

Circle of Friends

A NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE JOSEPHINUM

APRIL 2023

Clergy Who Cook

Friday, January 28th started the culinary event of the year. Our 13th annual Clergy Who Cook once again presented food loving members and their friends with tasty, artistic, and seasonal dishes and cocktails. This event is always sold out immediately and raises a good amount of money for our seminarians. I am happy to report that Clergy Who Cook brought in over \$44,000 this year! Noting the trends of the last few years, it's possible that even more could be raised by soliciting donations from host parishes that have clergy entering the cookoff.

There was so much talent on display! While all are winners, we did see awards go to: Father Tom Gardner (Sacred Heart, Coshocton) for the People's Choice Award; Father Stephen Hayes, OP (Saint Patrick Priory, Columbus) for the Most Complex Award; Father Timothy Lynch and Deacon Paul Zemanek (Saint Brigid of Kildare, Dublin) took the Grand Chef Award, which is given to the cook raising the most money prior to the event; and Father Ty Tomson (Saint Bernadette, Lancaster) captured the Most Creative Award. I can still taste Father Ty's bourbon peach sno-cones in part because I was seated right by the 'bourbon bar!' All in all I believe everyone enjoyed the fun, the food, and supporting the seminarians. Be sure to attend next year!



Co-Chair Marci Maynard welcomes CWC guests



The Dominican chefs of Saint Patrick Priory



Welcoming Our New President!

The new President of the Friends of the Josephinum is Rosemary Finneran. Rosemary returned recently from a trip to the Holy Land. At present, she is healing from an injury. We look forward to hearing from her in the next issue! Meanwhile we send her prayers and wishes for a speedy recovery.

Thank You, Ellyn!



Our very first editor of the Circle of Friends newsletter, **Ellyn Dekker**, has retired after many years of keeping the Friends informed and up to date on the progress and happenings of our beloved Josephinum. Words are inadequate to express our gratitude to Ellyn and the many hours she has given to the newsletter.

Following in Ellyn's footsteps is **Diane Prettyman**. Diane is humbled and honored to step in as the new editor and will do her best to bring you current and informative news. Any suggestions and submissions you may have are welcomed!

Contact Diane at prettymandc@gmail.com

Editor's Story

I would like to share a few words about a unique opportunity my husband Rich and I had to "adopt" Columbus seminarian Shawn Caslow. Shawn is completing his spiritual year at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Pennsylvania and anticipates beginning at the Josephinum in the fall.

Being a first for us, we didn't know quite how to begin this "parenting." I began with a letter to Shawn; we received the nicest letter in return and exchanged addresses, phone numbers, and emails. Rich and I met Shawn in Columbus on New Year's Day when he served Mass with Bishop Fernandes.

What a great match we are! Shawn is a graduate of a high school in Dublin, the suburb where Rich and I live. Shawn and I are both Ohio State alumni. He studied criminal justice; I studied there to prepare for my career teaching high school at the Ohio Reformatory for Women in Marysville.

While Shawn was raised Protestant, he began to experience a draw to the Catholic faith at age 20. In the beginning he was afraid and "wanted to run" but kept experiencing, as he says, awakenings and joy when at Mass with friends. Shawn went on retreats, attended adoration, and was introduced to the Rosary, during which, he says, "Our Lady sent me a memo." Through intense trials, Shawn realized Christ had always been with him. Shawn relates that, during his spiritual year, the steps he experienced have been the call, resistance, acceptance, embracement, and commitment. How beautiful!

Let's continue to pray for all of our "adopted sons" as they prepare their lives for the service to Our Lord. I wish all of you a happy and blessed Easter season,

Diane Prettyman



ANNOUNCING OUR NEW FRIENDS!

*Anne Mallampalli
Candy Stein*

LOOKING AHEAD TO OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

Board Meeting - May 9

Josephinum 4-Miler - October 7

Annual Mass, Brunch & Meeting - November 5

Day of Recollection - December 9

A Word from Our Chaplain

It's been another full semester!

Since our last Circle of Friends newsletter, we've enjoyed several events with FOJ members, including the annual Mass and Brunch in November, Advent Lessons & Carols, and a Day of Recollection. Many of you cheered for our seminarians at the basketball tournament in February, and attended our Good Shepherd Dinner earlier this month. Please know how much your presence is valued by the seminarians, to whom you are Friends in every sense of the word.

Notable spiritual formation events have included a day of recollection on Celibacy and Contemplation by Deacon James Keating this spring. In the fall, many of our men attended Bob Schutts' Holy Desire formation day on inner healing. Pastorally, we all joined in the March for Life in Washington, DC which was, as always, a great bonding event for our community as well as a vibrant national event to support. The annual basketball tournament was another success with seven different seminaries joining us. For the first time in seven years, PCJ failed to secure the victory, but, nevertheless, we all enjoyed the fellowship. The unexpected and welcomed success of the year has been the semester-long foosball league that has seen almost every member of the house participate in the weekly game. Unusual excitement has been created!

We have had multiple residential 'Come & See' weekends designed for young men wanting to sample seminary life. The last weekend we had 30 visitors and this bodes well for enrollment next year.

This past year we welcomed a large number of new priests to the formation team. We expect more to join next year, including Father Paul Hrezo whom many of you may remember from his time as a seminarian and faculty member. He will be the new spiritual director as, sadly, we are losing Father Brett Brannen who has been a great gift to us these past three years.

Thanks, as always, for your prayers and all your support!

Father Dylan James
Chaplain



Father Dylan James



March for Life



Basketball Tournament

FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends of the Josephinum,

I hope this newsletter finds you well! First and foremost, a word of thanks for your support of the Holy Land Pilgrimage, Basketball Tournament, and Good Shepherd Dinner. Each of these, in its own way, provides support to the seminarians.

The pilgrimage gives these future priests direct contact with the part of the world where our Lord lived, taught, suffered, died, and was resurrected. These men, who will one day act *in persona Christi*, were able to walk in the footsteps of Christ, thus bringing to life for them the words of Sacred Scripture.

While we didn't defend our title, the Helfant Classic Basketball Tournament was a great success. We received numerous compliments and accolades from the seminaries that visited us. It provided a much-needed opportunity for fraternity, prayer, and fun for everyone involved.

Our Good Shepherd Dinner signature fundraiser was an incredible night of support for our seminarians, due in no small part to the Friends' unmatched Saint Joseph Sponsorship. Your generous love for our seminarians was truly felt that evening.

In other news, at our February meeting the Board of Trustees approved our new five-year strategic plan. Also approved were our plans to begin the new "propaedeutic stage" of formation, the initial time of formation for every seminarian as decreed by Rome.

Again, I wish to express appreciation for all you do to support the seminary and the seminarians. I have mentioned before that I am entrusting everything in the seminary to Saint Joseph and, more recently, to Saint Philomena. As you pray for us, please invoke their intercession as well!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Very Reverend Steven P. Beseau
Rector/President



Father Steven Beseau



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