



Week Behind / Week Ahead



Office of the Rector

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TO: THE COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS OF MUNDELEIN SEMINARY
FROM: VERY REVEREND DENNIS J. LYLE
DATE: MARCH 8, 2010

Week Ahead

Spring Quarter – Our seminary community will begin the spring quarter by gathering for Night Prayer on Monday, March 8th. Using the reading from 1 Thessalonians 5:4-10, I will offer some reflections on Lent as we begin the quarter.

Second Theologians – The second year men are away from the seminary community during the spring quarter. They are involved in a parish internship experience in their home dioceses. The seminary community will pray for them throughout the spring quarter that the internship experience might be a time of grace and learning that will assist them in their preparation for priesthood.

Pilgrims – The third year men who participated in the pilgrimage experience during the winter quarter are now back at Mundelein Seminary. They spent the last quarter journeying in the Holy Land. The study of the Sacred Scriptures took on a whole new meaning for them as they visited sites which played an important role in the history of Israel, the life of Jesus and the early history of the Church. We are very grateful to our benefactors who have made this pilgrimage experience a possibility.

Deacons – All of the fourth year deacons have been assigned to parishes for the spring quarter. They will be exercising their diaconal ministry and serving God’s people in these parishes. I would ask the seminary community to continue to pray for our deacons as they prepare for ordination to the priesthood.

Lenten Devotions – We begin our Lenten devotional exercises here at Mundelein Seminary this week. The community will celebrate the Stations of the Cross together. Each week the seminarians will explore different expressions of this ancient Christian devotion to the Passion of our Lord. Lent is always a time of important introspection and these devotional exercises are an important way for the seminary community to focus its prayer during this penitential season.

Community Activities

Dr. Denis McNamara, faculty member of the Liturgical Institute, traveled to the Franciscan University of Steubenville to give two lectures on the Theology of Beauty for their Catechetics program. He also published an article entitled, “*The Dangerous Path: Leonard Porter and the Sincerity of Hope*” in volume 8 of The Classicist.

Dr. Christopher McAtee, Assistant Academic Dean, led a retreat for the St. Alphonsus Parish school faculty in Greendale, Wisconsin on Monday, February 22. The theme was, *What Does It Mean To Be Catholic In The 21st Century?* Christopher also gave a presentation at St. Edna’s parish in Arlington Heights on Saturday, March 6. The topic was, *The Catholic Church in the 21st Century*.