



IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY SEMINARY

SUMMER 2018

NEWSLETTER



Behold, how good and how pleasing it is for brothers to dwell as one.

Psalm 133:1

Letter from the **Rector**

Twenty years ago, I completed my time as a seminarian at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary. When I departed from the seminary grounds on that Saturday in May of 1998, I knew that I would be returning regularly to visit, as my heart was filled with a deep gratitude for all that I had received within the halls of this complex. However, it never entered my mind that I would ever return as a member of the faculty, let alone serve as the rector! It is both surreal and daunting to realize that Christ is calling me to serve the seminarians just as the faculty served me in my days when I was a seminarian. There are certainly days when I am convinced I do not have the gifts to do this work justice. And on those days, I sense Christ gently assuring me that he gives me all I need to carry out the mission he has entrusted to me. Again and again, he reminds me, **"I am with you."**

My hope is that every man who comes to IHM and spends time here as a seminarian will hear the voice of Christ speaking that same message. His fidelity sustains us in all we do. His generosity renders our own work fruitful. His compassion supplies for our own limitations and weaknesses. All that we are and do here at IHM is meant to lead God's People to a deeper union with the one whose fidelity, generosity, and compassion is constant and unfailing. Please join with me in praying that the seminarians here will come to know Christ's love for them ever more deeply, and that through their future efforts, the Lord's flock will likewise hear Christ's promise resounding in their lives: **"I am with you."**



It is my hope and prayer that the men here at the seminary are learning this truth of divine fidelity more deeply with each passing day...

Rev. Robert Horihan
Rector



Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

GRADUATION

Front row: Robert Scanlon- Diocese of Winona-Rochester, Daniel Hammer- Diocese of Duluth, Mark Miller- Diocese of Crookston, Jose Flores-Ugalde- Diocese of Madison and Isaac Landsteiner- Diocese of Winona-Rochester.

Back row: Robert Kinyon- Diocese of Rapid City, Adam Worm- Diocese of Winona-Rochester, Brian Klein- Diocese of Winona-Rochester and Kaleb Quast- Diocese of Duluth.

On Friday May 11, and Saturday May 12, 2018, nine of our students from five different dioceses participated in a number of events marking the conclusion of their time as students at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary and Saint Mary's University of Minnesota. On the evening of May 11, a baccalaureate Mass was celebrated in the Saint John Vianney Chapel at the seminary, as faculty, family, and other seminarians gathered to pray in thanksgiving for the graduates' time in our community and for continued blessings in the future. On the morning of May 12, another baccalaureate Mass was celebrated, this time by Bishop Quinn Diocese of Winona-Rochester at the Saint Thomas More Chapel for the entire university community. Later that same morning commencement exercises took place in the university gymnasium, and by early afternoon, IHM was able to add another nine men to the list of alumni.

"As these men go forth to various destinations, our prayers go with them. I am most grateful for the many ways in which they have enriched this community in their time with us, and I have every confidence that the Lord will continue to use them as vehicles for his grace as they move to the next stage of their journeys of discipleship. May the Lord's blessings be theirs in abundance!"

Rev. Robert Horihan
Rector



"My hope is that every man who comes to IHM and spends time here as a seminarian will hear the voice of Christ speaking "I am here with you."

Ordination of Thê Hoàng & Brian Mulligan

This year the Diocese of Winona-Rochester had the special privilege of ordaining two men to the Sacred Order of Presbyters. Fr. Thê Hoàng and Fr. Brian Mulligan were ordained to the priesthood on Friday, June 11, 2018, on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. The mass, presided by Most Rev. John M. Quinn, was held at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart and was the first presbyterate ordination in three years. Both Fr. Hoàng and Fr. Mulligan graduated from IHM in 2014 before going to Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit to continue their studies.

Fr. Thê Hoàng is originally from St. Joseph Church in Owatonna and gave his first Mass of Thanksgiving there on Saturday, June 9. He has been appointed the Parochial Vicar of Pax Christi Church in Rochester and Saints Peter and Paul Church in Mazeppa.

Fr. Brian Mulligan is originally from Rochester and his home parish is Holy Spirit Catholic Church, where he gave his First Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, June 10. Fr. Mulligan will be serving as Parochial Vicar at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart and St. Casimir Church in Winona.

We have been very blessed this year to have gained two new priests so please pray for them as they start their time serving God's people.



LEFT TO RIGHT:
Fr. Brian Mulligan, Deacon Matt Wagner, Most Rev. John M. Quinn and Fr. The' Hoang

Ordination of Matthew Wagner

On Sunday June 3rd we celebrated the ordination of IHM alumni Matthew Wagner to the position of Deacon.

Deacon Wagner graduated from IHM in 2015 before going to Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, MI to continue his journey towards becoming a priest. Originally from the Twin Cities area, Deacon Wagner had been a student of St. Mary's University before transferring to IHM.

The ceremony was performed by Most Rev. John M. Quinn at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Winona, where around 300 people came to celebrate, including many members of IHM. Fr. Jason Kern, director of Vocations for the diocese, presented Deacon Wagner at the beginning of the mass for election and Fr. Martin Schaefer, Vice-Rector of IHM, was the Vesting Minister who gave Deacon Wagner his deaconate dalmatic and stole. Fr. Thé Hoang and Fr. Brian Mulligan, who were still deacons at the time, were the deacons for the mass.

Deacon Wagner has been ordained as a transitional deacon, which differs from the position of a permanent deacon in a couple ways. A transitional deacon is a step all priests take before being ordained a priest, as opposed to a permanent deacon who stays in that position their whole life. There is no difference between what a permanent or transitional deacon can or cannot do, and they share the same types of responsibilities. A transitional deacon also gives the Promise of Celibacy at their ordination, before they give the Vow of Chastity at their elevation to the priesthood.

This summer Deacon Wagner will be working with Fr. Andrew Beerman at St. John Vianney Church in Fairmont and Holy Family Church in East Chain. This fall he will go back to Sacred Heart Major Seminary to continue his deaconate duties and to finish his studies to become a priest.





Freshman perspective

Ben Schoonmaker—Diocese of Peoria

My first year of seminary has been an incredible time of immense growth, but it did not come as I expected it to happen. Coming in, I subconsciously expected most of the growth to take place in the chapel, that it was the exclusive place for real formation. I was undoubtedly mistaken. Formation definitely happens in the chapel but, as Fr. Schaefer said during a conference this year, "Formation happens on the third and fourth floors of Kelly Hall." This reality has proven to be extremely true.

For those of you who may not know, the third and fourth floor of Kelly Hall are the residence floors. We live on these floors as brothers and it is there that we grow as men in Christ. Often there is joy and laughter heard on these floors. Sometimes there are hard conversations of fraternal correction being had in rooms on these floors. There is communal bliss and the loneliness that is a call to greater intimacy with God to be found on these floors. There are edifying conversations, joyful banter and real growth in virtue all happening on these floors. All of this is true formation. All of this is brought back to the chapel, brought back to Jesus, and He rejoices with us in our joy, consoles in our sorrow and makes us men after his own heart.

True formation happened in the chapel yes, but the unexpected means by which God has graced the start of my time here was simply in the communal life. Of our community it can sincerely be said "Ecce quam bonum" (Behold how good) and this is not because any one of us are particularly good, but that the authentic unity found in this community is good and worthy of beholding. I look forward to seeing how God will use these next years and continue to draw my brothers and myself to Himself through each other.



Senior reflection

Adam Worm—Diocese of Winona-Rochester

In my three years at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary I experienced growth in many areas, especially who I am as a human person through the eyes of Christ. That is the beauty of seminary life. Although such an intentional household can be difficult to live in at times, the environment provides rapid and timely growth. It forces young men to learn to live alongside one another while not only celebrating the graces that accompany this growth, but also enduring the pains which stem from necessary accountability.

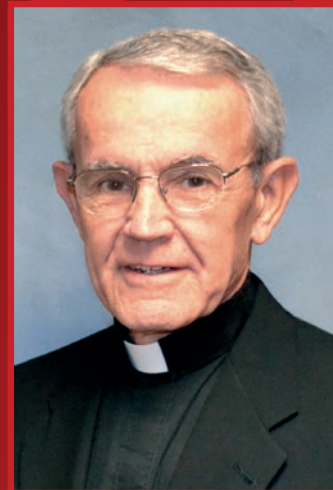
I struggled in few areas over the course of my first year, and much of it had to do with my insistence of doing things on my own. After finally giving in and learning the importance of bringing these things to my brothers and the faculty, I was able to approach these obstacles with a much more positive view. At first my desire was simply to be free of these things, but as I continually brought them to prayer, I noticed that God was not always necessarily going to remove these obstacles from my life. Instead, I had grown to accept these things as a part of who I was as a human person. This experience of seeing the good in my humanity has already led to many more experiences of grace in my life, and I'm excited to see how God continues to use these things as I move on to major seminary at Sacred Heart in Detroit.

Alumni SPOTLIGHT

For this Alumni Spotlight we are featuring Msgr. Donald P. Schmitz, an alumnus of IHM who

has given so much of himself to IHM. Not only was Msgr. Schmitz a seminarian here, over the years he held the position of Spiritual Director and Vice-Rector as well. But above all else he was known for being a man of deep and uncompromising faith.

On May 2nd Msgr. Schmitz died at the age of 78 at Rochester Methodist Hospital after battling with cancer for 12 years. Born May 11, 1939 in Caledonia, MN Msgr. Schmitz entered IHM as a seminarian in 1957. After that he was ordained a priest at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome December 16, 1964. Msgr. Schmitz has held many different positions within the Diocese of Winona-Rochester, including having been the pastor at numerous parishes.



At his funeral Fr. Timothy Reker gave the homily, saying

Don was a hope-filled person, who looked for the best outcomes in this life and also trusted in God's promise of eternal life.

Msgr. Schmitz spent many years as a faculty member here, including as the Vice-Rector in the late seventies and early eighties as well as the Spiritual Director for many years.

"Seminarians recognized the face of Christ in his way of being a man, a priest and a real servant which they desired to follow and discover this depth of familiarity" says Msgr. Mahon.

We have been extremely blessed to have had Msgr. Schmitz supporting IHM for decades, and now to help honor him and all that he has done for IHM we have created the Msgr. Donald P. Schmitz Memorial Spiritual Formation Fund. This was started from donations given in memorial of Msgr. Schmitz and will provide funds to benefit IHM students and faculty in deepening faithful understanding through spiritual formation.

2018

Bishops & Rector Dinner

Each year IHM celebrates with the Bishops and Rector Dinner. This year's event was special for several reasons, as the dinner both celebrated IHM's 70th anniversary and marked the completion of extensive renovations to the seminary. To help showcase this the event was held at St. Mary's University in Winona, instead of in Rochester as it has been held the past several years.

To showcase the renovation completions IHM held an Open House to show attendees how their support has impacted the seminary. The seminarians led the tours of the seminary before the dinner, which also gave them time to interact with the guests on a more personal level. While IHM holds open houses a couple times a year, this was by far the most well attended, as almost all of the 360 guests who attended the dinner also went to the open house.

The dinner also featured alumni from IHM. Besides the many who attended as guests there was live music from the Sacred Heart Folk Band, made up entirely of alumni. The band was lead by David Kruse and Deacon Matt Wagner, who are both currently students at Sacred Heart Major seminary in Detroit. The other members of the band were laymen David Zimmerman and Chad Cagle. Their upbeat music and energy helped set the stage for the rest of the evening.

The keynote speaker and recipient of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Award this year was Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda from the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis. Archbishop Hebda spoke about the importance of nurturing vocations and supporting the call to priesthood.

We would like to invite everyone to save the date for next year's Bishops and Rectors dinner, April 12, 2019 which will be held in Rochester at the International Event Center. Archbishop Charles J. Chaput from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will be the recipient of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Award and featured presenter.



Photo taken from the Open House



Archbishop Bernard Hebda



Retired priests from the Diocese of Winona-Rochester

My Vocation Story

I grew up on a dairy farm just south of Neillsville, WI as the youngest of four, with three older brothers. My childhood was filled with many joyful memories- playing sports, working on the farm, and hanging out with friends and cousins helped me stay out of trouble. Growing up we would have been labeled as “Sunday” Catholics. Sports consumed my life, which put my faith on hold. I had people telling me to grow deeper in my faith, but I wasn’t interested, nor did I know what they meant by that. I had my own plans for my life, and I lived a good chunk of my life pursuing those plans.

When my sophomore year of high school came around, I wasn’t prepared for the life changing event that would take place. My parents ended up getting a divorce. As the youngest, I relied heavily upon my family to lift me up and help me through life. I looked up to all my brothers and especially to my mom and dad. After the divorce everything changed. I no longer had the support I needed, and my faith was not grounded enough for me to turn to. Having this deep wound within me and not knowing how to properly deal with it, I began my journey down a very destructive path. I had a rebellious heart, and I wanted to do the things I knew I shouldn’t have been doing. I started getting more involved in the party scene. It all started as being fun and games. I thought I had control over it, so I was never concerned with the possible consequences later in life. After I graduated high school, I fell away from the Church and continued my life down my destructive path. After five years of pain and suffering, I wanted out. Things were only getting worse and not better.

It was this pain and suffering that brought me back to the Church. I received the sacrament of reconciliation for the first time in five years, started going to mass on Sundays and began to go to daily mass, as well as attend weekly adoration. It was through prayer that I finally asked the question, “God, what do you want me to do with my life?” That’s when I heard the call to be a priest. God was the missing ingredient in my life. He has done so much for me; words can’t justify how grateful I am for his love, mercy, compassion, strength and healing.

“We are all God’s children, and with God’s grace, I want to be that bridge for people to encounter Christ.”



Alex Kren
Diocese of LaCrosse



Our Renovation and New Addition are **COMPLETE!**

The renovation project is finally completed! Thank you to everyone who has helped us make this project possible—with your generous gifts of time, talent and treasure we can provide a more accommodating and enriching home for our seminarians. While Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary was founded in 1947, the building that it currently is in was erected in 1950, making it 68 years old this year. While the building has gone through several smaller renovation projects, this was by far the largest.

This project was first started back in January of 2016 and all the major renovations ended in September of 2017 with the seminarians moving back into the building from their temporary housing in the Waters dormitory. Now all the smaller parts to the renovation, including painting, getting all the new furnishings, and setting up the new library, are complete as well. While the health and safety of all the men who live at the seminary was the main goal of the renovation, with the inclusion of more lounge and gathering spaces now the men have better places for groups to gather and bond.

The main features that were added with the renovation include a new entry area with an elevator to all levels, lounges built that connect Leo Hall and Kelly Hall, replacing the heating and cooling units throughout the building, as well as new music, art and study areas. Other projects that are now complete include renovating the chapel, remodeling the kitchen, updating plumbing and removing any materials that contained asbestos, among many other minor updating and restoration projects.

This has been a long, but greatly needed, change to the seminary and we are very grateful to everyone for helping us in all stages of this journey.



Letter from the Office



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Please let me know if you are an IHM Alumni, know someone who should receive the IHM Newsletter or if you have an address change.

Hello,

I am very pleased to have started working for IHM this year and I am looking forward to working not only with the seminarians here at IHM, but all of you who support what we do here. I am originally from Eau Claire, WI and attended college in Moorhead, MN at Concordia College where I studied multi-media journalism, Chinese, and communications. Taking up this position has been quite the leap for me, as I started right in the middle of planning the Bishops and Rector dinner.

My position differs from my predecessors because I am technically not an employee of IHM. I am employed by the Catholic Foundation of Southern Minnesota (CFSM) and my time is split between my duties to both organizations. CFSM recently moved into the lower level of IHM, and with this partnership CFSM has become the development and communications branch for IHM. We are hoping that by having a position that works for both the CFSM and IHM we can cater to the specific needs that both organizations require.

If you have any suggestions for articles, or questions or concerns about this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am very excited to start my time here at IHM, so please keep both me and the rest of the students, faculty and staff in your prayers.

Susan Fiser

UPCOMING EVENTS 2018

August 20-22
Senior Seminarians Retreat

August 23-25
New Seminarian Orientation

August 27
Saint Mary's University classes begin

September 29-30
Family Weekend

October 13-16
Autumn Recess

October 19-21
Vir in Christo Weekend

November 10-12
Vocation Information Weekend

November 21-26
Thanksgiving Recess

December 14, 15, 17, 18
Final Exams

December 9 - January 6, 2019
Christmas Recess

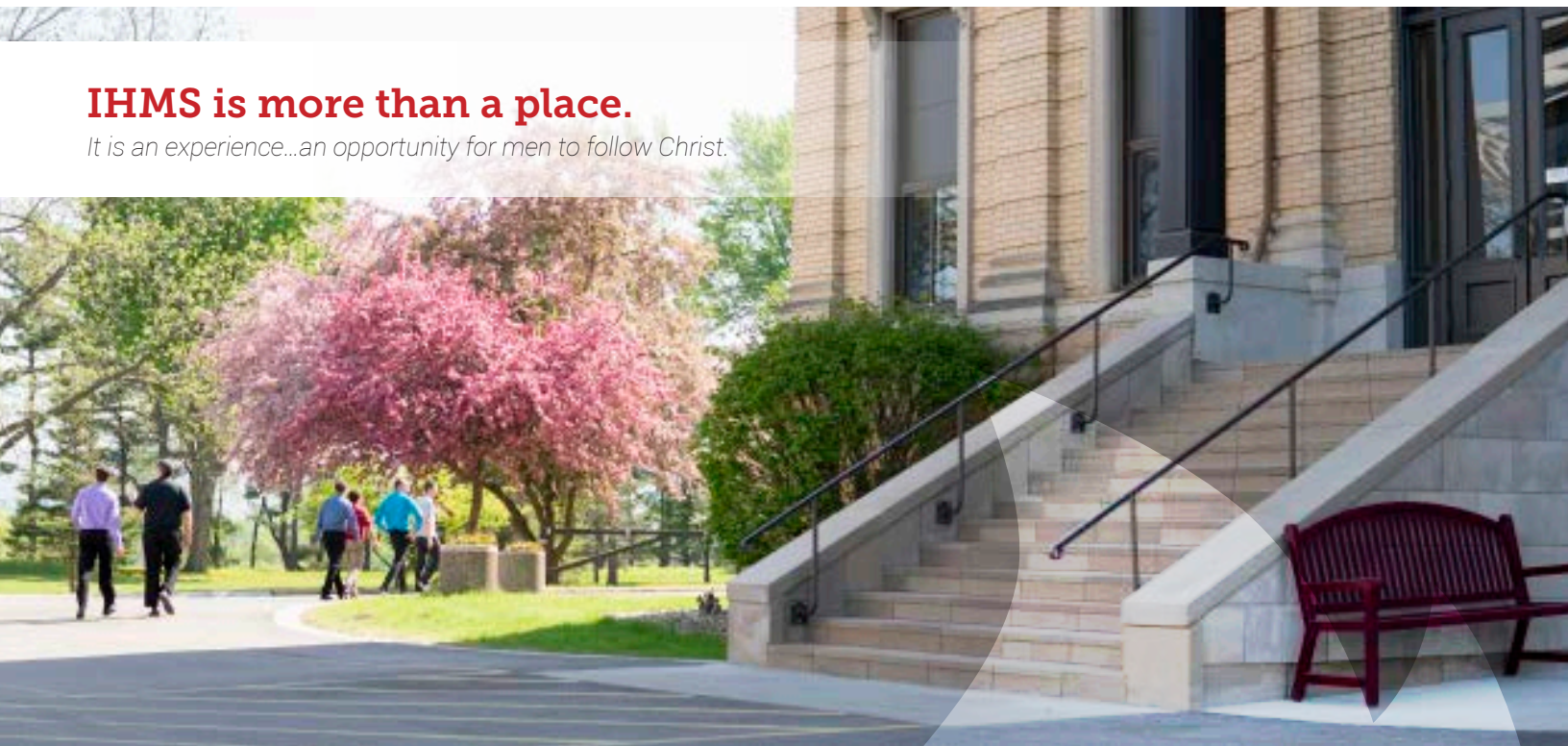


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IHMS is more than a place.

It is an experience...an opportunity for men to follow Christ.



The Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary is honored to be represented by the following Diocese, who have entrusted us with their seminarians formation.

Diocese of La Crosse, Diocese of Winona-Rochester, Diocese of Crookston, Diocese of Duluth, Diocese of Madison, Diocese of Rapid City, Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis, Diocese of Marquette, Diocese of Sioux Falls, Diocese of St. Cloud, Diocese of Gary, Diocese of Peoria, and Diocese of Green Bay

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