

*Week Behind – Week Ahead*

TO: THE COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS OF MUNDELEIN SEMINARY  
FROM: VERY REVEREND DENNIS J. LYLE  
DATE: MAY 18, 2009

*Week Behind*

**New Members of the Board of Advisors**– At the Board of Advisors meeting last Thursday, two new members were introduced. The Board welcomed Bishop Jerome ListECKI (La Crosse) and Mrs. Marguerite (Meg) Rapplean. Bishop David Ricken (Green Bay) has also joined the Board of Advisors but was unable to attend. I look forward to working with these new members and am grateful for their support.

**End of the Year Activities** – This past week the pre-theologians gathered for Morning Prayer and a Mass of Thanksgiving to give thanks to God for the many blessings of this year. Also the third theologians gathered for their Mass of Thanksgiving and a special cookout. There are many reasons to be grateful for the graces of this year. In a special way, we thank the formation team for their hard work and dedication. We also want to thank their teachers who have guided them to a deeper understanding of our faith. We continue to pray for the second theologians who are back in their home dioceses and completing their internship experience.

*Week Ahead*

**C.P.E. Commissioning** – As we conclude the school year, the third theologians are preparing to do a summer quarter of Clinical Pastoral Education. They will be working as chaplains in hospitals throughout the country. This is their second full-time internship experience. The second year internship experience is always done in a parish setting and this third year experience is in a hospital setting. On Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, there will be a special commissioning ceremony for these men at the conclusion of our daily liturgy. We assure them of our prayers and best wishes as they undertake this important pastoral ministry.

**Deacon Ordinations** – Congratulations to the men who will be ordained deacons during the months of May and June: David Gross (Grand Rapids), David Hammond (Albany), Paul Kala (Springfield), Aaron Kalmon (Superior), Robert Letona (La Crosse) and Carlos Martinez (Lexington). We assure these men of our prayers and support as they continue their preparation for priesthood.

**Bishop Abramowicz Seminary** - This week I will be attending the Executive Board Meeting for Bishop Abramowicz Seminary. Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Paprocki is the Chairman of this meeting. Father Marek KaspercZuk, Rector of Bishop Abramowicz Seminary, has provided leadership and encouragement to the program. I am grateful to all the Board members who have worked hard in shaping the Abramowicz Seminary program.

**Ordinations to the Priesthood** – Over the next few months, thirty-three men will be ordained to the priesthood for seventeen dioceses. The men from the Archdiocese of Chicago will be ordained this Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at St. Rita of Cascia High School Chapel. The Chicago candidates are: Benjamin Arevalos, Juan Carlos Arrieta Correa, Augustine Mahonge, Matthew Nemchausky, Andrzej Nowicki, Michael Owen, Andrew Smith, Paul Stemn and Karol Tybor.

Other members of the Class of 2009 include: Dindo Billote (Joliet), Gregory Bohren (La Crosse), Timothy Brandt (Green Bay), Michael Burt (Grand Rapids), Jorge Cano (Knoxville), Brian Carpenter (Rochester), Michael Chenier (Marquette), Aaron Ferris (Grand Rapids), Alejandro Flores (Brownsville), Kenneth Halbur, Jr. (Des Moines), Benjamin Hasse (Marquette), Ryan Hilderbrand (Evansville), George Komo (Des Moines), Joshua Lange (Covington), Christopher Martel (Manchester), Jacob Maurer (Seattle), Gregory Michaud (La Crosse), Matthew Nathan (Joliet), Robert Rottgers (Covington), Matthew Schiffelbein (Kansas City, KS), Andrew Strobl (Kansas City, KS), Patrick Sullivan (Kansas City, KS), Tien Tran (Nashville) and Joshua Werth (Salina).

The Seminary Community congratulates these men as they conclude their time here at Mundelein Seminary. We ask the Lord to bless them in their future priestly ministry. We know that this is a time of great joy for them and for their families, as well as for the Church. We assure them of our continued prayers and best wishes.

### ***Community Activities***

**Fr. Edward T. Oakes, S.J.**, reviewed *The Monstrosity of Christ: Paradox or Dialectic?* by Slavoj Žižek and John Milbank (MIT Press) for the most recent issue of *First Things* 194 (June/July 2009), pp. 56-58.

Last weekend, **Dr. Kate Wiskus** facilitated a day for parish leadership at Blessed Savior Parish in Milwaukee, a parish created in 2007 by consolidating five smaller parishes. The day was designed to provide some formation for the lay leadership and to assist them as they began a planning process for the future of various ministries in the parish.

This past week, **Jaime Bascunan**, Director of the Instituto de Liderazgo Pastoral, received the doctor of ministry from Catholic Theological Union. Dr. Bascunan's thesis project was titled: "Essential Components of a Diaconal Formation Program within the US Latino Context: Toward a Model that Facilitates a Process to a Deeper Way of Seeing." We congratulate Dr. Bascunan on the academic achievement.

As this is the last Week Ahead for the school year, I also want to call attention to the **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Instituto de Liderazgo Pastoral** which will be celebrated on June 24, 2009. The Instituto has a rich history. Founded in 1984, the Instituto serves the almost 40% of Catholics in Cook and Lake County who are Hispanic. The Instituto became a program unit of the University of Saint Mary of the Lake in 2000. Like all of the programs in the University's Department of Ministerial and Continuing Education, the Instituto shares in the resources of Mundelein Seminary and provides both initial and ongoing formation for lay ministers and deacons in the Hispanic Community of the Archdiocese of Chicago. We congratulate Dr. Bascunan, Fr. Carlos Monsalve, Jacqueline Moyeno, Rebecca Villanueva and Criselda Vera, along with the faculty of the Instituto for their contributions to the life of the Church of Chicago.

*As we conclude the 2008-2009 academic year and on behalf of the faculty, staff and seminarians, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to all those who support the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary. Your prayers and encouragement were of great assistance throughout the year.  
May the Lord bless you for your kindness and grant you opportunities for rest during the summer months.*