

From the Seminary

By Dustin Collins

This second semester of studies for my second year of theology has kept me very busy. Early in the semester, the school traveled to Washington, DC to attend the Pro-Life March. Once I returned from the march, it was back to studies. I have classes in Images of New Testament Faith, the Mysticism of Saint John of the Cross, Christology, Introduction to Homiletics, and Introduction to the Sacrament of Marriage. I am not challenged by many tests this time around, but have to write many papers.

In February I received the ministry of Acolyte, which allows me to serve at the Sacrifice of the Mass. Through this ministry I am able to purify the vessels of Holy Communion and am allowed to distribute Holy Communion when an ordinary minister of Holy Communion is not present. I have finally lined up my summer; and I will be participating in a CPE, Clinical Pastoral Education, program in Knoxville. This ministry will help me to minister to the sick and dying.

I look forward to seeing all of you again and sharing my experiences of seminary life when I return to Greeneville for my various breaks.

Called By Name 2010

The Diocese of Knoxville has adopted the CALLED BY NAME program. This is a process that is designed to facilitate the invitation of men and women to consider priesthood and consecrated life. The components are prayer, nomination, and invitation. All parishes and parishioners are asked to participate in the prayer component, nominate and submit names of men and women who may have a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life to their pastor, and then the pastor is to make contact with those nominated and then an invitation to discern the call to serve God and his people. Please anticipate the prayers and nomination cards with the called by name beginning April 17/18, 2010.

A Prayer for the increase of Priestly and Religious Vocations by Bishop Richard Stika.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the eternal Father, Son of the Virgin Mary, we thank you for offering Your life in sacrifice on the cross and for renewing this sacrifice in every Mass celebrated throughout the world.

In the power of the Holy Spirit we adore You and proclaim Your living presence in the Eucharist. We desire to imitate the love you show us in Your death and resurrection, by loving and serving one another.

We ask You to call many young people to religious life and to provide the holy and generous priests who are so needed in Your church today. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer. Amen.

Cursillo

By Greg English

The Knoxville Diocese Cursillo has set the dates for the next Men's weekend for August 26-29, 2010. The weekend will be held at the Appison retreat center near Chattanooga. The team is now being formed, and Greg English will be the director (rector) for the weekend.

The date for the women's weekend is September 30-October 3, 2010, also at Appison. Peggy English will be assistant director (rectora) for the women's weekend.

A Cursillo weekend is a short course in Catholic Christian Spirituality designed to aid in bringing us closer to Christ and bringing Christ into whatever environments we find ourselves in. If you are interested, contact Peggy or Greg English by one of the following options: Home 423-257-3595; Cell Peggy 423-741-7787 or Greg 423-741-7786, or email gregeng47@gmail.com

Music Ministry

By Dr. Fred & Wanda Ricker

The Lord truly is good. Our church is growing right before our eyes in the form of our new building, our people are growing in faith, and our need for workers in the vineyard grows daily. We are always looking for new voices to add to choir and now is a good time to consider joining us. We love to express our faith in our music and that is all you need - a love of God and a love to let it be known. We met on Wed. at 7:00 pm.

Knights of Columbus Council 6784

By Jack Siersma

The K of C meets on the first Sunday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. This is a fraternal service organization open to all Catholic men 18 or older.

During 2009 the council membership has expanded and we are encouraging all eligible Notre Dame men to investigate and consider the opportunities for service, fraternity and support that are available.

Activities for 2010 have included our monthly corporate communion which is rotated to all Masses over a four month period; the Pastor's appreciation dinner which is open to all parishioners; the initial Lenten soup supper; an early Lenten "Stations of the Cross"; a fraternal breakfast in January; Knights of Columbus international essay contest for our high school in which students wrote papers on the duties of Catholic citizens in a free society; the St. Patrick dinner and games night in March plus on-going support of the Parish Tuesday work group. The future activity calendar includes events for members and families as well as events for the Parish community such as sponsoring the Easter egg hunt for our younger parish youth and a fish fry to be scheduled later. Brick sales for the "unborn memorial" walkway are continuing. Contact Dick Nojeim for information or to place an order.