### FROM THE DESK OF FR. ERIC:

#### Dear Friends,

#### "There is a Paulist in the air at any given moment."

Until March, this was the operating mentality and ethos of the Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle.

Paulist Fathers take seriously their role as missionaries to North America, crisscrossing the continent by plane, train, and car, to present parish missions, lead retreats, participate in gatherings of Church organizations, and visit the various parishes and centers that we serve.

But, since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, our wings have been clipped, and we have been forced to be more monk-like than we like!

The Holy Spirit continues to inspire us and propel us to go out and tell the Good News in innovative ways. On the national and local levels, Paulists are developing new models of connecting with you, creating virtual Church platforms to gather and inspire.

In September, we offered broadcasts of our annual "Professions Mass" and Diaconate Ordinations Mass in Washington, D.C., as well as a special online event called "Our Lady of Sorrows, Pray for Us: A COVID-19 Prayer Service." At all three we addressed the grief and loss we are experiencing while offering hope with the knowledge that Jesus and his Blessed Mother always walk with us through darkness to new life.

We also were thrilled on October 17 to the tremendous response we received to our online event "Hope Coast-to-Coast: A Virtual Groundbreaking with the Paulists" to celebrate the start of construction of the new Paulist House of Mission and Studies in Washington, D.C. Thank you to everyone who contributed in celebration of the groundbreaking! We far exceeded our goal of raising \$250,000 for the building that night.

"Hope Coast-to-Coast" marked the relaunch of our comprehensive fundraising campaign "Hope for the Future!" that had been put on pause after the outbreak of COVID-19. In addition to the new seminary building project, the \$20 million comprehensive campaign will raise funds to support our senior Paulist Fathers, address critical building repair needs and galvanize our outreach ministries.

To learn about the comprehensive campaign, please visit paulist.org/future.

While I regret that I am not able at this time to board an airplane and visit our parishes and centers, I look forward to being with you at other upcoming virtual events around the coming holidays. (Stay tuned to paulist.org and our social media channels for details.)

You and your loved ones are always in my prayers and the prayers of all the Paulist Fathers. Please pray for us, too!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

**Pictured Below:** *Fr. Eric at the* groudbreaking of the new seminary

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

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





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News from The Paulist Fathers Office of Mission Advancement

Perseverance & Growth for the Paulists in Washington, D.C.

# **Perseverance & Growth**

ne day, when a history is written of the new Paulist House of Mission and Studies in Washington, D.C., the COVID-19 pandemic undoubtedly will be part of the story.

Historians may write that, in 2020, the coronavirus caused illness, pain and loss for the Paulists in Washington, D.C. They may write that the virus changed our approach and, perhaps, slowed progress on the new seminary building project.

But, historians of the future, please note: Despite the challenges of guarantines and social distancing as well as the great tension in the nation's body politic, the Paulist Fathers' seminary community persevered in 2020 - and continued to grow - thanks to the Holy Spirit and the prayers and financial support of thousands of parishioners and friends.

Ground was broken for the new, right-sized Paulist House of Mission and Studies on Friday, October 16, 2020, on land the Paulists have owned for more than 100 years on Fourth Street NE in the nation's capital - just steps from the home of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Video of the groundbreaking was seen the following night, Saturday, October 17, during the live online broadcast "Hope Coast-to-Coast: A Virtual Groundbreaking with the Paulists." Hosted by Paulist Fr. Dave Dwyer, the broadcast also included a virtual tour of the new building; presentations of the "Spirit of Hecker" Award to parishioners at each parish, center and ministry served by the Paulists; a presentation about the Paulist Fr. Bud Kieser Media Center in the new seminary building; music from the Isaactones; and "Paulist Funniest Moments."

During the course of the evening, more than \$300,000 was contributed or pledged by donors to the new House of Mission and Studies. Some of the gifts were received

by members of the seminary community manning a phone bank. (If you missed the program, watch it at paulist.org/hope.)

In addition to these milestones for the new seminary building project, this autumn also has seen growth and change for the members of our seminary community:

On Saturday, September 5, Paulist seminarians Michael **Cruickshank and Richard Whitney were** ordained transitional deacons during a Mass in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine

of the Immaculate Conception. They

were ordained by Bishop Mario Dorsonville, an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. While only a small number of family members and friends were permitted in the Crypt Church, hundreds more watched the Mass online in a television-quality broadcast by the basilica's in-house production team.

Paulist Deacon Mike Cruickshani

with his parents

The prior evening, Friday, September 4, Mike and Rich made their final promises to the Paulist community during a Mass celebrated by Paulist Fr. Eric Andrews, president of the Paulist Fathers, in the chapel of St. Joseph's Seminary (temporary home of our seminary program) in Washington, D.O. During the Mass, Mike and Rich each were presented with a Paulist mission cross

as well as a penny as payment for their upcoming lifetimes of ministry work.

At the same Mass, Paulist novices Ben Chisholm, Chris Malano and Noah Ismael made their first promises, becoming the newest men able to use the order initials "C.S.P." after their names.

During the Mass on September 4, seminarians Eric Hernandez, Chris Lawton, and Dan Macalinao renewed their promises to the missionary society. (Eric's renewal came via a video recorded at Newman Hall - Holy Spirit Parish in Berkeley, CA, where he is in the midst of his pastoral year.)

This autumn, the Paulists also were blessed by the arrival of two new novices: Luke Heffernan, 23, and Zachary Turner, 27, "signed in" to our novitiate during a Mass on Saturday, August 22, at St. Joseph's. Luke and Zachary met the Paulists through campus ministries at their Alma maters — Luke at the University of Texas at Austin and Zachary at University of California, Los Angeles.

They were welcomed at the Mass by new director of novices, Paulist Fr. Michael Kallock. Fr. Mike is a veteran pastor who also serves as director of the Paulist Associates. This is his second stint as director of novices, having also served in the role from 1988 to 1994.

In late October, Fr. Mike was joined on the formation team by Paulist Fr. Greg Apparcel, the new director of formation. Fr. Greg takes up this role after 16 years as head of the Paulist ministry in Rome, Italy.

Fr. Greg succeeds Paulist Fr. Frank DeSiano as director of formation. Fr. Frank will continue to serve in Washington, D.C., as president of Paulist Evangelization Ministries.



Fr. Eric and Richard Whitney Mike Cruickshank and Richard Whitney Luke Heffernan "signing in" to the novitiate

Chris Malano, C.S.P., Noah Ismael, C.S.P. and Ben Chisholm, C.S.P., made their first promises on September 4

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