

October 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Rev. Paul Cannariato New Jersey 1	Rev. Eugene Bettinger, O.Carm New Jersey 2	Rev. Brendan Murray New Jersey 3	Rev. Jeff Kegley New Jersey 4	Rev. John Primich New Jersey 5	Pope Benedict XVI 6
Rev. Timothy Graff New Jersey 7	Rev. Stephen Toth New Jersey 8	Rev. Tom Devery New York 9	Rev. William Cosgrove New York 10	Rev. Francis Coryer Ogdensburg 11	Rev. Aan Shnob Ogdensburg 12	Rev. Joseph Muldoon Ottawa 13
Rev. Thomas Sparacino Pittsburgh 14	Rev. Thomas Kredel Pittsburgh 15	Rev. Joseph Luisi Pittsburgh 16	Rev. James Holland Pittsburgh 17	Rev. John Sweeney Pittsburgh 18	Rev. Nicholas Mastrangelo Pittsburgh 19	Rev. John Lynam Pittsburgh 20
Rev. Tony Gargotta Pittsburgh 21	Rev. Stan Gegorek Pittsburgh 22	Rev. Robert Boyle Pittsburgh 23	Rev. Thomas Federline Pittsburgh 24	Rev. Daniel Mahoney Pittsburgh 25	Rev. Kenneth Oldenski Pittsburgh 26	Rev. Trevor Nathasingh Port-of-Spain 27
Rev. Dwight Merrick Port-of-Spain 28	Rev. Msgr. Cuthbert Alexander Port-of-Spain 29	Rev. Neil Rodriguez Port-of-Spain 30	Rev. George Lewis Port-of-Spain 31			



"To gather priests to Christ and to one another to proclaim..."

THE VISITATION

A monthly publication of the Fraternity of Priests, Inc.

Welcoming Seminarians to Priestly Fraternity

By Fr. Larry Van Damme

When the Upper Peninsula of Michigan Fraternity enjoyed hosting last summer's annual Fraternity of Priests Meeting, several participants commented on the fine young priests of our group. Comprised of 11 members, three of our younger priests are 33 years old; one is 28. Our seven older brothers range in age from 52 to 76; two of these are of 'senior status.' Our youngest Fraternity members have something in common: all four served seminarian internships under one or more of our Fraternity group members. Also, during their first assignments as transitional deacons and/or associate pastors they were assigned to pastors active in the Fraternity.

When the young priests of our Fraternity served seminarian internships with us, we made it a point to invite them to our twice-a-month Fraternity meetings. Having accepted a similar invitation as a seminarian in the early 1990's, I am quite familiar with the reasons our youngest members give for joining the Fraternity. In addition to the encouragement received from us as they discerned and prepared for ordained ministry, the seminarians were inspired by our positive sense of brotherhood as well as the prayerfulness and joy that characterize our meetings. Even though most of the Fraternity brothers have assignments which are exceptionally busy and often

quite challenging, the seminarians admire our positive attitudes as well as our love for the Lord, His Church, our bishop, our parishioners, and for one another. During their time of formation, seminarians would often wonder aloud how their fine seminary education, formation and sense of brotherhood might play out once they became priests. Fraternity members were able to offer encouragement, wise counsel and support, as well as hope-filled glimpses of what the future might hold. The emphasis of the Fraternity on prayer and continued study helped them to see how ongoing formation is able to be fostered while living a busy priestly life.

During the time we spent with the seminarians, we were able to introduce them to the Kingdom disciplines and encourage them to embrace them. By being involved in the Fraternity as seminarians, their transition into ordained ministry can occur in a more natural manner. As our Fraternity group strives to provide a healthy example of priestly fraternity, the seminarians' participation is a rich blessing for our Fraternity itself. Their energy and faith-filled enthusiasm have brought much life to our meetings. Their love of the Lord and desire to serve His people is remarkably refreshing. As they generously share their lives and goodness with us, their gifts and talents are drawn upon, often in very practical ways. More than one of our

brothers has had his personal computer repaired or enhanced by a seminarian, who usually introduces us to new ways to use this technology in our ministry. A seminarian presently interning with one of our members actually designed and installed an entire computer network for another parish two years ago when he interned with me. Several of our seminarian interns have used their culinary skills to prepare wonderful meals at our Fraternity meetings.

Although some seminarians have had positive experiences of the charismatic renewal by way of Steubenville Conferences and/or through local prayer groups, we have found that most seminarians of the Diocese of Marquette have had very limited exposure to the renewal. We believe that their involvement in our Fraternity meetings provides a healthy introduction. Seminarians have told us their apprehensions and/or misconceptions about the renewal have been alleviated by sharing in our meetings and in our lives. As the seminarians become familiar with the charismatic gifts of the Holy Spirit, they come to appreciate and more readily seek them. Recently, one of our young brothers commented on how the questions he brings to our meetings are usually answered through the prophecies given at the meetings. God is good!

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A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in (name of priest), act in him, speak in and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Give him your own disposition and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul, take over his entire personality and life. Replace him with yourself. Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving; pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always.

O Mary, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Jesus and Mother of priests, pray and intercede for (.....). Amen.

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Other \$ _____ \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100

This donation is to help the Fraternity of Priests in continuing their work of ministering to priests.

Dear Father Bill Cosgrove,

Dear Friends of the Priesthood

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Editor's Box:

Please send articles, comments, and photos to the FOP Newsletter editor, Fr. Bob Franco via e-mail at editor@fraternityofpriests.org or fax to 440-327-2204.

Newsletter material from all Fraternity members is gratefully accepted. Any submissions will help make each issue better!

While not the official beginning of the calendar year, September always brings with it the sense of new beginnings with the return from summer vacations and the start of a new school year.

This September we are on the verge of celebrating the golden jubilee of the Second Vatican Council, which officially convened on October 11, 1962. The Holy Father Benedict XVI has asked the Church to commemorate this anniversary with a Holy Year entitled "The Year of Faith".

The "Year of Faith" is not merely a time of reminiscing about the events that took place 50 years ago. As Spirit-filled people, we look forward to where God is leading us today. Jesus said that "every scribe instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old." (Matthew 13:52) Rooted in the God's works in history, we press on to where the Holy Spirit leads us today. And where is the Spirit leading us today?

In addition to the opening of the "Year of Faith", Pope Benedict XVI is convening a synod on the theme of "The New Evangelization". More than ever it seems that Holy Spirit is coaxing and encouraging us to discover, in the words of Pope John Paul II, "new methods, new enthusiasm and new zeal" in bringing Jesus Christ and his gospel to spiritually hungry and confused people. The original mandate of the Lord was to preach the gospel to all nations (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:49 and Acts 1:8) The Spirit is leading the Church to embrace this mandate with a new urgency.

The Fraternity of Priests had a jump start for the Year of Faith by at its annual meeting in July. The theme, "Recall the Call: Called, Formed and Gifted" did not, in a formal manner, point back to the Second Vatican Council. However, these faith building days did strengthen each priest's call to holiness, brotherly bonds and zeal for the New Evangelization in the power of the Spirit.

And again, we extend our gratitude to Fr. Larry Van Damme and the Marquette Fraternity for their hospitality and generosity in organizing such a wonderful week. Fr. Larry Van Damme is the newest member of the Board

of Directors. He has written the feature article this month entitled, "Welcoming Seminarians to Priestly Fraternity". Planting the seeds of Fraternity in those who are preparing for the priesthood

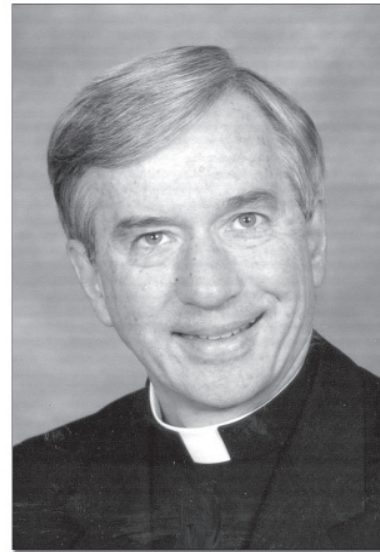
gives seminarians a wonderful foundation for their whole priesthood. They not only know the strength of brotherhood as they begin their ministry. They also become empowered for the New Evangelization so needed in our day.

I want to conclude my thoughts by extending to our gratitude to all who have generously supported Fraternity of Priests. Your prayers and gifts have enriched our priesthood. Speaking on behalf of all the members of the Fraternity, we are grateful!

Sincerely in Christ,



Father Bill Cosgrove



Fraternity Financial Report

One of the objectives for the Fraternity of Priests is to inform our donors about the ongoing financial health and details of the organization. We're providing this information to help communicate our specific need and to thank those many faithful benefactors who help make our service possible. Thank you!

Monthly Donation Budget: **\$4,750.00**

Actual Donations: **\$4,318.00**

Budget Surplus (shortage): **(\$ 432.00)**

Current as of July 31, 2012.

MAY THE YEAR OF FAITH LEAD ALL BELIEVERS TO
LEARN BY HEART THE CREED,
TO SAY IT EVERY DAY AS A PRAYER,
SO THAT THE BREATHING AGREES WITH THE FAITH

From the Year of Faith website: www.annusfidei.va.

It is by believing with the heart that you are justified, and by making the declaration with your lips that you are saved. (from Romans 10:10)

THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

(Editor's note-The official "Year of Faith" prayer is the Nicene Creed! May we heed to admonition by reciting it daily, so that our "breathing agrees with our faith"!)

Please send us your prayer intentions: _____

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The Upper Peninsula of Michigan Fraternity of Priests has come to see hospitality to seminarians as an important part of our Apostolate. Rather than wait for our bishop and director of vocations to ask if we are willing to host a seminarian during his internship, we take a proactive approach. Of the six priests in our group currently serving as pastors, three of us have seminarians either interning or residing with us at this time. As priests in a vast, rural diocese where geography itself can cause priests to become isolated, we believe that the Fraternity of Priests is called to give witness to a priesthood characterized by committed brotherhood, despite the distances between the parishes we serve. As some of us drive as much as three hours to Fraternity meetings, we let the inherent sacrifices we make to participate in the life of the Fraternity witness to our seminarians. The fraternal and sacramental care we offer to one another is of utmost importance and also speaks of the need we priests have of brotherhood and of God's grace.

As we keep looking to one another for inspiration, consolation and accountability, God keeps renewing His call to us. The Lord is using His seminarians and young priests to help it happen!

Fr. Van Damme is a member of the Michigan Fraternity and is currently a Board member.

Missed the Conference? Listen to it online!

The last Fraternity of Priests annual meeting, *Recall the Call: Called, Formed and Gifted*, was recorded. The mp3 files have been uploaded to the Fraternity of Priests website, www.fraternityofpriests.org. These talks may be listened to directly from the web. They may also be downloaded to mobile devices that play mp3 recordings (mp3 players, phones, et cetera).

Though these talks were not professionally recorded, the sound is clear and easy to listen to. If you were not able to attend the conference, or simply want to listen to one or another talk again, please avail yourself to these audio files online.