The Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF) has been founded to assist in the spiritual formation of diocesan seminarians and priests in the Roman Catholic Church. Working as a complement to already existing programs of seminary formation, the Institute responds to the need for a more concentrated and integrated spiritual formation. Inspired by the biblical-evangelical spirituality of Ignatius Loyola, the Institute’s programs present a spirituality that can inspire, motivate and thus sustain the busy daily lives of contemporary diocesan priests.

**Mission Statement**

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**The Institute for Priestly Formation**

Ex-officio Members:
The IPF Founders
Rev. George A. Aschenbrenner, S.J.
Rev. Richard J. Gabuzda
Rev. John P. Horn, S.J.
Rev. George A. Aschenbrenner, S.J.
Rev. Richard J. Gabuzda
Rev. John P. Horn, S.J.
Rev. Scott S. Traynor

**Mission Advisory Council**

Rev. Richard J. Hauser, S.J.
Director of Creighton University’s Christian Spirituality Program

Members:
Most Rev. Samuel J. Aquila, co-chair
Most Rev. Robert J. Carlson, co-chair
Mark C. Conzemius
Karen L. Dwyer, Ph.D.
Msgr. John A. Esseff
Rev. Michael G. Glenn
Rev. Joseph G. Hanefeldt
Edward M. Hogan, Ph.D.
Rev. Jeffrey H. Haard
Deacon James F. Keating
Rev. Joseph J. Kelly
Ralph C. Martin
Rev. James A. McAnes
Trudy McCaffrey
Margaret Schlientz, Ph.D.
Rev. Scott S. Traynor

**Bylaws**
The Foundation is under the control of the board of directors and the appointed officers. Investment of the funds of the Foundation will be guided by the Investment Policy Statement of the Institute’s Finance Advisory Council.

**Foundation**
The Foundation was formed under the Nebraska Non-Profit Corporation Act, and has received tax exempt status under Section 501 (c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code.

As such, the Foundation can be the recipient of bequests, stock, cash, and other assets. All donations to the Foundation are tax deductible. The purpose of the Foundation is to provide for the Institute’s long-term financial stability.

Pursuant to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Foundation is under the control of the board of directors and the appointed officers. Investment of the funds of the Foundation will be guided by the Investment Policy Statement of the Institute’s Finance Advisory Council.

We are also pleased to announce that Mr. P. Thomas Pogge has been hired as the Foundation’s executive director. Tom will be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Foundation and will be leading the development efforts of both the Institute and the Foundation.

A Creighton University College of Arts and Sciences Administration and College of Law graduate, Tom had a 33-year career as a lawyer, which included a four-year tour of duty with the U.S. Army JAGC Corps. After his tour ended, he was a partner in a national law firm for 20 years. He also served as executive vice president and general counsel of a high-tech company and vice president and general counsel of a large international corporation.

If you would like more information about the Institute, the Foundation, or are interested in supporting the mission of the Institute, financially or otherwise, please contact Tom directly at 402-280-3528; by FAX at 402-280-3529, and by email at ptpogge@creighton.edu.

**“Celebration of Priesthood” Banquet April 14**

The Institute’s annual ‘Celebration of Priesthood’ banquet will take place on April 14, 2007 at the Christie the King Parish Social Hall in Omaha. The banquet celebrates the gift of the priesthood while helping more people know and support the Institute’s mission.

At this year’s banquet Msgr. Andrew H. Meister, a priest of the Archdiocese of Omaha for over 60 years, will be honored with the Institute’s John Paul II Award for Priestly Service. Msgr. Meister was the founding pastor of St. Joan of Arc parish in Omaha where he served for a total of 25 years.

In 1992, after service in a number of other parishes within the Archdiocese, he founded the Marianna Retirement Village for Priests. He has resided there since that time.

The featured speaker for the banquet will be Dr. Scott Hahn, a nationally known author and popular speaker, who will also offer some presentations during that same day at St. Robert’s Church, Omaha. For details, please contact the Institute at 402-546-6384, or see the detailed announcement on page 3 of this newsletter.

**Creation of Foundation Marks IPF Milestone**

The Institute has reached a new milestone in its history with the creation of The Institute for Priestly Formation Foundation. The Foundation was formed under the Nebraska Non-Profit Corporation Act, and has received tax exempt status under Section 501 (c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code.

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**Make your donation to IPF at our redesigned website:**
www.creighton.edu/ipf/whygivetoiipf
Dear Friends,

“To know God from within.” This phrase has stayed with me since I read it in a talk given by Pope Benedict XVI at the end of last year. The phrase captured the Holy Father’s hopes for priests everywhere. Priests who “know God from within” are those who will be alive and be the most effective instruments for God at work in the world. The phrase has stayed with me because it represents the hopes of the Institute for Priestly Formation for all the priests and seminarians we serve.

The generosity of many individuals and groups throughout this past year has helped those hopes come true for several hundred participants in various programs sponsored by the Institute. From a large summer program for seminarians, to our ongoing programs of spiritual direction training for priests, to a successful symposium on diocesan priestly identity and spirituality—these and other programs have made our year busy and blessed. What an additional blessing it would be if all of our benefactors could see how they truly share in the mission of the Institute, even if they have never been to Omaha or been participants themselves!

Looking ahead, I am happy to announce that the continuing generosity of many will enable us to welcome 130 seminarians to Omaha this summer for the 10-week program for seminarians, a record number of participants. In addition, for the first time our various summer program offerings will include a retreat for seminary faculty conducted by Deacon James Keating of our staff.

In a few weeks we hope to become even better known in the Omaha community as we sponsor the visit of nationally known author and speaker, Dr. Scott Hahn. Making our mission better known here and nationally is the task of Mr. P. Thomas Pogge, the Executive Director of our new IPP Foundation.

As we look to the past with gratitude and to the future with great hope we rely most of all on the intercessory prayer of our many friends and benefactors. Please continue to remember us daily in your prayers so that our mission may truly come from the heart of the Blessed Trinity enabling many more priests to “know God from within.” You are always remembered in our grateful prayers.

Sincerely in the Lord,
Rev. Richard J. Gabuzda, Executive Director