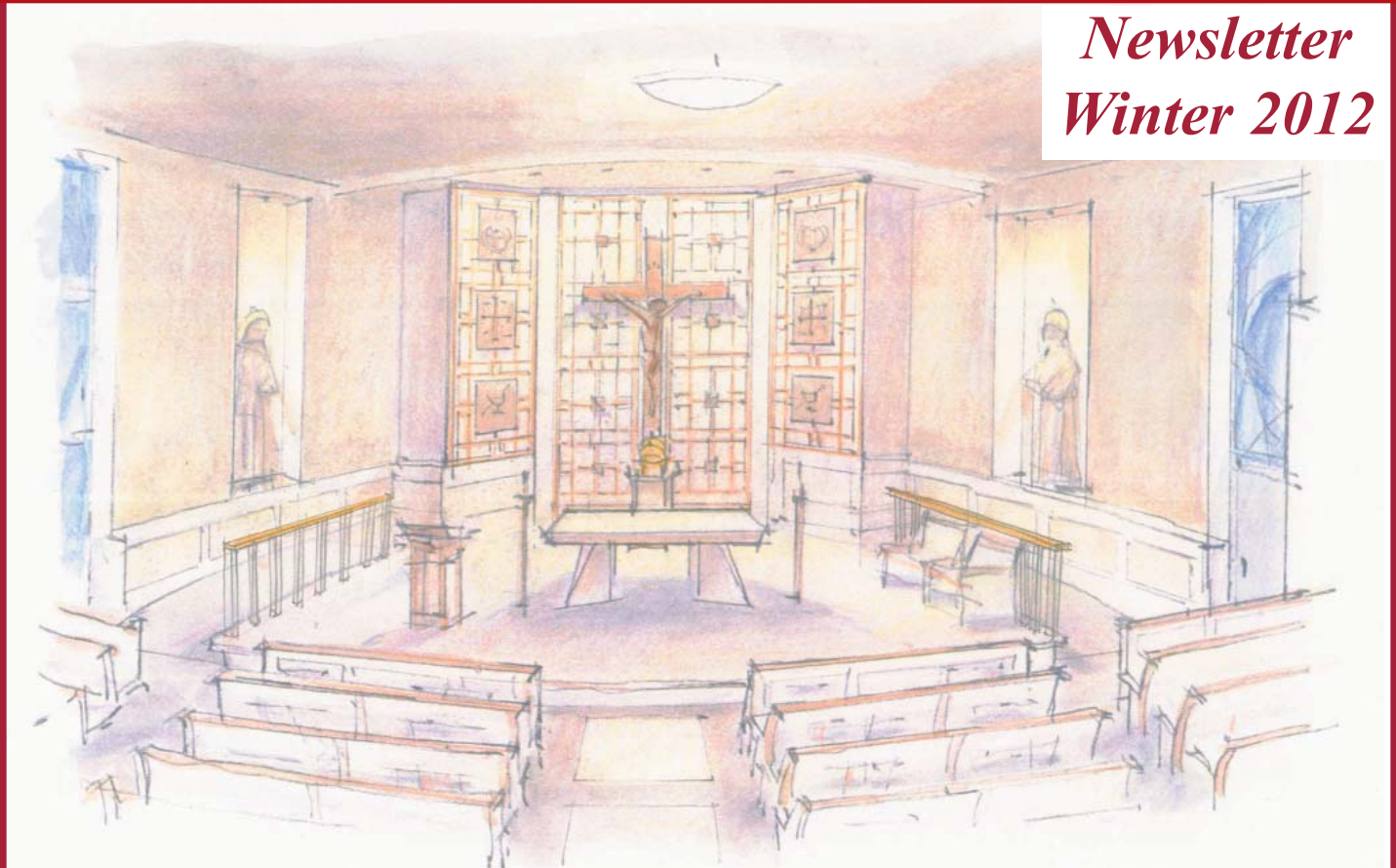
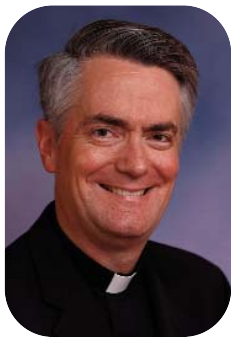


# Blessed John XXIII National Seminary

*Newsletter  
Winter 2012*



## *Pathway to the Future - the next 50 years!*



Even as we have embarked on the second semester at Blessed John XXIII National Seminary, we are also looking forward to the 50th Anniversary of our unique institution in 2014.

As mentioned in prior Newsletters, we are planning a variety of activities to commemorate this important milestone for our Seminary. This includes the renovation of the chapel—the heart of our Seminary—during the forthcoming summer break.

As you can see from the architectural renderings included in this Newsletter, we are

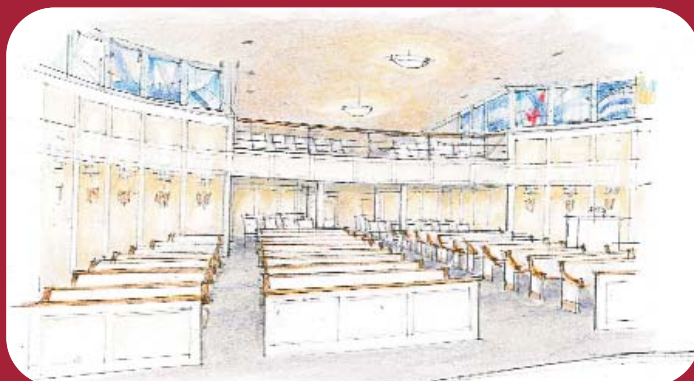
currently in the planning phase for this important project. We believe that the successful completion of the chapel project will help energize and promote support for the projects and programs that will follow.

For additional details, including how our supporters can be involved in this important initiative, please see the article on the next page.

We look forward to sharing the next phase in the history of our Seminary with all of you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Bill Palardy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. William B. Palardy  
Rector



This preliminary rendering of our renovated front entrance depicts an expanded roofline and entryway providing increased shelter and safety. A handicap-access ramp will make it compliant with current building and access codes. Additionally, a new landscaped retaining wall will display the “Blessed John XXIII” signage.

This rendering of the renovated chapel balcony illustrates the improved sight lines, new lighting and lowered placements of the Stations of the Cross. The removal of the four rear altars and a new “transparent” balcony railing will add both seating and improved viewing for an additional seventy-five people.

## *Pathway to the Future: 50th Anniversary Celebration*

One aspect of our 50th Anniversary Celebration is our upcoming capital campaign: *Pathway to the Future*. It will emphasize facility improvements, growing our endowment and expanding our library facilities. Our focus in these projects is to prepare our Seminary for the future—the next 50 years!

The first phase of the campaign will begin this summer with the renovation of the chapel. The chapel requires increased seating capacity, improved accessibility and an overall improvement in comfort.

The new altar space (Newsletter cover) includes a redesigned reredos (backdrop) incorporating the sacred symbols from the side altars, new lighting, as well as the addition of statues of Mary and Joseph.

Lowering the altar onto the sanctuary level along with the addition

of handicap ramps will improve access and safety. The addition of upholstered pews, new flooring and a new heating/air conditioning system will address the comfort issues.

Meanwhile, planning continues for the new Learning Center, which will include an expanded library collection and group study

space, along with a number of infrastructure projects including the front entrance, student rooms and office space.

For information regarding contributions and recognition opportunities for the campaign, please contact Kate Folan or Dick Murphy of the Development Office at 781-899-5500.

***Please consider supporting the chapel project with a pledge. You may choose monthly, quarterly, or annual payments (over 3-5 years). We welcome gifts of any amount—including cash, checks or securities. The table below is provided to assist in your consideration of a pledge:***

Pledge \$ Amt / # Years	10% Down	Annually	Quarterly	Monthly
100,000 / 5	10,000	18,000	4,500	1,500
50,000 / 5	5,000	9,000	2,250	750
25,000 / 5	2,500	4,500	1,125	375
10,000 / 3	1,000	3,000	750	250
5,000 / 3	500	1,500	375	125
3,000 / 3	300	900	225	75

## Ministry of Reader Conferred on Eighteen Seminarians

On November 1, 2011, His Excellency Philip E. Wilson, D.D., Archbishop of Adelaide, Australia, celebrated Mass and conferred the Ministry of Reader at Blessed John XXIII. During the Mass, 18 seminarians from 12 dioceses and one religious order were installed into this ministry.

“We are pleased that Archbishop Wilson was able to officiate at this important event for our seminarians during his trip to the United States.

These ministries mark the formative progression of our seminarians as they prepare for priestly ordination,” said Rev. William B. Palardy, Rector of Blessed John XXIII Seminary.

Seminarians receive conferral of ministries each year: Acolyte in first theology, Reader in second and Candidacy in third theology - in preparation for ordination to the Diaconate and Priesthood in their home dioceses.

Fr. Palardy was especially pleased to have Archbishop Wilson officiate as they were in graduate school together at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.

“Archbishop Wilson’s homily during the Mass was inspiring, and on the following day his presentation on the Catholic Church in Australia was most informative, interesting and thought-provoking,” said Fr. Palardy. “The Archbishop’s presence among us was one of the highlights of our year.”



(From left to right - front row) Gregory A. Piatt, Archdiocese of Detroit, MI; Leonardo F. Prada, Diocese of Worcester, MA; Bro. Francis Xavier Pham, OCist, Our Lady of Divine Grace Abbey, Vung Tau City, Vietnam; His Excellency Philip E. Wilson, D.D., Archbishop of Adelaide, Australia; Carlos E. Gomez, Archdiocese of Atlanta, GA; Jeffrey S. Archer, Peter F. DeFazio, Laurence M. Tocci and Mark D. Storey, of the Archdiocese of Boston, MA

(From left to right - back row) Francis J. Lawlor, Diocese of Springfield, MA; Javier Heredia, Diocese of Charleston, SC; Edward R. Clifford, Diocese of Portland, ME; Michael N. Salerno, Diocese of Norwich, CT; Kenneth J. Gill, Archdiocese of Washington, DC; Kevin T. Hickey, Archdiocese of Boston, MA; Lawrence L. Love, Diocese of Tyler, TX; James G. Davis, Diocese of Albany, NY; Joseph W. Tuskiwicz, Archdiocese of Detroit, MI, and John M. Fewel, Diocese of Saint Thomas, VI

## “Relics” Repeat Performance as Softball Champs!

*The Relics did it again!*

The men of Blessed John XXIII captured the "Rector's Trophy" with a resounding 10-4 victory over St. John's Seminary, the diocesan seminary for the Archdiocese of Boston.



The Relics wasted little time in the first-inning, sending nine men to the plate and pounding six hits that produced a 5-0 lead.

John Bradley and Tom Woodhouse

fueled the big inning with bases-loaded doubles. The five run outburst would be all that Relics ace pitcher Paul Schultz would need, as he baffled St. John's, allowing just six hits in the game.

The Relics' balanced attack banged 15 hits and relied on an excellent defense behind Schultz to build a 9-3 lead after four innings. Schultz allowed just three hits over the final three innings.

**Relics team members** (*kneeling*): Ivan Olmo, Peter DeFazio, Bro. Francis Pham, O Cist., Thomas Woodhouse and Dr. John Clabeaux

(*Middle row*): Ephrem Kardouh, B.S.O., James Cardosi, Kevin Yarnell, Gregory Piatt, Rev. William Palardy, Rector (*with trophy and photo of Fran Rowen*), Kevin Mulligan, Rev. Albert Sylvia, Rev. William Murphy and Jonathon Frels

(*Back row*): Vincent Penzo, Kevin Hickey, Russell Mower, Mark Matthias, Paul Schultz, Greg Bierbaum, John Bradley and Kenneth Gill

"It was once again an outstanding team effort - we put it all together - our bats, our defense and great pitching," said Relics coach Kevin Mulligan.

The Relics offensive attack was led by Bradley, with four RBI's, and two hits each from faculty member Dr. John Clabeaux, Ph.D., and Brother Ephrem Kardouh.

The Relics dedicated the game to Mrs. Fran Rowen, a long-time Seminary volunteer and supporter of the Relics, who passed away last spring. In her memory, a photo of Mrs. Rowen was displayed in

the Relics dugout during the game and is currently on display with the trophy at the Seminary.

Our Seminary community is grateful to the local chapters of the Massachusetts Knights of Columbus whose sponsorship makes this annual game possible.

*By Kevin Mulligan - first theology seminarian and a sportswriter for the Philadelphia Daily News for 28 years*

**He hits!**



**He runs!**



Dr. John Clabeaux, Ph.D., Professor of Sacred Scripture at the Seminary, earned four RBI's for the Relics. Dr. Clabeaux was also the host of "The Gospel of Matthew," an award-winning series on CatholicTV.

## Blessed John XXIII Community Participates in March for Life Events

On January 22-23, members of our Seminary community made a pilgrimage to the March for Life in Washington, DC. The group included 25 seminarians, Rev. William B. Palardy, Rector, and faculty members: Rev. Thomas F. Schmitt, Dr. John Clabeaux, Ph.D., and Rev. William F. Murphy.

Seminarian Kenneth Gill, of the Archdiocese of Washington, facilitated the pilgrimage and event participation. As in previous years, the Massachusetts State Council of the Knights of Columbus sponsored the trip. We are grateful for their continued support.

On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, our pilgrims attended the National Prayer Vigil for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. At midnight, our seminarians opened the Eucharistic Adoration in the Crypt Chapel with a Holy Hour for Life and Perpetual Help Novena.

The next day, they attended the Adult Rally and Mass for Life at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle, where Frs. Palardy, Schmitt and Murphy were concelebrants and fourth-theology seminarian Samuel Futral was Deacon of the Cup. Six of our seminarians also served as Acolytes during this Mass.

The pilgrimage concluded at the steps of the United States Supreme Court.



Bishop Peter J. Uglietto (front row/center), of the Archdiocese of Boston who is a previous Seminary rector, was a concelebrating bishop at the Vigil Mass. He met with some of our seminarians after the Mass. (From left to right, front row) John Fewel, Diocese of Saint Thomas, VI; Deacon Peter Naranjo, Diocese of Springfield, MA; Ronald Cattany, Archdiocese of Denver, CO; Mark Storey, Archdiocese of Boston, MA

(From left to right, back row) Lawrence Love, Diocese of Tyler, TX; Kenneth Gill, Archdiocese of Washington, Ivan Olmo, Jr., Diocese of Orlando, FL; Patrick Cunningham, Diocese of Bismark, ND; Edward Clifford, Diocese of Portland, ME; Mark Matthias, Diocese of Brooklyn, NY, and Edward Rama, Diocese of Paterson, NJ

Blessed John XXIII seminarians in front of the main altar of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

(Front, center) Bro. Ephrem Kardouh, B.S.O.

(Left to right, middle row) John Fewel, Diocese of Saint Thomas, VI; Ronald Cattany, Archdiocese of Denver, CO; Michael Fragoso, Diocese of Metuchen, NJ; Paul Schultz, Diocese of Madison, WI

(Left to right, back row) Ivan Olmo, Jr., Diocese of Orlando, FL; Lawrence Love, Diocese of Tyler, TX; Gregory Bierbaum, Diocese of Colorado Springs, CO and Russell Mower, Diocese of Dallas, TX



Seminarians Ronald Cattany, Ivan Olmo Jr., (Third Theology), and Kenneth Gill and Lawrence Love, (Second Theology), contributed to this article.

## Accolades and Accomplishments of the Seminary Community

The members of the Blessed John XXIII community are accomplished in their fields, and several have received recent awards and acknowledgement. On November 20, 2011, two members of our community were presented with Cheverus Award Medals in recognition of their service to the local Catholic community. **Sister Rose Clarisse Gadoury, S.S.A.**, a previous full-time faculty member, and **Ms. Frances X. Hogan**, currently a member of the Blessed John XXIII Board of Trustees, were presented with these medals by His Eminence, Seán Patrick Cardinal O'Malley, OFM Cap. We congratulate them both on receiving this acknowledgment of their years of dedication and hard work.

Several members of our Seminary community - faculty, seminarians and alumni - have also recently been published.



**Rev. Charles J. Healey, S.J.**, professor of theology at Blessed John XXIII, is the author of [Praying with the Jesuits:](#)

[Finding God in All Things](#), published by the Paulist Press. The book is described

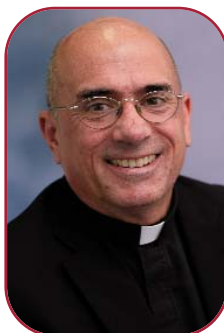
as - "a treasury of materials for prayer and meditation produced by Jesuit witnesses over the centuries." It is available in bookstores and at Amazon.com.



Third theology seminarian, **Michael A. Fragoso**, is a co-author of an article published in the

October 2011 issue of [Clinical Pediatrics](#), a peer-reviewed monthly journal.

The journal features the latest information on clinical, scientific, behavioral, educational or ethical issues of interest to pediatricians. Dr. Fragoso was one of the authors of - 'Physical Symptoms and Psychosocial Correlates of Somatization in Pediatric Primary Care.' Prior to his acceptance into the Seminary, Dr. Fragoso had a successful pediatric practice in New Jersey for 24 years.



Many of our mature seminarians have unique stories to share. **Thomas J. Woodhouse**, a third theology seminarian,

recently wrote a biographic article for the Fall 2011 Newsletter of the Office of Vocations for the Diocese of Providence, RI - Tom's home diocese. In the article, Tom describes his personal journey from his career as Chief Pilot for Raytheon Missile Systems Flight Operations in Tucson, AZ; to hearing, and ultimately responding to, the Call to priesthood. At first reluctant, Tom now describes his formation journey as "miraculous" and states in his article - "*I encourage any individuals who think they may have a calling to religious life not to ignore it, but to seek spiritual direction . . .*"



Many of our alumni also are published authors. **Rev. Tucker Cordani, '11**, of the Diocese of Springfield,

MA, recently submitted the first of a series of articles to [The Catholic Mirror](#), the magazine of his home diocese. His first article in the most recent issue, '*Prologue to the story of God*' lays the foundation for a "literary journey through Scripture." Before entering the Seminary, Fr. Cordani taught English at the University of Central Florida in Orlando and was an independent journalist.

## Formation Seminar Held on Martin Luther King Day

On January, 16, 2012, a Formation Seminar was held at Blessed John XXIII focusing on human formation. This stresses personal growth and the cultivation of qualities necessary for effective ministry. Our community strives to foster better self-knowledge so seminarians may attain a realistic picture of their personal strengths and challenges in the light of the demands of priestly ministry.

Rev. Joseph Raeke was the guest speaker for the Formation Seminar. He is currently pastor of three parishes in Brockton - a vibrant, ethnically-diverse community in southeastern Massachusetts. Fr. Raeke spoke on the human aspect of becoming a priest in the service of Our Lord.

Fr. Raeke related that during his early years in priesthood he felt he was a good priest and did not consider it important to receive spiritual direction. A self-described perfectionist, he believed he could accomplish the work of ministry largely from his own capacities.

Then, in the late 1980s, while on pilgrimage overseas, he had a life-changing experience. During his visit to a Marian shrine, Fr. Raeke heard the Lord ask him, "When are you going to let me love you?" From that point on he was moved to follow more whole-heartedly the will of the Lord for his life. Doing



Rev. Joseph Raeke was the Guest Speaker for the Formation Seminar

God's will became his primary goal.

Fr. Raeke says he is amazed at what he can accomplish now that he has "gotten out of God's way." He realizes that, although he is the pastor of three parishes, they are not his - but the Lord's; that his priesthood is not his - but the Lord's; and his life is not his own - but the Lord's. Accomplishing the mission of each parish still means hard work, good organizational skills and working collaboratively with associate priests and others in ministry—including many capable laypeople of the parishes. Now, however, he speaks of the value of regular spiritual direction.

Moreover, he now begins his day in prayer and goes out to meet the day's activities "sent" by the Lord. At the end of each evening, he examines that day's blessing and failings during prayer. This helps him meet

the many challenges he faces each day in his role as a very busy pastor. He also strives for personal balance by staying physically fit and spending appropriate time away with family and friends on his weekly day off.

"We were all very inspired by his presentation," said Rev. Thomas Schmitt, Dean of Seminarians at Blessed John XXIII. "Fr. Raeke's talk gave us—the seminarians and faculty—a glimpse of the reality of the day-to-day life of a pastor with multiple parishes. In order to fulfill his many responsibilities, Fr. Raeke has had to put his trust in God. The seminarians were still talking about his presentation weeks later. He gave us a great message and inspiration for our vocations."



Many seminarians were inspired by Fr. Raeke's talk on the human aspect of priestly ministry

*Second Theology seminarian  
Lawrence Love  
contributed to this article*



## BLESSED JOHN XXIII NATIONAL SEMINARY

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## *30th Annual Lawn Party - the most successful to date!*



Lawn Party Chairs Dr. John and Mrs. Gretchen LaRossa with His Eminence, Seán P. Cardinal O'Malley OFM Cap., and Rev. William B. Palardy, Rector

On Wednesday, September 21, 2011, the 30th Annual Lawn Party was held at the Seminary, hosted by His Eminence, Sean Patrick Cardinal O'Malley, OFM Cap., and chaired by Dr. John and Mrs. Gretchen LaRossa. Proceeds

from this year's event - more than \$250,000 - will benefit seminarians currently in formation.

During his talk, the Cardinal called Blessed John XXIII National Seminary "a treasure for the Church in our country." He said that in each of the four dioceses where he has been bishop, he had "wonderful" priests who were graduates of our unique Seminary.

Lawn Party Chair, Dr. John LaRossa said during his remarks, "We the laity recognize that, by accepting your call to priesthood, you have found your way home to our loving Father and now you must learn how to lead us, your supporters, home also."

We thank all who made this event successful - the attendees, the members of the Lawn Party Committee, and especially Gretchen and Dr. John LaRossa for their leadership as Chairs from 2009-2011.

**Save the Date  
Monday  
May 21, 2012**

**20th Annual Golf Tournament  
"Fran and Stephen Rowen  
Memorial"**

**The Weston Golf Club**

For information, contact  
Kate Folan at 781-899-5500 or  
[kfolan@blessedjohnxxiii.edu](mailto:kfolan@blessedjohnxxiii.edu).