JESUITS WEST ADVOCATES FOR MIGRANTS AND OUR COMMON HOME

When 270 Jesuits West leaders gathered this September for a Province-wide workshop, Provincial Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ, challenged the group to flex its “Jesuit muscle” against injustice. This fall, Jesuits West ministries did just that, taking action to advocate for the environment and immigrants.

September 20 marked the Global Climate Strike, and a number of Jesuits West schools took part in their respective cities. Schools participating included the University of San Francisco; Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles; Loyola High School of Los Angeles; Cristo Rey High School Sacramento; Brophy College Preparatory in Phoenix; Seattle Preparatory School; Jesuit High School in Portland, Oregon; and Bellarmine Preparatory School in San Jose, California, among others.

In addition to participating in the climate strike, Jesuit High Portland students built raised garden beds on campus this fall and made a commitment to reduce greenhouse emissions through initiatives that include shutting off lights during 5th period across campus; encouraging students and staff to bring meatless meals and serving only meatless meals in the cafeteria on Fridays; and encouraging students and staff to bike, take public transportation, or carpool to school.

The Jesuit parish in Portland, St. Ignatius Church, worked with local interfaith partner EcoFaith Recovery to advocate for the reduction of fossil fuel use in Oregon.

Jesuits West also came together forcefully to advocate for immigrants this fall.

In October, Fr. Santarosa and the five other U.S. and Canadian Jesuit Provincials, along with Jesuit Conference President Fr. Timothy Kesicki, SJ, met with Department of Homeland Security leadership on October 10.

Fr. Chris Calderón, SJ, used incense to bless the garden beds built by students at Jesuit High in Portland.

Students from Cristo Rey Sacramento participated in the Global Climate Strike.

Jesuit leaders, including Jesuits West Provincial Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ (third from right), met with Department of Homeland Security leadership on October 10.

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Dear Friends,

Earlier this year, Jesuit Superior General Arturo Sosa, SJ, released four new Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs) that will provide horizons to guide the work of the Society of Jesus for the next decade. *Showing the Way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and Discernment* is one of those horizons.

For those who might not be so familiar with them, the *Spiritual Exercises* is a compilation of meditations, reflections and prayers composed by St. Ignatius of Loyola between 1522–1524. And while the *Spiritual Exercises* are written in a general way for all, ultimately they are written by a man who believed that God worked with each person individually. As each person engages these general exercises, that person comes closer to knowing God's will in his or her life.

In early September at a gathering of more than 270 Province leaders of our schools, parishes, retreat centers and social justice ministries held at Santa Clara University, I spoke about the importance of the *Spiritual Exercises*, particularly as the premiere way for us to engage “discernment in common,” something repeatedly emphasized during General Congregation 36. We all might be quite capable of discerning our way forward as individuals. But how do we do this as a Jesuit community? A region? A parish or school staff? With those questions in mind, I asked the leaders of our Province works if they would consider doing the *Spiritual Exercises* together—as regions, as Jesuit communities and as staffs—over the course of 2020-21.

St. Ignatius Parish in Portland is just one of many places to respond enthusiastically. Pastor Craig Boly, SJ, asked Associate Pastor Dan Sullivan, SJ, to develop a program where the parish staff could do the *Spiritual Exercises* together. Although no one on the 10-person staff had ever done the *Exercises* before, Fr. Sullivan says that “they jumped in feet first.”

While Jesuits traditionally experience the *Exercises* during a 30-day retreat, the beauty of St. Ignatius’ masterwork is that it is flexible. You can do a version of the *Exercises* during an eight-day retreat, a weekend retreat, or a nine-month program such as the ones run by SEEL (*Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life*) at several of our parishes in the Province.

For the team at St. Ignatius, Fr. Sullivan relied on a wonderful, user-friendly, 34-week online resource created by Creighton University (onlineministries.creighton.edu), which includes readings, prayers, photos, discussion questions and more.

Embracing the opportunity, the parish staff had its first meeting in September. The team is provided with new materials weekly and gather monthly to share their faith. Fr. Sullivan told me how exciting it is to see the staff — with diverse backgrounds and roles within the parish — come together at a table talking about their experiences of Christ. There is so much enthusiasm for what Fr. Sullivan is calling a “pilot program” that the retreat may be offered to the Parish Council next. The “dynamic of the *Exercises* is just humongous,” he says, “and it is bringing this group together in such a powerful way.” Obviously, the staff of St. Ignatius Parish is off to a strong start, and we hope to share their key learnings and takeaways with the Province.

May we all lean into one another and into God as we face the future, trusting that Ignatius gives us tools for discerning our way forward, not just individually but collectively.

Wishing you a blessed Advent and Christmas,

Scott Santarosa, SJ
Provincial
JESUITS WEST ADVOCATES FOR MIGRANTS AND OUR COMMON HOME continued

Security (DHS) leadership in Washington, D.C., to advocate on behalf of people seeking asylum in the United States.

The Jesuits pressed DHS leadership for a welcoming and humane asylum policy at the U.S.-Mexico border.

Stressing the real-life consequences of these policies, Jesuit Provincials told DHS officials harrowing stories of migrants in their regions and voiced their concern over the detention of migrants for months or years as they await their immigration hearings, sometimes in very poor conditions. Rather than incarcerate asylum seekers, they argued, the department should reinstate and expand community-based family case management plans, which uphold the dignity and human rights of migrants.

Fr. Santarosa said that the current immigration policy is “a betrayal of our identity as a country of immigrants.” He called on Americans to “use our voices collectively to make our country more the country we believe it should be — more the country it wants to be. What does that mean? It means putting our own credibility on the line and saying, ‘I believe in this.’”

Across the Province, Jesuits West apostolates also embraced Fr. Santarosa’s call to lift their voices on behalf of migrants and asylum seekers. In San Francisco, Ignatian ministries worked together to collect cards for Congress, calling for better protections for migrants. The ministries plan to deliver the cards to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. At St. Ignatius Parish in San Francisco, parishioners packed their sleeping bags for a Migrant Solidarity Sleep-in. Through prayer and education, the congregation called for an end to family separation and migrant detention.

Other parishes also took action. Members of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Missoula, Montana, gathered at a vigil to pray for migrants in October. Parishioners from St. Ignatius Church in Portland met with Senator Ron Wyden’s field manager, joined by two seniors from St. Mary’s Academy and one senior from Jesuit High who were interning at the office and sat in on the conversation.

A prayer vigil for migrants at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Missoula, Montana.

A group from St. Aloysius Parish in Spokane, Washington, immersed themselves in the issues at the U.S.-Mexico border. During a weeklong migration education program, parishioners traveled into the Sonoran Desert near Nogales, Arizona, where many migrants make the dangerous crossing into the U.S. They also met with migrant families and the ministries that help them, such as the Kino Border Initiative, which is co-sponsored by six U.S. and Mexican church groups, including the Jesuits.

Other parishes opened their doors to migrants in need. After years of instability, a migrant family found refuge at Our Lady of Guadalupe in San Diego.

At the Province’s schools, students took up the call for solidarity through legislative meetings and letter writing campaigns. Over one hundred students at Seattle Prep signed letters urging their elected representatives to recognize the human dignity of immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

A participant on the immersion trip from St. Aloysius Parish in Spokane places a cross in memory of a migrant who died during the journey through the Sonoran Desert.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in San Diego found housing for a migrant family from Haiti.

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**FR. AL GROSSKOPF, SJ, RECOGNIZED FOR DECADES OF DIVORCE MINISTRY WORK**

Fr. Al Grosskopf, SJ, received his award from Ann Moloney, a board member of Catholic Divorce Ministry.

Fr. Al Grosskopf, SJ, recognized for decades of divorce ministry work.

Fr. Al Grosskopf, SJ, received the annual award of Catholic Divorce Ministry, the Father James J. Young, C.S.P. Award, on September 14 at the National Conference of Catholic Divorce Ministry in St. Louis. The award is a carved statue of the Samaritan Woman at Jacob’s Well, adopted as the patron saint of divorced people.

It’s a fitting award for Fr. Grosskopf, who has worked in divorce ministry for almost 50 years and started one of the first Catholic divorce support groups in California, New Horizons. This ministry began in 1974, when he was serving at Holy Family Church in San Jose, where one of his responsibilities was forming a singles group.

“As the group developed, the divorced and separated became so numerous that Fr. Grosskopf decided he should start a program exclusively for these Catholics. He invited a divorced graduate student in counseling psychology to do a six-week summer workshop.

The workshop was a breakthrough, Fr. Grosskopf said. “Publicizing it in the weekly parish bulletin was the first time public recognition was given to the presence of divorced and separated Catholics in the Holy Family community, and their presence was legitimized. They were invited to consider themselves as an integral part of an all-embracing Christian community that binds up wounds and heals.”

It also marked the beginning of New Horizons, the divorced and separated Catholics group that Fr. Grosskopf started with leaders who emerged from the workshop. The group was based on the model of Fr. James Young, C.S.P., of the Paulist Community Center in Boston, who founded Catholic Divorce Ministry, and is the namesake of the award Fr. Grosskopf received.

Fr. Grosskopf, now 88, moved to Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California, about two years ago and is praying for the Church and Society. He also still does some pastoral ministry. “By the grace of God, we continue to minister to the healing of those who have suffered the pain of divorce and separation, a healing ministry in the tradition of the healing ministry of our Lord and Brother, Jesus Christ.”

**FR. JAMES VOISS, SJ, NAMED VICE PRESIDENT FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY AT MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY**

Fr. James Voiss, SJ, of Jesuits West, has been named the new vice president for mission and ministry at Marquette University in Milwaukee. Fr. Voiss begins his new role on Jan. 2, 2020.

A 30-year higher education veteran, Fr. Voiss previously served at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington, where he was rector of the Jesuit community since 2014. He also served as assistant vice president for mission at Gonzaga from 2013-16.

Prior to his time at Gonzaga, Fr. Voiss spent 14 years at Saint Louis University as an associate professor of theology, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses. He holds a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Gonzaga; a Master of Divinity degree and a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from the Weston School of Theology in Cambridge, Massachusetts; and a master’s and a Ph.D. in theology from the University of Notre Dame.

**JESUITS WEST’S PROVINCIAL APPOINTS TWO NEW SUPERIORS**

Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ, Provincial of Jesuits West, has appointed Fr. Stephen Lantry, SJ, as superior of the Ravalli Jesuit Community in Missoula, Montana. Since January 2019, Fr. Lantry has served as an associate pastor at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Missoula. Fr. Lantry succeeds Fr. Richard Perry, SJ, who served as superior at Ravalli for the past four years.

Fr. Santarosa has also appointed Fr. Ignatius Ohno, SJ, as superior of the Bellarmine Jesuit Community in Tacoma, Washington. For the last several years, Fr. Ohno has served as assistant rector at the Arrupe Jesuit Community in Seattle and as the Province Delegate for Permanently Retired Men. Fr. Ohno succeeds Fr. John Fuchs, SJ, who has served as interim superior at Bellarmine since January 2018.

**SUPPORT JESUITS WEST THROUGH PLANNED GIVING**

For information about designating Jesuits West in your estate plan, please contact Fr. Samuel Bellino, SJ, at (408) 884-1639 or sbellino@jesuits.org.
This fall, five Jesuits from our Province were ordained to the diaconate at two different Masses across the United States.

On September 21, two members of Jesuits West, Thomas Biegler, SJ, and Phillip Romero, SJ, were among eight Jesuits ordained as deacons by the Most Reverend Peter J. Uglietto, Auxiliary Bishop of Boston, at St. Ignatius Church in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. These newly ordained deacons are students at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry.

Five more Jesuits were ordained as deacons on October 19 by the Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, SJ, Bishop of Oakland, at Saint Mary’s College Chapel in Moraga, California, including three from Jesuits West: Perry Petrich, SJ; Justin Claravall, SJ; and San Mai, SJ. These new deacons are currently studying theology at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in Berkeley, California.

Additionally, Gregory Celio, SJ, of Jesuits West was ordained to the diaconate last spring in Toronto.

For Jesuits in formation, ordination to the diaconate is the final step in preparation for priestly ordination in the Society of Jesus. Deacons proclaim the Gospel, preach and teach in the name of the Church. As ministers of sacraments, they baptize, witness marriages and conduct wake and funeral services.

As deacons, they will continue their studies and be assigned to parishes until next summer when they will be ordained to the priesthood and receive their first missions as Jesuit priests.

Gonzaga University has partnered with Catholic Charities Eastern Washington (CCEW) and Gonzaga Preparatory School on the Gonzaga Family Haven in Spokane, Washington, which will provide housing and social services to 70 homeless families in the region. The project is getting closer to reality: CCEW will receive a $5 million grant from Amazon founder Jeff Bezos’ nonprofit for the housing complex.

Gonzaga University’s vision of its involvement focuses on delivering many of its successful community engagement programs at Gonzaga Family Haven, including youth mentoring, community meals, wellness activities and community leadership development.

“We are excited at the prospect of engaging our students, faculty and staff in community service learning through this dynamic, promising project,” said Thayne McCulloh, president of Gonzaga University. “We can do truly meaningful work in this setting — not only to support and impact families, but to help students experience the transformative impact of helping others.”

Gonzaga Prep, which is located adjacent to where the housing project will be built, will provide an opportunity for staff and students to volunteer at the apartment complex, as well as create systems of lasting support to families as their children grow.

“Clearly, this is more than a housing project,” McCulloh said. “It will become a community.”
Fr. Kevin O’Brien, SJ, was inaugurated as Santa Clara University’s 29th president on October 11. Delegates representing more than five dozen universities across the United States — including 16 Jesuit institutions — joined the Santa Clara University community at the ceremony.

Jesuits West Provincial Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ, a Santa Clara alumnus ('88), officially missioned Fr. O’Brien as head of the apostolic work. “Because of his integrity and his deep love for and loyalty to the Church and the Society of Jesus, I have confidence that Fr. O’Brien will steadily and conscientiously work with the university’s Jesuit community, its rector, Fr. Arthur Liebscher, SJ, and with all of his talented colleagues — trustees, faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends — to help Santa Clara reach its full potential, as both an influencer and a change agent, all for the greater glory of God.”

After Fr. O’Brien’s missioning and investiture by Fr. Santarosa, Fr. O’Brien gave an inaugural address, speaking of his vision of what Santa Clara could be as a university: “a place of generous encounter.”

“A Jesuit education at Santa Clara is about encounter: engaging one another deeply and meeting the living God (whom we may call by different names) in surprising ways and in unexpected places,” he said.

Before becoming president of SCU, Fr. O’Brien served as dean of the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University since 2016. He spent the previous eight years at Georgetown University, the last five as vice president for mission and ministry.

Jesuits West recently received a $50,000 donation from the Knights of Columbus Seattle Council 676 for the senior care of Jesuits in the Province. This significant gift was presented to the Province by Don Luby, an alumnus of Seattle Preparatory School and Seattle University. Luby has been a longtime supporter of Seattle University and was close friends with Fr. Joe Stocking, SJ, who passed away in 2014, and the Stocking family.

Knights of Columbus Seattle Council 676 members Winslow Hayes — also a Seattle Prep alum — and Mike Donohue were also on hand for the presentation of the gift to Fr. Bob Grimm, SJ, Jesuit counselor at Seattle University’s Albers School of Business and Economics.

“Council 676 of the Knights of Columbus has quietly and faithfully served the poor and needy in Seattle in a variety of settings,” said Fr. Grimm. “Many of their members in Seattle were educated by the Jesuits and the Christian Brothers.”

“Theyir generosity toward us reflects their appreciation of our common mission and their gratitude for the education of some of their members by the Jesuits. Their gift came as a complete surprise, but is gratefully received,” Fr. Grimm said.

Loyola High School of Los Angeles, the oldest continually operated educational institution in Southern California, broke ground this summer on a new project that will transform the 21-acre campus.

With more than 100 guests attending, Loyola Board Chairman Rick Caruso led the ceremony that kicked off the rebuilding of the Xavier Center, scheduled for completion in late 2020.

“To inspire our students to become future leaders, we must be able to provide them with state-of-the-art facilities that contribute to a thriving educational and spiritual community,” said president Fr. Gregory M. Goethals, SJ ('73). “After years of thoughtful planning, forward-thinking design decisions and very generous support from our donors, the 21st-century Xavier will become a reality.”

The new Xavier building will serve as an enhanced liturgical, educational and special events space for its more than 200 yearly functions. It will include a learning environment with the latest technology, promoting collaboration and innovation.

The 1901 Venice Boulevard $34 million capital campaign, which makes the new Xavier Center possible, will also include a transformation of the front entrance of campus and the creation of a Veterans’ Wall of Honor, honoring past and future Loyola High veterans.
FR. JOHN MOSSI, SJ, HONORED BY IGNATIANS WEST

Fr. John Mossi, SJ, who serves in the Jesuits West Advancement Office, was among those honored by Ignatians West for outstanding service in ministry and church life on November 10.

Based in Los Angeles, Ignatians West offers mature adults the opportunity to serve the needs of the poor or marginalized by volunteering one or two days a week with non-profit partner agencies and schools. The benefits are three-fold: people in need receive hope and assistance; partner agencies gain qualified help at no cost; and the volunteers deepen their commitment to service and Ignatian spirituality.

The Ignatians West Madonna Della Strada event celebrated its 13th year of gathering people for friendship and fundraising. Fr. Randy Roche, SJ, a founding member of the board of Ignatians West, named the event after the first church that St. Ignatius and the early Jesuits obtained to serve the urban poor in the center of Rome. The award honors lives and agencies that reflect the Ignatian values of direct service to the poor and of working and educating for a more just society.

Fr. Mossi was honored for enthusiastically answering the call to present a workshop or a retreat for Ignatians West — and sharing his wisdom and faith in a way that touches the volunteers.

“Over the years, it has been an honor to celebrate Mass, facilitate retreats or conduct workshops for Ignatians West members,” said Fr. Mossi, who received the Madonna Della Strada award. “Ignatians West has impacted the Los Angeles Archdiocese through their various ministries in schools, prisons, hospitals, spiritual direction, St. Vincent de Paul and social works. Their generosity and dedication are a source of inspiration for me.”

Katherine Enright (left) receives her Madonna Della Strada award from Anne Hansen (right).

In addition to Fr. Mossi, Katherine Enright, director of the office of parish life for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, received a Madonna Della Strada award. Habitat for Humanity in Los Angeles received the Randy Roche, SJ, Agency Service award at the event. Each honoree was chosen for their modeling of faith-filled service to others.

CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY BREAKS GROUND IN PHOENIX

Creighton University, the Jesuit university in Omaha, Nebraska, recently celebrated its westward expansion at a groundbreaking for its new health sciences campus in Phoenix.

The 180,000-square-foot future campus is drawing broad community support for attracting new health care students and future professionals, steeped in Jesuit ideals, into the fast-growing region. It is slated to be open and ready for classes in the fall of 2021.

The new campus is eventually expected to serve nearly 900 Creighton students studying to be physicians, nurses, pharmacists, physician assistants, and physical and occupational therapists.

“Over the years, it has been an honor to celebrate Mass, facilitate retreats or conduct workshops for Ignatians West members,” said Fr. Mossi, who received the Madonna Della Strada award. “Ignatians West has impacted the Los Angeles Archdiocese through their various ministries in schools, prisons, hospitals, spiritual direction, St. Vincent de Paul and social works. Their generosity and dedication are a source of inspiration for me.”

FOLLOW JESUITS WEST ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND WEB

Want the latest updates on happenings in Jesuits West? Simply follow the Province on Facebook and Twitter where you get the latest news and events delivered to your computer or mobile device. Nearly 14,000 followers keep track of the Province on Facebook at www.facebook.com/jesuitswest while more than 3,000 follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/jesuitswest, where they receive the latest Jesuit news updates. And visit us at www.jesuitswest.org for vocation, Perpetual Certificates, Jesuit Mass Cards and giving information.
In Los Angeles, a group of Loyola High School students who are directly impacted by immigration policies joined Proyecto Pastoral — a community building organization at the Jesuits’ Dolores Mission Parish in Los Angeles — in a meeting with Congressman Jimmy Gomez to share their family stories.

A vigil organized by all the Jesuit apostolates in the Phoenix area, including students at Brophy College Prep, gathered over 100 people at Arizona Senator Martha McSally’s office to advocate for asylum seekers. At Santa Clara University in California, the community gathered at a prayer service for those suffering at the border and held a campus clothing drive for migrants, and Gonzaga University held a call-in day of action and a vigil and march in Spokane.

Other actions showed the variety of ways to engage the Jesuit muscle against injustice: from a Jesuit in Orange County asking questions of his congressperson at a town hall meeting to Jesuit high schools in Sacramento producing a play about immigration to the Ignatian Spirituality Center hosting a teach in on discernment on the issue of immigration in Seattle.

Annie Fox, Provincial Assistant for Social Ministry Organizing for the Province, said that the response from Jesuits West ministries has been overwhelming. “Jesuit ministries have been doing incredible work on immigration and climate change for a number of years, but to see this amazing group of discerners and activists come together and really flex that Jesuit muscle, it reminds us of the power our ministries can have to confront systems of injustice when we really work together. I can’t wait to see what we do next!”

The advocacy work will continue, thanks in part to the “Arrupe Delegates” program that the Province is launching, which will include training in community organizing and programming, exploring how best to harness and use the Province’s collective voice. Forty-five Arrupe Delegates have already signed up for the discernment series, which “will help us determine how to keep this collaboration deepening and growing,” said Fox.
NEWS continued

JESUITS WEST DELEGATES CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ECOLOGY IN ROME

From November 4-8, 2019, over 200 Jesuits and lay collaborators from 62 countries gathered in Rome to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Jesuit Curia’s Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat (SJES). The office was founded by Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ, the 28th Superior General of the Society of Jesus, to assist the Society in its promotion of justice.

Three delegates represented Jesuits West at the SJES Congress: Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ, founder of Homeboy Industries; Annie Fox, Provincial Assistant for Social Ministry Organizing for Jesuits West; and Fr. Mike Bayard, SJ, Provincial Assistant for Mission and Planning for Jesuits West.

The congress celebrated the Jesuit commitment to justice and reconciliation around the world, while looking toward the future to reimagine how the Society can best promote justice in the 21st century. Sessions focused on how Jesuit ministries can respond to the call of the Universal Apostolic Preferences — showing the way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and discernment, walking with the excluded, journeying with youth and caring for our common home — that will guide the Society’s mission for the next 10 years.

Fr. Boyle was part of a roundtable discussion at a session on “Challenges & Opportunities to Journey with Youth,” where he spoke of his work with gang members in Los Angeles: “We don’t go to the margins to make a difference, we go to the margins so that the folks at the margins make us different.”

On November 7, Pope Francis met with the delegates in the Vatican’s Clementine Hall. He said that the Society, from the beginning, “was called to the service of the poor,” and that in establishing the Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat 50 years ago, Fr. Arrupe “intended to strengthen it.”

“Fr. Arrupe always believed that the service of faith and the promotion of justice cannot be separated: They are radically united,” Pope Francis said, before urging the delegates to always “remain close to the vulnerable ones.”

JESUITS WEST WELCOMES NEW NOVICES

It is with great joy and gratitude that Jesuits West welcomed three novices who entered The Jesuit Novitiate of the Three Companions in Culver City, California, on August 18. The novices are part of a larger group, including five second-year novices, who reside at the novitiate.

The three new novices completed their First Probation with the Mass of Investiture on September 1. Investiture reflects an ancient custom in religious life when candidates take another step into the community and formally become novices with the letters nSJ after their names.

We offer prayers of gratitude to God for the great blessing of these novices.
IN MEMORIAM

LORD,
WE ENTRUST
THOSE WHO
HAVE DIED TO
YOUR MERCY.
WELCOME THEM
INTO YOUR
PRESENCE.

Fr. Thomas W. Foster, SJ
January 1, 1938
September 20, 2019

Fr. Thomas W. Foster, S.J., a teacher and pastor, died September 20, 2019, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California. He was 81 years old, a Jesuit for 57 years and a priest for 47 years. He was born on January 1, 1938, in India and attended high school in Sydney, Australia, graduating in 1956. He came to the U.S. and attended Menlo College in Menlo Park, California, before transferring to Santa Clara University, graduating in 1961. He entered the Jesuit Novitiate at Los Gatos in September 1962. After being ordained to the priesthood in 1972, Fr. Foster taught biology, chemistry and mathematics at Bellarmine College Preparatory in San Jose (1966-69 and 1972-76). He then was pastor and leader of team ministry at Holy Family Church in San Jose, California (1976-88). Fr. Foster next served as a retreat director at the Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos (1988-94), before serving as associate pastor at St. Joseph’s Church in Capitola, California, (1994-98) and at St. Agnes Church in San Francisco (1998-2000). He was very active in the charismatic movement throughout his ministry. He was assigned to Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in 2000, serving first as assistant to the superior, before moving to a ministry of prayer.

Fr. James B. Reichmann, SJ
January 14, 1923
July 19, 2019

Fr. James B. Reichmann, SJ, a longtime professor of philosophy at Seattle University, died July 19, 2019, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California. He was 96 years old and a Jesuit for 78 years. Born on January 14, 1923, in Everett, Washington, he graduated from Gonzaga Preparatory School in Spokane and then entered the Jesuit Novitiate at Sheridan, Oregon, in 1940. He spent 43 years at Seattle University as professor of philosophy, department chair and finally, emeritus. He retired in 2013 to a ministry of prayer. Fr. Reichmann was the author of “Philosophy of the Human Person,” “Evolution, Animal Rights, and the Environment” and many articles in scholarly journals. A truly dedicated scholar, his final article was published when he was 90 years old. Fr. Reichmann was fluent in Latin, French, German and Italian, and late in life, he learned Spanish so he could celebrate Mass for Hispanic communities in Seattle.

Fr. Michael J. Buckley, SJ
October 12, 1931
July 25, 2019

Fr. Michael J. Buckley, SJ — a Jesuit of lasting legacy for his contributions to studies in theology, the origins of modern atheism and Jesuit spirituality and education — died July 25, 2019. He was 87 years old and a Jesuit for almost 70 years. Fr. Buckley was born on October 12, 1931, and after graduating high school, he entered the Society of Jesus in August 1949 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1962. He authored seven books, including his magnum opus, “At the Origins of Modern Atheism.” Fr. Buckley had faculty appointments at the Gregorian University in Rome and the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California; and subsequently, positions at the University of Notre Dame, Boston College and Santa Clara University. Fr. Buckley was elected to three General Congregations of the Society of Jesus. At the 32nd General Congregation, he was instrumental in the writing of Decree 4, “Service of Faith and the Promotion of Justice,” which was key to a reorientation of the Jesuits toward service of the poor.

Fr. Armand M. Nigro, SJ
March 29, 1928
September 27, 2019

Fr. Armand M. Nigro, SJ, a longtime retreat director in the Pacific Northwest and professor at Gonzaga University, died September 27, 2019, at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, California. He was 91 years old and a Jesuit for 75 years. Fr. Nigro was a sought-after spiritual director and retreat presenter who lived a simple, holy life. Born on March 29, 1928, in Spokane, Washington, he graduated from Gonzaga Preparatory School and then entered the Jesuit Novitiate at Spokane in 1944. His studies took him back to Spokane for an M.A. in philosophy and later to the Gregorian University in Rome for a doctorate in philosophy. Ordained in 1956, his priestly ministry centered on the university classroom, teaching philosophy or theology at Seattle University, Mount Saint Michael’s, Gonzaga University and Kachebere Major Seminary in Malawi. In 1981, Fr. Nigro co-founded the Mater Dei Institute, now the Ministry Institute and Center for Spiritual Renewal at Gonzaga, supporting ministry in the Church. The last 15 years of his active ministry was as a retreat director and spiritual director for clergy, religious and laity in the Northwest and Alaska. In 2015, Fr. Nigro moved to Los Gatos for a ministry of prayer.

Fr. Stephen F. Pisano, SJ
April 16, 1946
October 7, 2019

Fr. Stephen F. Pisano, SJ, emeritus professor of Old Testament exegesis and textual criticism at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome, died in the Jesuit infirmary in Rome on October 7, 2019. He was 73 years old, a Jesuit for 55 years and a priest for 44 years. He taught at the “Biblicum” for 35 years, serving as dean of the faculty, vice-rector and superior of the Jesuit community. As a teacher of required courses, he had a direct influence on hundreds of students from around the world, who later would teach in their home countries. He was also a sought-after spiritual director and retreat director. Fr. Pisano was born in New York City on April 16, 1946, and his family later relocated to Burlingame, California. After graduating from Bellarmine College Preparatory in San Jose, he entered the Jesuit Novitiate at Los Gatos in 1964 and was ordained a priest in 1975. Graduate studies followed in Sacred Scripture at the Pontifical Biblical Institute and in theology at the Université de Fribourg in Switzerland. In 1982, he began his long tenure in Rome, which lasted until his death.
Bringing New Life to an Old Cemetery

Atop a windswept bluff in northeast Spokane, Washington, sits the final resting place of more than 600 Jesuit priests and brothers. The Jesuits discovered this beautiful spot in the early 1880s, establishing a cemetery and constructing Mount St. Michael, a large, Tudor-Gothic building, which opened in 1916, and served for decades as a home and school for philosophy students and later, a community for retired Jesuits. When the Jesuits decamped, selling the building in 1977, they held onto their historic cemetery, which is today one of two cemeteries still in use by Jesuits West Province. The other is near Santa Clara University.

Mount St. Michael’s Cemetery is special because of the many well-known Jesuits who rest here, like Fr. Joseph Cataldo, SJ, who convinced his Jesuit superiors in Rome that a Catholic college should be built in Spokane in 1887, thus founding Gonzaga University. But it’s also a treasure because it houses the earthly remains of Jesuits like Fr. Dan Weber, SJ, a former long-serving president of both Gonzaga Preparatory School in Spokane and Bellarmine Preparatory School in Tacoma, Washington, and many others who devoted their lives to serving the Church.

Fr. Weber’s brother, Martin, was one of several people recently concerned that the cemetery had fallen into disrepair. Marble headstones had toppled, the aging irrigation system was not functional, the directory of names was in poor shape and the landscaping had become something of an eyesore.

Quickly, a fundraising committee was formed, and Martin took responsibility for acquiring bids. Although the committee included the Province’s senior philanthropy officer for the NW, Kim Randles, and Jesuits Tom Lamanna, pastor of St. Aloysius Parish and rector of the Della Strada Jesuit Community, Spokane, and John Mossi, Jesuits West Advancement Office, it was six dedicated lay leaders who carried the day.

While Martin Weber, Dan Harbaugh, Dan and Joyce Murphy, Mary Margaret Brajcich and Marguerite Busch all have different reasons for initiating the project, the common thread was their love and respect for the Jesuits interred at Mount St. Michael’s.

The committee set a fundraising goal of $50,000 to perform necessary repairs and for enhancements, including a new parking area, signage and benches. Donations — from $50 to $5,000 — started coming in, including generous gifts from committee members. Thanks, in part, to an anonymous donor who offered to match any gift up to $25,000, the campaign has raised more than $75,000 and counting.

Work is still in progress, but the cemetery facelift is in full swing. What was once forlorn is now reborn. The can-do spirit first exemplified by the pioneer missionary Jesuits who came to the Northwest 150 years ago is alive today in the lay men and women who stepped up to transform a beloved Jesuit landmark.

Thank you for your continued support.

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JESUITS WEST WELCOMES 1ST-YEAR NOVICES

Kevin Lee, nSJ, Jose Oros, nSJ, and Christopher Castaneda, nSJ