Center in Boston from 1963-64. He then became associate pastor at St. Paul the Apostle in Richardson, Texas, from 1964-67 before entering campus ministry at St. Mark's University Parish, serving the University of California at Santa Barbara from 1968-70.

Father Dougherty continued in campus ministry as director of the St. Thomas More Newman Center at The Ohio State University in Columbus from 1970-74. He returned to Boston as the director of the Paulist Center from 1974-78 before rejoining campus ministry, this time as the director of the Newman Apostolate (now the University Catholic Center) at the University of Texas at Austin from 1978-85. Father Dougherty then studied at the Mexican American Cultural Center in San Antonio, Texas, before becoming associate pastor at St. Cyril's Church in Tucson, Ariz., in 1986. He retired from active ministry in 2004 and still resides in Tucson.

"It has been a wonderful vocation," said Father Dougherty, "meeting people, working with people, worshipping with them ... being part of their lives, their worship, their struggles."



PT/File

Father William Dougherty, CSP, gives a blessing during his ordination Mass on May 11, 1963 at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle in Manhattan.

Casting the Net

New video hopes to attract Paulist vocations online

A two-minute online video by the Paulist Office for Vocations recently made its debut on YouTube and Paulist.org. Paulist Vocation Director Father Dave Farnum, CSP, talks to Paulist Today *about the project, and how the video is continuing the Paulist tradition of reaching people where they are.*

Paulist Vocations in two minutes. The concept is easy to understand, but what was the thought process behind that concept?

We wanted a visual presence on the Internet that was quick, informative, eye-catching and something one would play multiple times. In two minutes we needed to communicate who we are, what we do, and what make us unique in the North American Catholic Church.

Why is a strong online presence so critical to attracting vocations in this day and age?

The vast majority of inquiries come to my office through the internet. This is the primary source of information about vocations for young adults in the 21st Century. I am amazed how many men find the Paulist Fathers through Google searches. Many find www.paulist.org and in addition, a good number become aware of us through www.bustedhalo.com – the Paulist outreach to young adult faith seekers.

What specific aspects of the video do you think attract potential vocations to the Paulists?

Prospects tell me they resonate with the fact that we are missionaries to our own country, that they get excited about proclaiming the Good News to other young adults, that they resonate with ecumenical and interfaith dialogue, and get energized by reconciling Catholics back to active participation in the faith life of our church.

Photo courtesy of the Paulist Office for Vocations

The big question –Are you ready to be a Paulist? – is asked during the new two-minute Paulist vocations video. View the video on YouTube or paulist.org.

How does the video fit in with your overall vocations plan?

My vocations plan is twofold: proactive and reactive. First I must take advantage of all avenues to promote knowledge and familiarity with our mission and ministry. This includes a strong presence on the Internet as well as print media advertising, presence at national Catholic conventions, and visibility at all Paulist foundations. Second, I respond immediately to all men who seek advice and guidance about their vocation as Catholic priests.

Do you think the excitement surrounding the election of a new pope will spark an interest in vocations?

The worldwide interest in the Catholic Church since Pope Emeritus Benedict announced his retirement has stunned me. It seems that everyone's attention has focused on Rome from the last days of Benedict's pontificate to his departure from the Vatican, to the days of the interregnum through the conclave, then peaking when Pope Francis appeared on the loggia of St. Peter's Basilica. I have no doubt whatsoever that Pope Francis will inspire a whole new generation of priests who will seek to live lives of humble service as priests who desire to live out the new evangelization.

What is the one thing you wish people would know or understand about the priestly vocation, especially the calling to be a Paulist?

The life of a Paulist priest is never dull! I have been ordained 14 years. In that time I've traveled around the world, celebrated the sacraments in the most important moments in people's lives like their weddings, baptisms, funerals, anointings, and confessions. I have been privileged to tell thousands of people that God loves them and God forgives them. And I have loved every minute of it.

PT/courtesy of Father Dave Farnum, CSP

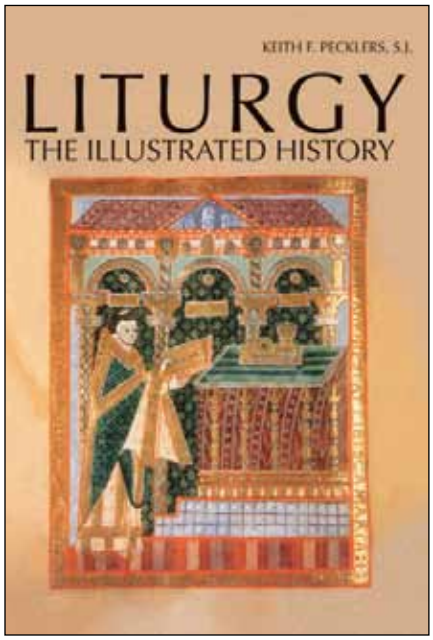
Six men attended the Come and See Weekend to discern their call to the Paulist priesthood. The event took place Feb. 1-4 at St. Paul's College in Washington, D.C. The men are Daniel Arthur, Huntington Beach, Calif. (from left); Sebastian Bentkowski, Austin, Texas; Mike Cruickshank, Ogunquit, Maine; Father Dave Farnum, Paulist director of vocations; John Sartori, Minneapolis, Minn.; Andrew Kelly, Austin, Texas; and Daniel Ayala, Austin, Texas.

PTI/Courtesy Father Frank Sabatté, CSP

Father Frank Sabatté, CSP, was one of 48 artists chosen to have his art included in the the group show "Art Connections 9" at the George Segal Gallery at Montclair State University in Montclair, NJ, in February. The original applicant pool was comprised of 700 artists. In the photo, Father Sabatté stands by his works, one of Father Lionel DeSilva, CSP; one of the victims of the Khmer Rouge genocide and a photo of the priest-artist's father.

Sister Florence Deacon, OSF, president of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (center), received the Isaac Hecker Award for Social Justice given annually by the Paulist Center in Boston. Sister Florence was presented with the award on Jan. 26, and is photographed with Susan Rutkowski, pastoral minister for social justice (right) and Father Frank Desiderio, CSP, director. *Photo courtesy Father Frank Desiderio, CSP.*

Israel and Palestine: A Conversation was the topic of discussion Jan. 29 at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Los Angeles. In the photo are Barbara Murphy, St. Paul's Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults director, and panelists Dr. Daniel Smith-Christopher, Dr. Omar Es-Said and Rabbi Jason Fruithandler. *(Photo courtesy Barbara Murphy)*



Hot off the Paulist Press

Liturgy: The Illustrated History is an anthropological history of the church that involves relationships with architecture, art, literature, culture, pastoral and ecclesiastical government as well as with its connections with the civil power and the organization of society.

Written by Father Keith Pecklers, SJ, one of the world's foremost liturgical scholars, this remarkable book, which will appeal to lovers of history as well as liturgy professionals, features extraordinarily produced illustrations and maps in full color.

Liturgy: The Illustrated History is available in hardcover for $79.95 at www.paulistpress.com or by calling 1-800-218-1903.

Ensure the future of the Paulist Fathers

If you are looking for ways to reduce your estate's tax liability, please consider making a charitable bequest to the Paulist Fathers through your will. Options include bequeathing a specific dollar amount, designating certain properties (real estate, stock or bonds, etc.) or giving a percentage of your total assets.

It may be as simple as adding a codicil to your will, but it is always wise to consult an attorney, accountant or tax advisor for advice.

Have questions about giving to the Paulists? Call 1-800-472-8547.

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Come apart and rest at Lake George

With the election of a new pope, the culmination of our Lenten journey at Easter and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, it is a great time to plan a summer retreat at St. Mary's on the Lake at Lake George, N.Y.

St. Mary's is steeped in natural beauty and Paulist history, according to Father Larry Rice, CSP, the retreat house director.

"For years, St. Mary's on the Lake has been a wonderful resource for the Paulist Fathers: a place for us to get away, enjoy each other's company, and seek rest and renewal," he said. "We're delighted to be able to share that resource with individuals and groups seeking that rest and renewal."

Early in the history of the Paulists, Father Hecker and his companions would camp at Lake George in the Adirondacks in upstate New York. In the early 1870s the Paulists, thanks to the generosity of the O'Conor family, became the owners of a large portion of lakefront property at the southern end of the lake and five islands further north.

Following are some of the offerings at St. Mary's this summer. **For a complete listing of retreats offered at St. Mary's, visit stmaryslakegeorge.com**

Praying Your Life: A time to reflect prayerfully on your life: past, present, future. A time for the healing of hurtful memories, a time to rejoice in beautiful memories. A time to be present to the beauty of God's creation in the breathtaking Adirondack Mountains. A time to rededicate yourself to being a light in the world. The retreat will be anchored in daily Eucharist and periods of Centering Prayer.

Leader: Father Vinny McKiernan, CSP
Date: June 16-21

Restful Waters/Couples' Retreat: One of the greatest challenges facing married couples is finding the time and energy to focus on their relationship in the midst of the pressures, schedules, and crises that arise in life. Experienced retreat directors Ralph and Terry Modica will lead couples through a process to revitalize and strengthen the core of a married relationship.

Leaders: Ralph and Terry Modica
Date: July 14-19