

FROM THE DESK OF FR. ERIC:

Dear Friends,

Autumn greetings! Each year, as much as I lament the passing of summer, I am energized by the tremendous amount of fall activity at the campus ministries, parishes and downtown centers served by the Paulist Fathers.

Amidst the annual tasks of welcoming new students, starting Inquiry classes and Landings groups, and coordinating fall festivals, many of our ministries are this year engaged in something special: celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of our founder, Servant of God Isaac Hecker (1819 - 1888).

In Knoxville, parishioners took part in the concert "What Hecker Heard" and the dinner "What Fr. Hecker Ate: A 19th Century Meal." In Los Angeles, there was a screening of the documentary "Isaac Hecker and the Journey of Catholic America." In New York City, organist Daniel Ficarra presented the new composition "Visions of the Holy Spirit" inspired by visions that Fr. Hecker recorded in his diary.

Please visit paulist.org/hecker to learn about other ways we are celebrating Fr. Hecker's bicentennial.

Fr. Hecker lived in the 1800s but his message is still relevant today. In 1851, he wrote, "The Catholic faith is capable of giving to people a true, permanent and burning enthusiasm fraught with the greatest of deeds. But to enkindle this in others we must be possessed of it ourselves."

The Paulists strive to have this same zeal for our faith! This zeal comes from the Holy Spirit and by walking the journey with people like you. Your witness to the love and compassion of Jesus Christ, and your on-going support, galvanizes our mission and ministries.

Thank you for your generosity and prayers. Blessings and peace to you and your family!

Fr. Eric

Fr. Eric Andrews, C.S.P.
President, The Paulist Fathers

Below: Friends from the Church of St. Paul the Apostle in New York City at the Promises Mass on September 6

P.S. To make a gift, please use the enclosed envelope or visit paulist.org/give



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Paulist Deacon Paolo Puccini after his Ordination with friends from the University Catholic Center in Austin, TX

PAULIST FATHERS
415 West 59th St.
New York, NY 10019



Servant of God
Isaac Hecker
Founder of the Paulist Fathers

Wednesday, December 18, 2019, is the 200th anniversary of the birth of Servant of God Isaac Hecker, founder of the Paulist Fathers. A Bicentennial Mass will be celebrated that evening at 7 p.m. at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle in New York City with Cardinal Timothy Dolan as principal celebrant. A reception will follow.

All are welcome to attend! Visit paulist.org/hecker for details.

200
Years

December 18, 1819 - December 18, 2019

Birthday

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FOR THE OFFICE OF MISSION ADVANCEMENT?
Paul Snatchko, Director of Communications: media@paulist.org
(212) 586-2074 paulist.org @PaulistFathers

the Voice

News from The Paulist Fathers Office of Mission Advancement

An Autumn to Remember



Paulist Deacon Paolo Puccini with his grandmother after his Ordination

Issue #15
Autumn 2019

Trust God

Photos by
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Pictured Right: Dan Macalinao and
Chris Lawton make their first promises.

The first week of September, 2019, was a momentous one for the Paulist Fathers.

On September 3, Paulist Fr. Thomas Stransky entered eternal life on his 89th birthday. Fr. Stransky was a noted ecumenist and interfaith leader, having had a part in the creation of "Nostra Aetate," the groundbreaking Vatican II document on the Church's relations with the Jewish people and others who are not Christian.

Just days later, Fr. Stransky's passing was much on the minds of those who participated September 6 and 7 in two special Masses in Washington, D.C., that marked milestones in the formation of our Paulist seminarians.

On Friday evening, September 6, the Paulist seminarians made or renewed their promises to our missionary society during a Mass in the chapel at St. Joseph Seminary that was filled with family members and friends.

Seminarian **Paolo Puccini** made his final promise to the society at the Mass. Paolo met the Paulists at the University Catholic Center at the University of Texas at Austin. He was an engineer at Exxon prior to entering the Paulist novitiate.

Novices **Chris Lawton** and **Dan Macalinao** made their first promises, becoming

the latest men to be able to use the order initials "C.S.P." after their names.

Both Chris and Dan met the Paulists as parishioners at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle in New York City. A Wisconsin native, Chris is a medical doctor specializing in palliative care. Dan, a native of the Philippines, holds a Ph.D. in cancer biology.

Seminarians Mike Cruickshank, Richard Whitney, Philip Catalanotto and Eric Hernandez also renewed their promises at the Mass.

Paulist Fr. Eric Andrews, president of the Paulist Fathers, dedicated the Mass to Fr. Stransky.

"It is a bittersweet week," said Fr. Eric. "One of our finest Paulists, former novice director, Thomas Stransky, passed away on his birthday earlier this week. A wonderful man, a unique individual, and I dedicate this Mass to him."

The next morning, September 7, Paolo Puccini was ordained a transitional

deacon during a Mass in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception.

Seminarians from multiple men's religious orders were ordained deacons during the liturgy, which was celebrated by Bishop Mario Dorsonville, an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.

"Be kind, generous, gentle," Bishop Dorsonville asked the ordinands during his homily. "Love everyone who comes into your life."

God-willing, the diaconate ordination was the penultimate step prior to Deacon Paolo's ordination as a priest in May, 2020.

"I feel very at peace," Deacon Paolo said after his ordination. "The decision that I came to, to make the final promise with the Paulists, the process of discernment, was really just a long, gradual process of coming to trust God, and trust how God is present and working through the people in my community." ➦



Three New Paulist Novices

We pray in thanksgiving for our three new novices who "signed in" during a Mass on Saturday, August 24, at St. Joseph Seminary in Washington, D.C. They are:

Ben Chisholm, who hails from Northern California. He earned his undergraduate degree from Fordham University and his J.D. from Notre Dame Law School. He worked at Fordham Law School.

Noah Ismael, who hails from Maryland. He is a recent graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park where he studied criminology, criminal justice and public leadership.

Chris Malano, who hails from Hawaii. He earned his undergraduate degree at the University of New Mexico and his M.A. at St. John's University. Chris is a past secretary general of the International Movement of Catholic Students, and worked at the Newman Center at the University of Hawaii.

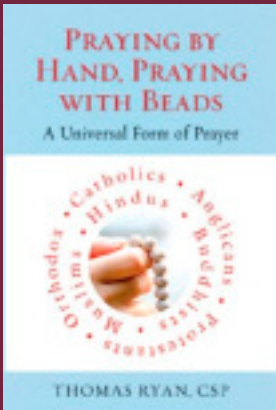
New from Paulist Press

"Praying by Hand, Praying with Beads: A Universal Form of Prayer" is the latest book from Paulist Fr. Tom Ryan, head of the Paulist Fathers Office for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations.

"Praying by Hand, Praying with Beads" presents the "what," "why" and "how" of beaded prayer in the different Christian traditions and in three of the world's other major religions.

The book aims to increase awareness that, around the world, beads are a helpful instrument in prayer.

Visit paulistpress.com for details.



Donor Profile: Nelly Nigro

We pray in thanksgiving for the life and generosity of **Nelly Nigro** (1925 - 2017). This year, the Paulist Fathers received a bequest of \$219,000 from Ms. Nigro's estate.

She was a parishioner at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Community in Los Angeles.

A native of Omaha, NE, Ms. Nigro was the daughter of immigrants from Sicily. In 1945, she earned a bachelor of science from the Creighton University School of Pharmacy.

She began work as a pharmacist when there were few women in the profession. She worked at multiple hospitals before moving to Los Angeles where, in 1955, she helped to open the UCLA Medical Center. She remained there for the rest of her career.

After Ms. Nigro "retired," she earned her masters degree in public health in 1991 from the UCLA School of Public Health. She worked there as a research assistant until 1994.

She loved to travel, visiting countries around the world and reaching all seven continents. She also was an avid skier.

Bequests of all sizes have a transformative impact on our ministries! Thanks be to God for our donors who remember us in this way. You are always in our prayers.

