The Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF) was founded to assist bishops in the spiritual formation of diocesan seminarians and priests in the Roman Catholic Church. The Institute responds to the need to foster spiritual formation as the integrating and governing principle of all aspects of priestly formation. Inspired by the biblical-evangelical spirituality of St. Ignatius Loyola, this spiritual formation has as its goal the cultivation of a deep interior communion with Christ; from such communion the priest shares in Christ’s own pastoral charity.

In carrying out its mission, the Institute directly serves diocesan seminarians and priests, as well as those who are responsible for diocesan priestly formation.

Mission Statement

The Institute for Priestly Formation Mission Advisory Council

IPF Founders
Fr. George A. Aschenbrenner, S. J.
Fr. Richard J. Gabuzda
Fr. John P. Horn, S. J.
Kathleen A. Kanavy

Chairmen
Most Rev. Samuel J. Aquila, Co-Chair
Most Rev. Robert J. Carlson, Co-Chair

Ex-officio Members
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Chairman, Mission Advancement Council
Mr. George J. Esseff
Ex Officer, Member

Mr. John (Pete) Jeffrey
Chairman, Finance Council
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Director of Christian Spirituality Program, Creighton University

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Teresa Menagh, A.O.
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Msgr. Robert J. Paske
Fr. James A. Rafferty
Dr. Margaret A. Schlientz
Fr. David L. Toups
Fr. Scott S. Traynor

We invite you to visit our website at www.creighton.edu/ipf/whygive to IPF
or phone 1-888-528-5668.

The Institute for Priestly Formation
Creighton University
2500 California Plaza
Omaha, Nebraska 68178-0207

Sponsor a Seminarian for $850. This represents the amount we need to raise to cover expenses not covered by dioceses that send their men to us. We need 175 sponsors for this year and the same number for next year.

Help our IPF Publications initiative to continue offering materials for priests, seminarians, seminar faculty and lay people by a gift of $50,000.

If you can’t help us, maybe you can ask local organizations, such as Serra, the Knights of Columbus, your parish Holy Name or other society to consider helping us. Perhaps some of our priest-alumni can add IPF to the list of organizations who receive a “tithe” from the parish offerings.

Though a parish school music program is important, how much more important is the IPF mission, helping to form and shape the hearts of diocesan seminarians and priests throughout the United States and beyond? As one recent alumnus said, “IPF has been a pearl of great price to me. I learned how to pray here. Where would I have been without that?”

We surrender in faith to God who wants to do all for us. We appeal to our friends to help the Lord in his desire to continue to make the experience of IPF the “pearl of great price.”
Dear Friends,

As the Year for Priests comes to a close, we give praise to God for the grace of this past year and for the blessings of the priesthood to the Church throughout the world. This special Year for Priests will end, but the mission of the Institute for Priestly Formation goes on!

Inside our Annual Report you will see the many ways in which the Institute has been an instrument for continuing to help make spiritual formation the heart of all priestly formation.

Our cover tells the story of our needs in the coming months. We are confident that many will step forward to help us keep the mission moving forward. We are very grateful to the individuals named in this Report who have continued to be generous, even in its economically challenging times. Your sacrifice is a precious gift to us and to the Lord!

Regarding upcoming events, we are welcoming 175 seminarians to our summer program; all of our other summer programs are full as well. Our first series of retreats for alumni were very successful, dates for the coming year are provided in the Report. We hope many alumni will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to receive refreshment in the midst of the busy daily life of diocesan priesthood.

IPF Publications features a new workbook from Fr. John Horn, S.J., entitled, “Heart Speaks to Heart.” The title was Cardinal Newman’s motto, itself taken from St. Francis De Sales. The book presents a guided path to deeper personal prayer and reflection.

For all of these endeavors and more, we depend upon the generous intercessory prayer of all of our friends and supporters. Please know how grateful we are for this gift. And please continue to remember us in prayer. You and your intentions are remembered in our grateful prayers as well.

Gratefully in the Lord,

Rev. Richard J. Gabuzda
Executive Director

Supportive and Encouraging

“As working nine years with seminarians I now understand better the role of a spiritual director in discerning affective movements and insights within diocesan priestly spirituality. I will share this skill with the Sudanese seminarians.”

— Fr. John Marcello Tombe
St. Mary’s Seminary, South Sudan
Seminary Spiritual Directors Seminar Participant

Honor Others with Gifts to IPF

Orinations to the priesthood, special anniversaries, birth, graduations, retirements and birthdays are all occasions of celebration. Consider honoring a loved one with a memorial gift to IPF. Remembering a deceased member of your family or a treasured friend with a memorial gift is a beautiful way of honoring them. Supporting IPF financially is a compassionate way to assist in the spiritual formation of diocesan priests and seminarians in the Roman Catholic Church. IPF is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization and all gifts are deductible to the extent of the law.

To make a donation, call us at 1-888-528-5668, or visit the IPF website at www.creighton.edu/ipf/whygive.html.
Updates, Please

In order for us to keep our database current, we ask that you update us with moves, ordinations, and changes in assignments. We are also attempting to capture as many email addresses as possible. Please send a quick email to ipf@creighton.edu letting us know where you are and how best to contact you.

IPF Staff Growth

The growth of the IPF staff mirrors the call to expand programs. Eleven individuals work tirelessly to provide quality programs and publications for seminarians and priests.

Become a Member of IPF

“I will pray regularly for the continued success of IPF’s mission, the people who serve the mission and the men who are served by the mission. In conjunction I pledge to commit annually towards financial support. I made this offer in gratitude for the 10 weeks in 2002 that changed my life” (IPF alumnus).

Commitments such as these have been received by IPF from across the country in response to the recent membership drive. Individuals with a sincere love for the diocesan priesthood who feel called by the Lord to enter into a closer relationship with the Institute’s mission now have an opportunity to become members of IPF either at the Friend or the Associate level. These members may represent any call to holiness in the Church, including laymen and laywomen. Members are called to support, nurture and promote the charism of IPF, offering a concrete expression of availability and co-responsibility for its mission.

All members are to embody and cultivate receptivity to the Living Word of God, joyful, humble and obedient acceptance of the Church’s Magisterium, transforming devotion to Jesus’ Real Presence in the Eucharist, frequent celebration of the Sacraments of Eucharist and Penance and sincere love for the diocesan priesthood.

“I felt compelled to offer my services to IPF”, volunteer Michele Stinson said recently. “My heart was touched when I received the mailing with the invitation to become an associate and was deeply drawn to the call to pray for priests and their holiness.” Michelle has committed to offering up to 10 hours a week to aide in some small way the program or other needs of the Institute. Michele lives in Omaha and regularly comes to IPF’s chapel to pray in adoration. She often joins the staff at daily Mass in the IPF chapel before offering her assistance in whatever task needs completing, whether it be filing, stuffing envelopes, or organizing materials to be used in the summer program.

For an application and details about the two levels of membership consult the IPF website www.creighton.edu/ipf or call the toll free number 1-888-528-5668.

New from IPF Publications

Heart Speaks to Heart: A Review of Life and Healing Prayer
Father John Horn, S.J.
$12.95 (Paperback)

“Anyone who seeks to serve the Lord in sincerity and truth will benefit from this prayerful review of their life before the Lord. Heart Speaks to Heart offers new strength for service through a courageous remembering of one’s life before the healing image of Jesus’ risen pierced Heart.”

— Father Joseph Hanefeldt
Director of Spiritual Formation
Pontifical North American College
Vatican City

Seminary Theology: Teaching in a Contemplative Way
Edited by Deacon James Keating, PhD
$13.95 (Paperback)

“The effort to explore seminary theology from a more contemplative perspective should strengthen the formation of a priestly conscience. Members are called to support, nurture and promote the charism of IPF, offering a concrete expression of availability and co-responsibility for its mission.

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— Father Joseph Hanefeldt
Director of Spiritual Formation
Pontifical North American College
Vatican City

To order any item from IPF Publications, visit www.IPFpublications.com or call 888-309-5520.
MEMORIALS
Donations given in memory of a deceased friend or family member during 2009

In Memory Of:

**Mary, Spouse of the Holy Spirit**

From the beginning of its history, IPF has invoked Mary under the title of “Spouse of the Holy Spirit.” The title, also dear to St. Francis of Assisi, captures the heart of IPF's logo and expresses IPF's desire to teach priests and seminarians how to receive the Holy Spirit's grace in prayer. Now, St. Cor Immaculatum Heffernan, IHM, has completed a small model (maquette) of a larger bronze statue bearing that title. The eventual completed work will grace the foyer area of IPF's future Center for Priestly Spirituality. However, we are in need of a donor who might be willing to gift this beautiful work of art to IPF. For more information on how you can help sponsor this and other works of art within the Center, contact Tom Pogge at 402-280-3528.

**Love for Me in My Weaknesses**

“I learned that I had to surrender to God that part of me that I hated. He already knew my weaknesses and He wanted to love me there, in my weakness, by overcoming my pride.”

—John Norman, Seminarian

**Alumni Retreat**

“Fr. Tim Gallagher, O.M.V., and St. Ignatius Loyola’s Discernment of Spirits”

IPF now posts weekly updates on our webpage. Postings such as upcoming events and registration deadlines can be found on our website as well as links to membership applications, course descriptions, IPF Publications and Creighton University to name a few. On-line donations are now easy to make via the website. The IPF website can be found at http://www.creighton.edu/ipf/

**Weekly Update on Webpage**

Join our ever growing group of Facebook friends. Search for Institute for Priestly Formation.
The New Evangelization: Implications for Priestly Formation

The Saint Paul Seminary in St. Paul, MN was the site of the 9th Annual Symposium in March. The symposium reflected on Pope John Paul II’s call for a “new evangelization” and the ways in which this call impacts the process of priestly formation. Nearly 200 attended the symposium, including Fr. John Riccardo and Dr. Mary Healy.

Celebration of Priesthood Banquet

Mgr. Bill Whelan (center) being congratulated by his brothers, Ed and Don.

Bishop Aquila from the Diocese of Fargo was the guest speaker.

Nearly 300 gathered in Omaha in April to celebrate the Year for Priests and to congratulate Mgr. Bill Whelan, this year’s recipient of the Pope John Paul II Award for Priestly Service.
Donors to $100

Mr and Mrs John Abboud

Mr and Mrs John Ackerman

Mr and Mrs John Arnold

Mr and Mrs John Aron

Mr and Mrs John Beene

Mr and Mrs John Bell

Mr and Mrs John Beltramo

Mr and Mrs John Biesbrock

Mr and Mrs John Billings

Mr and Mrs John Black

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Mr and Mrs John Pearson

Mr and Mrs John Pederson

Mr and Mrs John Pelton

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Mr and Mrs John Pirozzi

Mr and Mrs John Piwowar

Mr and Mrs John Pollock

Mr and Mrs John Polson

Mr and Mrs John Povilas

Mr and Mrs John Prigge

Mr and Mrs John Priola

Mr and Mrs John Priore

Mr and Mrs John Priore Sr

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