

# WE ARE MUNDELEIN



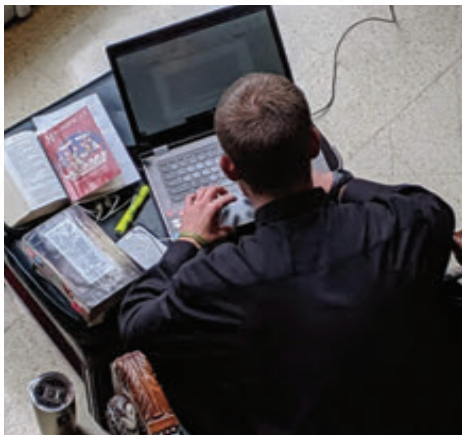
FORMED IN TRADITION. TRAINED IN COMPASSION. PREPARED TO SHEPHERD.



**MUNDELEIN  
SEMINARY**



# table of contents



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SEMINARY

A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR	2
FORMED, TRAINED, PREPARED	3
LIFE AT MUNDELEIN	4
CAMPUS INFORMATION	5
FACULTY	7
SPIRITUAL LIFE	8
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	9
HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE	11
TOLTON TEACHING PARISH PROGRAM	13
ADMISSIONS INFO	15
OTHER INSTITUTES	17
ANNUAL EVENTS	18

## A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR



### GREETINGS FROM MUNDELEIN SEMINARY!

Each year, men from dioceses across the country and around the world embark on the next step of their vocation to the priesthood at Mundelein Seminary. The Holy Spirit has led them here, and we are blessed to help them discern their call to serve the Church and its people.

Our community is dedicated to the singular purpose of forming holy, joyful parish priests. For nearly a century, Mundelein Seminary has fulfilled the dream of its namesake, Cardinal George Mundelein, to be a world-class seminary with a global reach, offering an integral formation encompassing the spiritual, human, intellectual and pastoral dimensions of priestly commitment.

In the pages of this booklet you can explore the unique traditions, experiences and opportunities that make Mundelein Seminary one of the premiere universities for the education and formation of parish priests and Catholic parish leadership.

In an increasingly secular culture, we are at the forefront of preparing priests to serve God's people in the modern world. Our innovative curriculum and unique programs equip seminarians to be leaders who serve with a humble confidence grounded in their relationship with Christ and his Church. The comprehensive Tolton Teaching Parish

Program, a nine-week study/pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and an annual basketball tournament that hosts teams from nearly twenty seminaries across the nation are but a few of our programs that help form Mundelein seminarians' hearts and minds to serve their future parish communities. They graduate with a range of experiences that prepare them to face the evolving challenges of proclaiming the Word of God to a world that needs to hear it, now more than ever.

The effective ministry of our alumni priests stands as a testament to Mundelein Seminary's tradition of excellence. As an alumnus myself, I am proud of this institution's longstanding impact on the Catholic Church, and the sign of hope for the future represented by the men discerning their vocation here today.

Together in Christ, we are Mundelein Seminary. We form parish priests.

Yours in the Heart of Christ,

Father John Kartje  
Rector







## FORMED IN TRADITION.

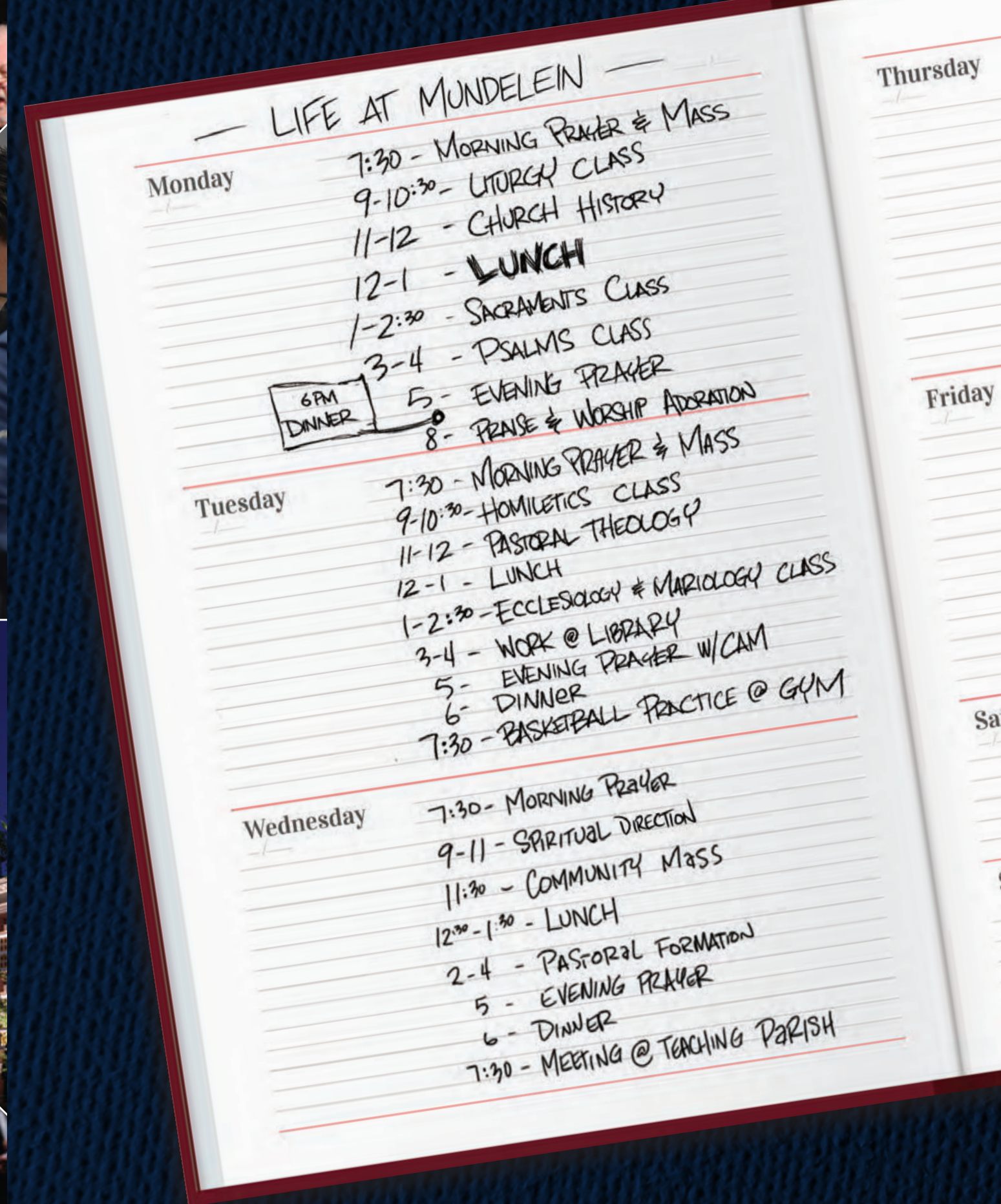
Every priest of Jesus Christ embodies an identity that is grounded in a rich theology, Church teaching, and liturgy spanning two millennia. At Mundelein, seminarians spend much of their time immersed in study, dialogue, and worship designed to form them in the knowledge of our vast Catholic Tradition. They acquire that immersion not only by learning from our professors and liturgists, but also through their own practice of teaching others in parishes and assisting with parish liturgies.

## TRAINED IN COMPASSION.

Because he is formed in the image and likeness of God and configured to the person of Jesus Christ, every parish priest is called to share in our Lord's compassionate heart. The sacred heart of Jesus actively reaches out to those at the margins of society: to see the beauty within the poor, the sick, the neglected, the lonely, and to passionately strive for healing the wounds of social injustice. Pope Francis tells us that the parish priest must serve as a doctor in a "field hospital," finding the wounded wherever they lay and providing care on the spot.

## PREPARED TO SHEPHERD.

As the Good Shepherd, Jesus provided leadership for his disciples; every parish priest is called to do likewise. A priest-shepherd knows when to lead from the front and when to gently lead from behind—he encourages, nurtures, corrects, and teaches. Most importantly, he listens carefully and collaborates wisely with the people he leads. As Pope Francis famously exhorted his priests: "You must smell like your sheep!"





# CAMPUS

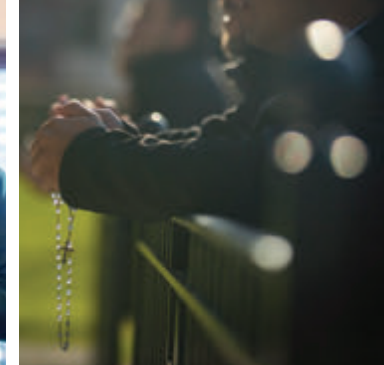
The vision of George Cardinal Mundelein was a grand one: to create a seminary system that would serve one of the nation's largest Catholic populations. While many expressed doubts about this commitment, Cardinal Mundelein was undeterred, building the magnificent campus and opening the seminary under the University of Saint Mary of the Lake in 1921. The seminary was host to the world in 1926 as one of the sites of the Eucharistic Congress. Architect Joseph W. McCarthy, trained in the office of Daniel Burnham, was commissioned to design the campus. Cardinal Mundelein instructed him to use American neo-classical style to symbolize that the Catholic Church in America had come of age. Today the campus is a unique and historic place of reflection, study and prayer. Overlooking a lake at the west end of campus, the 15 major buildings include the centrally located Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, Administration Building, Feehan Memorial Library, McEssy Theological Resource Center, Theology Lecture Hall, Mundelein Hall, Theology Residence, Conference Center Hall, and Faculty Residence. Mundelein Seminary also has a gymnasium with facilities for basketball, handball, racquetball and bowling; auditorium with a full stage, vintage theater organ and projection equipment; dining hall; Lourdes Grotto; two computer labs; and two recently renovated studios to assist the seminarians in the Homiletics and Liturgical Practicum courses.





“The formation I received at Mundelein very much informs how I engage my students today. I was blessed to have priest mentors who inspired me to be the best I can be as a priest. An open door, an open ear, and always leading with love is crucial to the ministry I am called to share here at Mundelein.”

~ Father Brad Zamora, Director of Liturgy



“Spirituality is the meeting ground of communal liturgy and personal prayer and devotion. Prayer life is at the heart of what goes on here.”

~Kyle Tietz, Archdiocese of Dubuque



## FACULTY

The Mundelein faculty is among the largest in the United States, with 38 full-time lay and religious members. Many of our professors are recognized as leaders in their fields. Mundelein professors serve as members or experts to pontifical academies, councils and the International Theological Commission.

They are sought-after speakers nationally and internationally. Many of our faculty are also widely respected authors who have published numerous books on a variety of theological, social, liturgical and religious subjects.

## SPIRITUAL LIFE

As they conform their hearts to the will of Christ, Mundelein seminarians spend time in daily communal and individual prayer through the Liturgy of the Hours, Daily Mass, and a personal Holy Hour.

Seminarians join the university faculty and staff for a community Mass celebrated by the rector every Wednesday. Opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, novenas and rosary groups abound on campus. Seminarians are also engaged in spiritual direction with a priest on faculty. Two spiritual renewal days are held

during the academic year with all-night Adoration, a day of silence, and a spiritual conference offered by a prominent Catholic speaker or alumni priest.

With Saint Mary of the Lake as the campus patroness, seminarians practice a strong Marian devotion led by the Confraternity of Mary student group. Devotional Marian images are represented across campus, most notably in the beautiful Our Lady of Lourdes grotto near the center of campus.





# Extracurricular ACTIVITIES

Mundelein seminarians engage in a wide variety of activities outside the classroom to build fraternity, engage in service, maintain a healthy lifestyle and express their creativity.



**CAM LIFE**

Each wing of the seminarian residence hall is home to a different “cam”—a group of seminarians of various years and dioceses who live on the same hallway and develop a unique sense of community through “Cam Nights,” group outings and informal events. Board games, bonfires, sports, and exploratory trips to Chicago are just a few of the ways seminarians bond with their cams. These lifelong friendships continue after ordination and provide an essential source of fraternal support to priests throughout their ministry.

**STUDENT GROUPS**

Throughout Mundelein’s history, seminarians have formed groups related to common interests in service, prayer, sports and more. The Confraternity of Mary encourages a Marian devotion among seminarians by meeting to pray the Rosary and bringing speakers to campus. Chop for Life members transform downed campus trees into firewood that is sold to area residents with proceeds benefiting a local pro-life organization that helps women with unplanned pregnancies. Students have also organized monthly board game nights, a dodgeball tournament, a coffeehouse event with musical performances, and winter clothing drives to support the homeless in Chicago.



**BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

For 20 years, Mundelein Seminary has invited seminaries from across the country to compete in the Father Pat O’Malley Invitational Basketball Tournament. It is an opportunity for hundreds of seminarians to gather for a competitive but good-natured weekend of athletics and fellowship. The tournament is streamed online so fans across the country can tune in, and the Mundelein Seminary Pep Band provides a rousing soundtrack to the action on the court. Organized and staffed by seminarians, the tournament is always one of the highlights of the year on campus and a beloved Mundelein tradition.



# HOLY + LAND PILGRIMAGE



Thanks to our generous donors and funds from the Theological Education Endowment, third-year seminarians leave Mundelein in January every year to embark on a nine-week Scripture Study Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

The opportunity to literally walk in the footsteps of Christ while pursuing a vocation to become leaders of His Church is a profoundly moving experience. These men feel the presence of the Holy Spirit guiding their journey throughout the trip and compelling them to more fervently devote themselves to their calling upon their return.

The trip gives these future priests the opportunity to study, pray, and tour in Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Nazareth, and other holy sites. Occasions for prayer and fellowship abound as the seminarians visit the places and sacred spaces where Jesus was born, grew up, and lived out his ministry. The Gospel comes to life for our seminarians in a fresh, first-hand way.

When they return in the spring, these men are ordained as transitional deacons for their home dioceses. Many seminarians look back on the Holy Land pilgrimage as one of the most spiritually transformational experiences of their lives.



“This pilgrimage has formed me and changed the way that I pray with the gospels and the way that I will live as a disciple and eventually serve as a priest.”

~ Hayden Charles, Diocese of Wichita







# Tolton Teaching Parish Program

The Tolton Teaching Parish Program is at the heart of seminarian formation at Mundelein. This innovative program immerses our seminarians in parish life throughout their time in seminary. Students are assigned to one of more than 80 teaching parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago and nearby dioceses. By spending their entire seminary tenure at the same parish, they are able to form true bonds with parishioners and fully invest themselves in the life of the parish. Our seminarians spend time each week at their teaching parishes—learning practical and pastoral skills from experienced mentor pastors, participating in Masses and parish events, getting to know parishioners personally, and gaining a

better understanding of what it takes to shepherd a community of faith.

While the Tolton Teaching Parish Program is an essential educational experience, it is also an opportunity for our seminarians to enrich local parishes through their presence and spiritual gifts. Seminarians are frequently called upon to teach CCD and RCIA classes, lead parish Bible studies and small faith-sharing groups, and attend youth and young adult group meetings and events. By interacting with the lay community in these ways, they learn to pass on their faith—inspiring vocations in young Catholics and renewing hope in the future of the Church.





# ADMISSION INFORMATION

For information on applying to Mundelein Seminary, please contact:

## Reverend Edward Pelrine

*Director of Admissions*

Mundelein Seminary  
1000 East Maple Avenue  
Mundelein, Illinois 60060

Office number: (847) 970-4961

Email: [epelrine@usml.edu](mailto:epelrine@usml.edu)



## PRE-THEOLOGY

Mundelein Seminary offers a two-year Pre-Theology program. It is designed for those college graduates who need to make the transition into seminary life and to acquire the necessary academic courses in philosophy and religious studies.

Students in the Pre-Theology program are full-time members of the Mundelein Seminary community. They pursue either a certificate or Master of Arts degree

to prepare them. Individual rooms provide space for study, reflection and prayer. Their group living provides the base for mutual support and interaction. Students participate in one of two mission trip options either in the United States or abroad. From the experiences shared with the poor and the marginalized, these men will be called to live the love of Christ expressed in their prayer and theology.

## MASTER OF DIVINITY

The Master of Divinity curriculum is a four-year integrated program of formation designed to fulfill all of the requirements of the Program of Priestly Formation. The classroom is formational in addition to being academic. Professors relate their own experience of priestly ministry (whether as priests performing the ministry or laity receiving priestly ministry) to the lessons of the subject. The core curriculum offers a

comprehensive presentation of the doctrine of the faith. Parish experiences offer an opportunity to give context to the classroom lessons. Two internships allow the seminarian to work full-time in parish and hospital settings. Mundelein's aim is to produce generalists with depth, who are well prepared for the duties and tasks of diocesan priesthood.

## ADDITIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

For those seminarians who wish to pursue additional academic studies, the Pontifical Faculty at Mundelein Seminary offers the following programs:

### BACCALAUREATE OF SACRED THEOLOGY (S.T.B.)

The program for the Baccalaureate degree initiates seminarians to the study of the whole range of Catholic theology. In addition to course work with an emphasis

on research, a comprehensive examination is required. The program normally requires three years of study.

### LICENTIATE OF SACRED THEOLOGY (S.T.L.)

This program can serve as a foundation for doctoral studies to do research in theology or as a terminal degree in preparation for an intellectual apostolate. A graduate of the S.T.L. program is qualified to teach theology in a seminary or college, do university work

as a Newman Center chaplain, function as a chaplain for various professional groups, or serve as a theological resource for diocesan programs and offices. It typically requires an additional two years of study after the completion of the S.T.B.



# UNIVERSITY INSTITUTES

In addition to Mundelein Seminary, the University of Saint Mary of the Lake is home to four institutes with outstanding advanced degree programs for ordained, religious and lay students seeking to further their formation and become leaders in the Church.

## INSTITUTE FOR PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

[www.usml.edu/ipi](http://www.usml.edu/ipi)

Through a variety of degree programs, the Institute for Pastoral Leadership serves the ongoing education and formation needs of ordained priests and deacons, as well as ongoing and initial education and formation of the laity and vowed religious. Graduates serve as pastoral ministers in professional and volunteer positions at parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations.

## INSTITUTO DE LIDERAZGO PASTORAL

[www.institutodeliderazgopastoral.org](http://www.institutodeliderazgopastoral.org)

Students at the Instituto de Liderazgo Pastoral desire to serve the Church as lay ministers in Hispanic parishes and communities. Programs integrate field experience, Catholic tradition and multicultural heritage to form pastoral Church leaders in the Archdiocese of Chicago and beyond.

## THE LITURGICAL INSTITUTE

[www.liturgicalinstitute.org](http://www.liturgicalinstitute.org)

Serving a diverse international population of laity, religious and clergy, the Liturgical Institute prepares its students in a context of prayer and scholarship to bring solid theological knowledge, critical reasoning and practical skills to bear on the challenges opened by the exciting phase of liturgical renewal emerging in recent years. The Liturgical Institute alumni work as liturgical professionals who lead others to the treasures of the Holy Mass.

## INSTITUTE FOR DIACONAL STUDIES

[www.usml.edu/ids](http://www.usml.edu/ids)

The mission of the Institute for Diaconal Studies is to prepare men to be deacons — icons of Christ the Servant, emissaries of the bishop and servant-leaders—through a distinctive formation process for ministry in the Archdiocese of Chicago. It offers a comprehensive program addressing the mission and identity of diaconal ministry in the Human, Intellectual, Spiritual and Pastoral dimensions of formation while educating men for the three-fold ministry of service to the Word, Liturgy and Charity.



# ANNUAL CAMPUS EVENTS

Mundelein Seminary hosts a variety of events throughout the year to connect our seminarians with our generous supporters and the local community. Visit our website at [www.usml.edu](http://www.usml.edu) for exact dates and event information.

## FAMILY WEEKEND

Shortly after the academic year begins, seminarians welcome their families to campus for a weekend of fun and prayerful activities that offer a glimpse into what life at the seminary is all about.

## RECTOR'S CLASSIC GOLF OUTING AND DINNER

Alumni priests, donors and friends tee off at Pine Meadow Golf Course, adjacent to the seminary grounds, for a lively round of golf followed by an elegant dinner on campus. Proceeds help offset the \$20,000 tuition gap between the actual cost of education and the tuition fees paid by the seminarians' sending dioceses.

## RECTOR'S MASS

Neighbors, friends, and local parishioners join the Mundelein Seminary community for Mass with our rector Father John Kartje followed by a delicious light brunch and reception in the campus dining hall. Campus tours and trolley rides around the lakefront nature path are also available.

## SCIENCE DAY AT THE SEMINARY

Mundelein Seminary invites the public to examine the intersection of faith and science with a lecture from a leading scientific expert followed by breakout discussion sessions led by our seminarians.

## SOUNDS OF THE SEASON CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Mundelein Seminary kicks off Advent with a Christmas concert featuring a local orchestra and our talented seminarian choir. Held in our campus' historic auditorium, the event sells out every year within days of tickets going on sale.

## CELEBRATION OF MUNDELEIN

Our signature fundraiser of the year offers a luxurious dinner and entertainment provided by our seminarians. Proceeds benefit the Holy Land Study Pilgrimage and the Tolton Teaching Parish Program.

## MAY CROWNING

We honor Mary, the patroness of our university, with a public Mass and May Crowning event every spring. Followed by a light brunch, the event brings numerous people to campus to enjoy our beautiful grounds and learn more about the seminary.







UNIVERSITY OF SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE  
**MUNDELEIN SEMINARY**

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