




IMMACULATE
HEART OF MARY
SEMINARY

SPRING 2022

NEWSLETTER

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

Psalm 133:1





Letter from the **Rector**

Spring seemed somewhat slow to spin her splendor this year. I even remember seeing snowflakes circling about on Holy Thursday evening; that kind of precipitation hardly seemed fitting just a few days before celebrating Easter! Happily, though, more recent days have provided the opportunity to enjoy the myriad colors and vibrant vitality of nature arising from her winter dormancy. As I pondered this rhythm that recurs each year, it dawned on me that formation and discernment is not unlike what we wait for and witness each spring.

Just as this richness of nature lies latent within the vegetation around us during the winter months, waiting expectantly for the right conditions to spring into glory, so, too, has God planted rich and wondrous seeds within the men who enter this seminary community seeking to discern their vocation. They come to plant themselves in the rich soil of the Father's care, to be nourished by Christ's very own substance in the Eucharist, and to open themselves to the light of the Spirit. As they immerse themselves in the love of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, they come to reflect the divine glory ever more fully. And as they come to know the Trinity's care for them more deeply, they also come to discover whether they are called to manifest God's glory specifically as ordained ministers of divine grace.

As rector, it is my privilege to watch this development and maturation happen before my eyes. As wondrous as nature in her full flower may be, even more marvelous is the human person who is richly receptive to God's grace. While that receptivity can be and is cultivated in any number of environments, the seminary is the place in which I get to see it happen day in and day out, as I see the glory of God shine forth in the men of this house.

As rector, it is my privilege to watch this development and maturation happen before my eyes.

Rev. Robert Horihan
Rector



2022 Seminarian Graduation

Paul Rupert Senior, Diocese of Peoria

The 2022 graduating class of Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary was anything but homogenous, but it was also anything but divided. Men of exceptionally diverse backgrounds, ages, and temperaments seldom reach the degree of variety that our class did, even in a seminary serving men from fifteen dioceses across the Midwest. The diversity was manifest, but the unity of the class of 2022 was unmistakable.



Troubling times have a way of bonding people, and the last three years have had a touch of mania from the developing and, at times, vapid setting of COVID-19 protocols. The 2022 class had two great strengths in the midst of this situation: the flexibility of its diversity and the clarity of its purpose.

The class was intent upon growth in holiness. That goal united and strengthened us to attain individual and group achievements that in turn made the class to shine. In order to grow in holiness, two things are always necessary: a closeness to Christ and a charity to others. The brothers inspired each other through the closeness of their fraternity to “keep their eyes fixed on Jesus” (Heb. 12:2) and “run so as to win” (1 Cor. 9:26) in the midst of challenges.

Through the grace of God, the excellence of the seminary’s formation program, and the strength of brotherhood the class of 2022 has lived out the motto of the Seminary:

Behold how good and pleasing it is when brothers dwell in unity.

(Ps. 133:1)

BISHOPS AND RECTOR DINNER

The IHM Seminary community has held its first in person Bishops and Rector Dinner since 2019 this year. The Dinner was held on April 22, 2022 at the Rochester International Event Center. This year, the Immaculate Heart of Mary Award was awarded to Archbishop Thomas Gullickson, now retired in the Diocese of Sioux Falls South Dakota. We were also graced by the presence of Bishop John Quinn of Winona-Rochester, one of our hosts for the evening alongside Father Robert Horihan; Bishop Daniel Felton of Duluth; and Bishop Joseph Kettler of Saint Cloud.

Archbishop Gullickson was ordained to the priesthood on June 27, 1976 in his home Diocese of Sioux Falls by then bishop, Bishop Hoch. Archbishop Gullickson served as a priest for the Diocese of Sioux Falls until he was appointed Titular Archbishop of Polymartium on October 2, 2004. Along with this appointment came the appointment to serve as the apostolic nuncio to a number of various countries including: Trinidad and Tobago, Bahamas, Dominica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and Grenadines—all parts of the Antilles Archipelago in the Pacific to which he was then made the Apostolic Delegate. In 2004, Archbishop Gullickson was ordained the Archbishop of Polymartium, and with that ordination came more responsibilities as he was additionally made the Apostolic Nuncio to Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Jamaica, Guyana, Suriname, and Grenada.

Upon receiving the Immaculate Heart of Mary Award, Archbishop Gullickson particularly noted his later assignments as he served in his role as Archbishop and Apostolic Nuncio to Ukraine, Switzerland, and Lichtenstein. He particularly noted his time serving the Church there because of the conflict currently raging between Ukraine and Russia. He approached the subject with great humility, and encouraged all in attendance to do so as well as he recounted stories of men, priests, that he had met from the area over the course of his priesthood. Although he had served the Church in Ukraine so directly, he claimed that the conflict was a subject for men and women who are more directly involved than he, and instead he focused on the people of Eastern Europe, particularly noting their resolve.

The evening was a delightful and light-hearted event which we all at Immaculate Heart of Seminary were glad to host in person once again. A dinner of either chicken or salmon was enjoyed by those in attendance, and live music was put on by musicians from our very own seminary. The ensemble, Immaculate Jazz, played as guests arrived and socialized before the dinner, and after dinner, the Schola Choir sang “Ave Maria” and seminarians Jon Stone (Diocese of Crookston) and Gabriel Rysavy (Diocese of Winona-Rochester) sang a duet entitled “Fall On Me”. The evening concluded with a blessing from all of the Bishops in attendance and the singing of “Ecce Quam Bonum”.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary community would like to extend its thanks to all who attended our first in person Bishops and Rector Dinner in three years...

it was you all who made the night the success that it was—thank you. To all of our benefactors, thank you for the support that you give to us as we discern our vocations; we hope that one day we will be able to serve you and the Church because of what you have done and continue to do for us. God bless you all!



Please mark your calendars for next year as we will host the 20th annual Bishops and Rector Dinner on **April 14, 2023**. We hope to see you there!



Senior Q&A



Riley Becher

Diocese of Winona-Rochester

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

I am really looking forward to reading *Island of the World* by Michael O'Brien.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

My favorite class was "Medieval and Renaissance Spanish Literature." For the class we had to look at so many different disciplines to understand the literature we were reading. The humanities opened up for me with this class. In the class we had to study the history of the work, the operating philosophy(s), any art associated with the work, all the while being in Spanish. In many ways it was the beginning of my desire to do research on a topic from many angles.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

I am most proud of reaching fluency in Spanish.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

I hope to continue many of the friendships I have made at IHM.



What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

It may sound odd, but reading and gleaning some understanding from philosophical works seemed like an impossibility when I began my studies at IHM. After four years, I actually really enjoy reading philosophy.

Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

I have absolutely surprised myself while at IHM. Specifically, I had no idea how much I could grow in so little of a time, especially in the spiritual life. In many ways I can no longer remember what prayer was like before entering. My relationship with the Lord has just grown so much that I can't fathom what life was like without this degree of intimacy with Him.

What are your plans after graduation?

I will be attending Saint Paul Major Seminary in St. Paul Minnesota as a 1st Theology student.

Nathan Budde

Diocese of Green Bay

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

I look forward to reading Priestly Fatherhood by Fr. Jaques Philippe this summer while attending classes at IPF in Omaha, Nebraska.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

Tolkien Seminar especially because it gave me more confidence in my public speaking skills.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

Declaring candidacy for Holy Orders after graduation.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

I hope to continue many of the good friendships I cultivated during my time at IHM.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

Completing thesis.

Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

Surprised myself in leadership as Senior class prefect. I saw a lot of growth in myself as a prefect this past year.

What are your plans after graduation?

Attending St. Francis de Sales Major Seminary in Milwaukee.



Peter Danner

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

I am most looking forward to the eight-day silent retreat at the IPF summer program. I am hoping it will be a rich encounter with the Lord.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

The best class I took at St. Mary's was either 19th/20th Century Philosophy because it was so engaging, or the Old/New Testament classes because of the material.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

I am most proud of my growth in prayer since entering IHMS.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

I hope I will be able to continue keeping in contact with a lot of the friends I've made at IHM. A lot of the friendships I've forged in my time at IHM have been incredibly formative and grace-filled.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

Honestly, it felt very far away to be praying a full holy hour every day when I first began at IHM, but the Lord did a lot through formation to help me get to that point.

Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

Definitely. The Lord has done a lot to help me appreciate intellectual formation which was just one of the many surprises at IHMS.



What are your plans after graduation?

I will be moving on to Theology I at St. Francis de Sales Major Seminary in Milwaukee after spending a summer in the IPF summer seminarian program.



Joshua Johnson

Diocese of Crookston

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

Watching baseball.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

History of 19th/20th Century Philosophy. It brought many of the different philosophy and liberal arts classes together in an active discussion.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

Perseverance in making it through minor seminary.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

Continued depth of prayer with the Lord.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

Learning to be more dependent on the Lord and others.

Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

By becoming more comfortable with my weakness.

What are your plans after graduation?

Attending St. Paul Seminary for theology.



Thomas Kollasch

Diocese of Sioux City

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

I am looking forward to studying Italian to use in Rome next year!

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

The best class I took in college was 19th-20th Century Philosophy which pushes back at the overly optimistic rationalism of the Modern philosophers. It has taught me much about the principles of societal customs and institutions, allowing me to better deliberate and choose the way I want to live in relation to others.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

I am most proud of the way I have faced my brokenness and sinfulness, allowing the Father and my formators to guide me toward conversion of heart and mind.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

I hope I will continue to be formed in the human pillar of formation, growing in emotional maturity, acceptance of suffering, and ordered desires toward love of God and others. I also hope to keep my philosophical education fresh in my mind as I continue to grow intellectually.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

During my first semester, I was hopeless about studying philosophy. It was just so hard to read, and different from my previous scientific education at the University of Iowa. But now, I quite enjoy engaging philosophical texts and questions; they no longer lead me to despair but excitement and desire to learn.



Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

Certainly! Especially in the area of community, in my more-actualized capacity to develop relationships and encounter others in vulnerability and love.

What are your plans after graduation?

I will be attending the Pontifical North American College in Rome next year!

Barry Meinholz

Diocese of Sioux Falls

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

I will be leading a team for Totus Tuus, so I will not have a lot of time for anything else.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

Medieval Philosophy- it was fun to explore the ideas and topics in the class.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

Working with a group of students, we advocated for stained glass of Blessed Brother James Miller to be installed on campus. It was approved this spring and hopefully will be installed by next year.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

A solid prayer life and also that our class will keep in touch.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

I think just establishing a consistent daily habit of prayer.

Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

Yes.

What are your plans after graduation?

I will be on Totus Tuus for the summer and then attending St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee for Theology.



Andrew Mullaney

Diocese of Sioux Falls

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

I am looking forward to spending time in classes and leisure with other seminarians at the Institute of Priestly Formation in Omaha, Nebraska. I hope to travel to a couple of friends' weddings and also see some family.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

I enjoyed "Business Ethics" with Dr. Joseph Tadie. I enjoyed the fact that the class had both a theoretical and practical aspect to it. We talked about philosophers like Aristotle, Kant, and Mill while applying their ideas in group work by making stained glass.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

I am most proud of my interactions and relationships with my professors in these last few years. They have helped me complete the tasks required to achieve my undergraduate degree. They have also participated in my formation by sharing their own wisdom and experience about life.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

I hope to continue to draw from the friendships that have been established during my time here.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

I have made progress toward the ongoing goal of interdependence concerning adulthood and maturity.

It seems like it was just the other day that I was a confused freshman wondering how I could be more like the organized and serene seniors.



Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

I have surprised myself with my intellectual achievements and my involvement in the house.

What are your plans after graduation?

I will be attending Saint Paul Seminary in Saint Paul, Minnesota for Graduate Theology in continuation of seminary formation.

Will O'Donnell

Diocese of Gary

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

My summer assignments have always given me ample opportunities to practice new habits of living. As I begin the summer I am excited to get back into reading for leisure. After reading the Lord of the Rings last summer as well as a great deal of other works by Tolkien for my thesis, I have chosen to start a new series of books. The series that I am currently reading is Dune. I also plan to continue "rucking" throughout the summer, which is basically walking and exercising with weight plates in a backpack.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

My best class at SMU was either Environmental Ethics with Dr. Tadie, or Medieval Philosophy with Dr. Bobier. Both of these philosophy courses were helpful to my career as a student in different ways. In Environmental Ethics, Dr. Tadie provided us with an integrated and communal habit of teaching and note-taking. I am especially appreciative for his adaptability to the course as it continued into the pandemic months. Medieval Philosophy with Dr. Bobier was very helpful for me to die to my own understanding of a philosopher's text and in turn understand the context and the view of the philosopher himself. Dr. Bobier was also a key figure who helped me overcome my fears of writing works of philosophy.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

I am most proud of the Lord's work in forming me to be a leader and a brother for others. Where at one time I had shrank from the idea of being a leader, the Lord provided me with many opportunities of leadership that came very naturally to me during this past year. As a result, God's grace of humility and docility have allowed me to be a lot more open to the Holy Spirit's movements towards leadership.



What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

I have come to know a fair amount of the brother seminarians and priests in which I lived with for four years. As I transition into the summer and into this next stage of my formational journey, I hope to continually connect with those who have played a crucial role in forming me by their words, criticisms, direction, and love.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

Ever since my freshmen year, I had dreaded the thought of having to write a 20-page thesis. I was never really keen of writing papers, nor did I have a lot of confidence in my ability to present a coherent argument. However, through humility in reaching out to faculty and friends for assistance and fortitude in persevering in my research, I made it to a total of 26 pages! God is never outdone in generosity!

Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

Yes.

What are your plans after graduation?

For my summer assignment this year, I have been placed at St. Bridget's parish in Hobart, IN with Fr. Benjamin Ross (IHM Alumni). After my summer duties are fulfilled I will venture with my family to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan for our annual vacation near the end of July. Finally, at the end of the summer, I will start preparing for my transition into Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit for Theology school.

Luis Reyes

Diocese of Madison

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

Spending time with my family in Colombia.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

The best class I took in college was Logic because the professor was Fr. Bob, and he showed me how to love philosophy.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

I learned how to say yes and when to say no.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

I hope to continue reaching out to my friends from IHMS.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

I learned how to receive blessings from prayer and how to share with others.

Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

A lot! They showed me how to embrace my identity as a beloved son of the Father.

What are your plans after graduation?

I will be going back home for the summer. Then, I will start Major Seminary in Detroit.



Paul Rupert

Diocese of Peoria

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

I look forward to rereading some of my favorite books. I read both G. K. Chesterton's *Orthodoxy* and Sr. Mary Cecilia's *Efficiency in the Spiritual Life*.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

The best class I took was Dr. Rickert's *Philosophy of the Human Person*. The course was extremely relatable. Our textbook was very clear and interesting (*Nature, Knowledge, and God* by Br. Benignus) and Dr. Rickert's teaching style aided memory very well.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

I am very proud of the Thursday morning pancake breakfasts I helped to organize these last few semesters.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

After leaving I hope to continue to get up early and start the day with meditative prayer.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

A goal that felt very far away that I achieved while at seminary was fostering a habit of daily devotional prayers that included the Rosary and the three times a day Angelus.



Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

I was most surprised by how much more productive a day is when much of it is spent in prayer.

What are your plans after graduation?

After graduation I will be visiting religious orders to attempt to clarify the call God has given.

Anthony Richter

Diocese of Cheyenne

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

I am most looking forward to reading C.S. Lewis' space trilogy.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

The best individual class I took in college was The Search for Truth because of how the content, which was the seven deadly sins, allowed me to better reflect on my day to day life. It also helped me to take greater strides in the human dimension of formation.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

It is a difficult question because the changes and the accomplishments I am most happy about over the past couple of years I can't rightly say I am proud of them as if they were my accomplishments. I know that the things I have grown in have been a result of myself, the Lord, and others helping me to become better. That being said, I am most proud of the habit of daily prayer that has formed. For myself now, it is as if I can't survive, much less function well if I do not pray in some capacity every day. So strangely the thing I am most proud of is how much I have come to realize my dependence on God's love for me.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

The one thing that I hope to continue after leaving IHMS would be the Lord's Days of Recollection, where we would essentially do a day-long silent retreat. I think being intentional about silence, stripping away distractions and noise, has been crucial for my growth and I hope to continue the practice.



What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

I would say I never thought I could sit in silence for as long as I do now and enjoy it as much as I do. It is funny for me now to think that one of the things I was most scared of coming into seminary is now a part I can't live without, but it is true. I know that if I didn't have those quiet times with the Lord things wouldn't get addressed and I would be pretty miserable.

Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

What has surprised me the most has been how, as I continue the practices in our Rule of Life, I have started to develop a desire to do virtuous things, like exercise and eat right, etc. I never really thought this important or possible before seminary, but here I am.

What are your plans after graduation?

After graduation I will be spending some time in my home Diocese at a parish then it is off to Theology School to continue seminary formation.

Todd VanderMay

Diocese of Rapid City

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

Watching The Office and growth in prayer.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

Philosophy of the Human Person because it is a rundown of all philosophy and hones in on Aquinas.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

Finishing Thesis.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

Keep in touch with the friends I met while at IHMS.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

Passing Latin.

Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

I came back after discerning out once.

What are your plans after graduation?

Attend JPPII healing institute this summer then St. Paul Seminary this Fall.



Mark Wagner

Diocese of Madison

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

Spending time at my summer parish assignment in Darlington, Wisconsin.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

Medieval Philosophy, I really enjoyed the topics discussed, and the content helped me to better understand how theology and philosophy can interact.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

The growth that I have encountered by facing my brokenness.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

I hope to continue growing closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus to greater conform my heart to His.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

Overcoming my brokenness.

Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

Over the past few years, as I have been more intentional about building my prayer life, receiving healing, and building friendships, I have been amazed at the growth that I have encountered simply because I was willing to completely give of myself.



What are your plans after graduation?

I will be starting Theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, MI. I am also applying to the Air Force Chaplain Candidate program as I continue to discern the possibility of becoming a military chaplain.



John Waters

Diocese of Sioux City

What are you most looking forward to reading, watching, or doing this summer?

I am looking forward to reading *Be Transformed* and *Be Healed* by Bob Schutes in preparation for missionary training.

What was the best class you took in college, and why?

19th and 20th Century philosophy because it was the first class that got me interested in philosophy.

What are you most proud of in the last year or two?

My ability to go to the depths with Jesus. This has allowed me to be all things to all people.

What's one thing you hope you will continue after you leave IHMS?

My continued relationship with the Trinity that reveals to me the love of the Father's heart.

What goal have you achieved that felt really far away during your first year at IHMS?

The ability to know Jesus in my weakness and have him be my steady strength.

Have you surprised yourself while at IHMS?

I have! Sometimes in unpleasant ways but more often than not, in very pleasant ways.

What are your plans after graduation?

I plan to become a Hard as Nails missionary in New York after graduation.





Club Sports **Basketball**

Joshua Johnson

Senior, Diocese of Crookston

It's the 2nd half of a basketball game, losing by around ten points to a superior team, and a timeout is called. There are a variety of possibilities within the huddle: try and make a new strategy, just breathe and try to get some energy, start to believe that the game is slowly but surely slipping away, or to fully accept the situation and become energized by it. That last option was seized by our team in our final game of the tournament.

The St. Francis Basketball tournament allowed for a fantastic opportunity for brotherhood in the midst of adversity. Often challenge, hardship, and affliction can be causes for avoidance, doubt, and despair. Instead, in the midst of this game we understood the situation, continued to have faith in our team, and allowed the adversity to be the cause of fervor and eagerness. To quote the words in our huddle when losing by 10 points...

"We got them on the ropes boys, right where we want them!"

Being honest, we lost that game in the tournament. But, even in our downfall there was great joy as we dwelt together as one.



New Entrance Sign

Brendan Logan

Sophomore, Diocese of Sioux Falls

This being my first year at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary, I expected to focus on formation and academics. What I did not expect was to be working on any significant projects. That is why I was surprised when Fr. Schaefer asked me to take on this project. It has been around two years now since I left my welding job and started seminary. I was excited about the idea of making a sign and getting my hands dirty again. The three conditions set out by Fr. Schaefer were as follows: he wanted a sign promoting Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary; he wanted it to look nice; and finally it had to be masculine. It was easy enough as a concept, but the logistics of it were ever-changing. I recruited my old roommate from technical college, and together we hand-cut the sign with a plasma cutter in Sioux Falls. I brought it back to the seminary to finish it. Craig Mulholland, the head of maintenance at IHMS, gave me good ideas and feedback on the finishing touches. With these ideas, we welded brackets to the back of the sign to give it a floating effect. After that, we had the IHMS maintenance crew, consisting of six seminarians, paint the sign.

The trim was a last-minute add-on that gave the sign a finished look. Before hanging it up, Charles Tackman installed LED lights on the back of the sign to catch people's attention. I was pleased with the finished product as were the rest of the faculty and my brother seminarians. Everyone was impressed with the size as well as the variety of LED light color options. Seeing their eyes light up when they saw our name and crest in our main entryway was a testimony to their appreciation of our hard work. I am blessed to have had good men surrounding me to help encourage me and support me throughout this project. I could not have done it without them.

Walk to Mary Pilgrimage

David Marrone

Sophomore, Diocese of Madison

After the end of this spring semester I had the pleasure of participating in the annual “Walk to Mary” event with several other IHMS seminarians. The Walk to Mary is a one day pilgrimage where people walk 21 miles from Green Bay, WI to the humble town of Champion, WI. It’s a pretty special event and something we are abundantly blessed to have right here in the Midwest. The event begins right outside the national shrine of St. Joseph and concludes at the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help which is the only approved Marian apparition site in the United States! It’s pretty incredible that these two significant devotional sites for the Holy Family are so close. I have done spiritual pilgrimages before, but it was my first time doing the Walk to Mary. Although it was undeniably draining, it was also a truly life-giving way to give glory to the Lord after the demands of finals. I spent a lot of time leading up to the walk using my mind to serve the Lord by working on my academics but I’m a human being not an angel. It felt great to get out of my chair and do something active with this body I’ve been given. There is something truly fulfilling about physical work or suffering endured in service of God. I went to the chapel at the Shrine to conclude my pilgrimage and offer a prayer of offering and thanksgiving for the day. As I offered everything up to Mary I felt as though I was handing over a bouquet of my various crosses from the day. My sore feet, chapped lips, sunburnt calves and all the steps I took that day found meaning in that moment as they became my little offering to our Blessed Mother.





BEHOLD,
how good and
how pleasing it is
FOR BROTHERS
TO DWELL AS ONE.

Psalm 133:1



UPCOMING EVENTS 2022

May 9—August 29
Summer Recess

June 18—20
Power of Spiritual Friendship
retreat, IHMS

June 24-25
Ordination of IHMS Alumnus to
the Priesthood: Michael Churchill,
Diocese of Winona-Rochester;
Daniel Hammer, Diocese of
Duluth; Matthew Bowe, Diocese
of La Crosse

August 18, 20, 21
Seminarians return

August 30
Fall semester begins

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Please let us know if you are an alumnus
of IHMS. We are always looking for alumni
spotlight stories, please share yours!



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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 dioceses, who have entrusted us with their seminarians' formation.

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