



INSTITUTE FOR
DIACONAL STUDIES

AD LUCEM!

AUGUST 2016

TO: INSTITUTE FOR DIACONAL STUDIES COMMUNITY

FROM: DEACON BOB PUHALA, DIRECTOR



Welcome to Another Year of Formation!

IDS welcomes one of the largest cohorts in nearly 20 years, twenty-nine men and their wives, into the 2016-2017 Aspirancy Path. Included in this total are six single men – the largest contingent of unmarried men in one cohort in recent memory. Aspirants and wives will begin the formation year with a Welcoming Retreat on the weekend of August 27-28 at Marytown. They will then join the other IDS cohorts for the Welcoming Mass at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, Mundelein Seminary on Sunday, August 28 at 1:30 p.m. Our celebrant will be Very Rev. John Kartje, Rector/President of University of Saint Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary. All are welcome to attend this regular Sunday liturgy – family, friends, etc. IDS will offer hospitality in the Conference Center (Bldg. 300) after Mass.

Director's Message

Blessings on your return to the beautiful campus of the University of Saint Mary of the Lake for the 2016-2017 formation year! I hope that each of you enjoyed a summer filled with relaxation, new experiences, family and friends. For me, this was a summer to remember: my wife and I ran into a seven-foot black bear while hiking on a deep woods game trail in far northern Wisconsin, near Michigan's Upper Peninsula. And later we spotted a bobcat ambling down the

middle of a pine-studded backroad as we emerged from the woods on yet another trek into the wilderness.

This year promises to offer much opportunity for prayer and reflection as we journey with all of you on the path of discernment. For aspirants and wives, the ways of formation will be a new experience, with IDS providing several tools to help you hear God's whisper or feel the nudge of the Holy Spirit as you contemplate the next step in the process. Year One participants will be enrolled as candidates and later instituted into the ministry of Reader. Institution into the ministry of Acolyte for Year Two candidates will allow men to participate on the altar in that ministry while getting an up-close view of the deacon's role at various liturgies. Finally, Year Three candidates will prepare for the Ordination Path, and then, God willing, ordination to the diaconate.

I hope that you feel comfortable approaching me with any questions, thoughts, or concerns you may have during the formation year. If you cannot make it to my office at the Prist Center (Bldg. 201-P) on the USML campus, please feel free to contact me via email or phone. Also, I will receive regular input from the Cohort Reps -- they serve as your representatives; please reach out to them so that your voices are heard.

Once again, welcome back to campus. I'm glad we are together again and excited to see where God leads us in the months ahead. I will keep all of you in my prayers. Please keep me and the entire IDS staff in yours!

Faculty & Staff Updates

Over the last year IDS welcomed several new instructors to its faculty: **Deacon Robert Cislo, M.Div.**, St. Linus, undertook Aspirancy Path Introduction to Catechism course. **Dr. Daniel Olsen, Ph.D.**, Office for Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs, undertook Ecclesiology & Mariology. **Rev. Matthew Bozovsky, S.T.L.**, St. Joseph, Wilmette, presented Christian Anthropology and in the future will assist in Spiritual Theology. **Rev. Connor Danstrom, S.T.L. (Cand.)**, St. Benedict, presented a session on Evangelization. **Rev. Brendan Guilfoil, S.T.L. (Cand.)**, St. Mary, Lake Forest, presented on Thinking Theologically. **Ms. Teresa Marotta, M.A.**, Diocese of Rockford and **Ms. Lydia LoCoco, D.Min.**, Archdiocese of Milwaukee, facilitated days of recollection for wives.

This summer the USML community bid a fond farewell to **Rev. Michael J.K. Fuller, S.T.D.**, professor and chair of the Spiritual Theology department. Effective August 8, Fr. Fuller assumed the position of Executive Director of the Secretariat of Doctrine and Canonical Affairs of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). In his new position Fr. Fuller will assist bishops around the country in the work of teaching the faith and answering questions of faith and morals that arise in our modern society. IDS wishes Fr. Fuller all the best in his work and in braving the swampy climate of Washington, D.C., and thanks him for his several years of ministry as one of our instructors.

IDS extends a warm welcome to a new faculty member, **Very Rev. J. Michael Bradley, J.C.D.**, adjutant judicial vicar in the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Fr. Bradley joins the IDS faculty as instructor for Canon Law, taught in Year 3 of the Candidate Path. We also welcome **Ms. Cynthia Stewart**, Diocese of Rockford, as a facilitator for wives' days, assisted by her husband **Deacon Jason Stewart**.

Finally, IDS welcomes several new Theological Reflection Group facilitators. **Deacon William Frere** (ordained 2015) and his wife **Virginia** (better known as Ginger), St. Robert Bellarmine, have graciously agreed to facilitate TRG for new aspirants. **Deacon John Herbert** (ordained 2014), St. Martha, will team up with **Ms. Melissa Hajdu**, widow of the late Deacon Peter Hajdu, to facilitate TRG for Year 1 candidates.

IDS is most grateful to all its faculty members, TRG facilitators, spiritual directors, and other collaborators and friends. We could not facilitate our program effectively without these talented and generous coworkers. You remain always in our prayers!

Around IDS

The IDS formation year begins with the Welcoming Mass & Reception on Sunday, August 28. Fall Semester courses officially begin on Monday, August 29.

Fall Semester Courses

- Old Testament (Year 1)
- Church History (Year 1)
- Presiding at the Rites I (Year 2)
- Sacramental Theology (Year 2)
- Homiletics IV (Year 3)
- Canon Law (Year 3)

August Formation Sessions

- Aug. 27-28 – Welcoming Retreat (Aspirancy Path – Key Event)
- Aug. 31 – History of the Diaconate (Aspirancy Path – Key Event)

IDS July & August Birthdays

Prayers for a special blessing on these folks who celebrate birthdays during the summer months: 7/1 - Tom Gaida; 7/4 - Paul Bervid; 7/5 - Pete LeTourneau; 7/6 - Joan Weiss; 7/13 - Jonalee Maslanka; 7/20 - Wendy Mattison; 7/25 - Derek Oliver; 7/28 - Tom Collins; 7/29 - Le Pham; 8/4 - Johnny Burnett; 8/4 - Christopher Weiland; 8/7 - Jennifer Davis; 8/14 - Mary Schipp; 8/18 - Janice Roche; 8/20 - Tomas Mackevicius; 8/20 - JoAnne Coughlin; 8/22 - Gary Olson; 8/26 - Veronica Shallcross; 8/29 - Tim Callahan; 8/31 - Julia Gibson

Let Us Remember in Prayer Those Entrusted to Our Care

Pray in a particular way for all of our sick: Deacon Jim Cozzo; Catherine O’Hearn; Marites Negron

Pray for our beloved who have passed from this life to the next: Rita Farina; Loretta Greco; Colleen Eble; Sr. Eleanor (Villa Santa Maria)