

# Circle of Friends

A NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE JOSEPHINUM

SPRING ISSUE: APRIL 2021

## Clergy Who Cook at Home was a “Virtual Success”

Clergy Who Cook (at Home!) certainly looked different this year but it was a success nonetheless! Six clergy chefs showcased their culinary talents in cooking videos recorded in their own kitchens. The videos and other recorded segments – Father Beseau’s welcome, words from co-chairs Sally Baughman and Marci Maynard and seminarian emcee Jake Asuncion (Columbus), and a prayer by our chaplain, Father Dylan James – were expertly edited by seminarian Max Gallegos (Birmingham) and uploaded to the Josephinum’s website. For a 24-hour period, guests could view the videos and vote for their favorite through a donation.



The People’s Choice Award went to Father James Black, Pastor of Saint Joan of Arc Parish, Powell, and his dish of chicken cordon bleu, saffron risotto, and asparagus salad. It looked delicious!

We thank all our chefs who participated and for our guests who donated to this wonderful cause. Despite the pandemic, we were able to raise \$22,000 to assist our seminarians in their studies and formation for the priesthood. We look forward to 2022 when we can be together again in person at the Jessing Center to enjoy great food and fellowship as we help our future priests.

## The Josephinum 4-Miler Will Run Again!



Thanks to Don Brown, John Reiner, and Marci Maynard the plans are all in place! The big news is that the “place” is the Josephinum campus!

See the enclosed Sponsorship Deliverables Brochure for more information. Become a sponsor or share it with someone who may be interested in supporting this great event!

## Events to Note

**Seminarians Return for Fall Semester**  
Tuesday, August 24

**Josephinum 4-Miler Run/Walk**  
Saturday, October 2  
9:00 a.m. Josephinum Campus  
(see page 5 for more information)

**Annual Mass, Brunch & Meeting**  
Sunday, November 14  
10:15 a.m. Begins in Saint Turibius Chapel

# Deacons Prepare for Priestly Ordination

**T**he Friends of the Josephinum keep all Josephinum seminarians in our prayers. We especially pray for our deacons who will be ordained to the priesthood in the coming months. They have completed their studies and formation and will soon go out into the world to serve the people for whom God has called them. May they remain close to Jesus, our Great High Priest, as they go from the House of Joseph. We pray that Saint Joseph will bless these dedicated men with the grace, faith, courage, humility, and strength his own life displayed. He guided and guarded them over their years with us and, we pray, will be with them now and when his help is most needed.

*Our deacons have shared their thoughts with us as they approach priestly ordination:*

As I move toward the end of our priestly formation here at the Pontifical College Josephinum, there are no words adequate enough to express my overwhelming feeling of gratitude. All I can do is to join the psalmist in singing psalm 116, “What shall I return to the Lord for all his goodness to me” (Ps 116:12). I am so thankful to God for all the blessings I have had during these four years at the Josephinum. Of course, I encountered some challenging moments, including this pandemic that challenges us all, but the difficult times have given me an opportunity to grow more in my relationship with God. I thank all of those who did so much to make my formation so profitable, and all who worked day and night to shape me into God’s instrument.

*Deacon Emmanuel Ingebire*

During the ordination of a priest, while everyone prays the Litany of the Saints together, the men to be ordained priests lie face-down on the floor near the altar. A few years ago, I heard a bishop say in his homily at ordination: “When you lie down, leave the old man on the floor and rise a new man in Christ.” This is something we strive to do every day as Christians, especially in the sacraments, and has been a major theme of my formation at the Josephinum. I’m very grateful for how so many priests, professors, and dedicated men and women, not to mention my brother seminarians, who have helped me to become a new man in Christ, to love and serve his Church in a special way as a priest.

*Deacon Brian Smith*



*Our congratulations to (pictured l-r): Deacon Jacob Stinnett (Columbus); Deacon Emmanuel Ingabire (Gikongoro, Rwanda); Deacon Joseph Wasswa, Charlotte); and Deacon Brian Smith (Youngstown)*

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As I approach ordination, I think of a lot of things. I would like to sum up my thoughts with these beautiful words of Pope Saint John Paul II: “The man who wishes to understand himself thoroughly—and not just in accordance with immediate, partial, often superficial, and even illusory standards and measures of his being—he must with his unrest, uncertainty and even his weakness and sinfulness, with his life and death, draw near to Christ. He must, so to speak, enter into him with all his own self, he must ‘appropriate’ and assimilate the whole of the reality of the Incarnation and Redemption in order to find himself. If this profound process takes place within him, he then bears fruit not only of adoration of God but also of deep wonder at himself” (*Redemptor Hominis*, 10). All I wish for people during my priestly ministry is for them to encounter the real person of Jesus Christ, who has and still reveals to me the meaning and purpose of my life. To live in this deep wonder and admiration of the mystery of man and his relationship to God.

*Deacon Joseph Wasswa*

As ordination to the priesthood is quickly approaching, I am feeling a mixture of excitement and anxiety. I am excited about receiving the great gift of the priesthood, of serving the Church and God’s people, of actualizing the vocation for which I have been preparing for a long time. I am anxious for the many unknowns of priestly life and ministry, of the witness I will be required to give with my whole life. On Good Friday, the priest and deacon lie prostrate on the floor at the beginning of the liturgy as a reminder of their ordination. As I lay there for the first time this year, I thought “This is going to be my life now: placing myself in complete trust and humility under the Cross of Jesus for His Church.”

*Deacon Jacob Stinnett*

## President’s Letter

Dear Friends of the Josephinum,

Welcome to the spring  
2021 Circle of Friends!

After many cancellations in 2020, it was good to begin this year with a virtual version of our Clergy Who Cook fundraiser. I want to thank our co-chairs, Marci Maynard and Sally



Baughman, and their committee for all of their hard work. It was a great success! And thank you to all of you who registered and contributed.

As we turn our attention to the next academic school year, we are looking forward to the third annual 4-Miler on October 2, 2021. We are excited that this year the 4-Miler will be held on the grounds of the Josephinum. Look for more information in this newsletter. Please join us for this fun outdoor event!

I want to thank each and every one of you for being a Friend of the Josephinum. Please continue your annual membership and your support of our fundraisers. Since 2001, the FOJ has provided over \$1 million in assistance to seminarians through scholarships, textbooks, emergency travel, medical and dental care. A vibrant membership is the key to our success, so please invite new members to join our mission.

Lastly, and most importantly, please pray for our seminarians. These young men are the future of our Church.

Have a great summer and we will see you at the 4-Miler in October!

Blessings,  
Venetia Bramlage

## *A Few Words from Our Chaplain*

Dear Friends,

Our spring semester has just ended and, like most of the COVID era, it's been an unusual time! Here are a few highlights of the semester, an account of how the pandemic impacted us, and how it hasn't stopped us.

The rector gave an inspiring talk, "Priesthood in the Postmodern World." Amidst a lot of COVID introspection, this talk gave us a powerful vision of where we need to be focused and what the New Evangelization needs to look like.

Spiritually, Father Brannen, Director of Spiritual Formation, continued guiding men through "The Augustine Way," a program that helps form men in chastity amidst an impure world. The seminarians strongly sense how relevant its message is today and it really resonated with them.

Socially and athletically, there has been a lot going on. For example, even though the pandemic prevented the usual inter-seminary basketball tournament, we had a mammoth intra-seminary tournament in which almost every member of the house took part. It was quite the event, with back-to-back games all weekend!

Overall, our life has been affected but formation has continued. This semester, to avoid risk of the virus circulating among the more vulnerable members of our community, the seminary has been in a semi-lockdown state: Our residents have been restricted in their outside contacts and visitors have been very restricted. While this brought about a rather limited lifestyle, we have achieved the rare status of a consistently COVID-free U.S. seminary.

That said, the seminarians were all visibly relieved to be going home at Holy Week and looked forward to a change of scenery. After Easter, the final weeks of classes and formation were conducted online. Now, we are all dispersing for the summer and looking ahead to a return to normalcy in the fall. I look forward to being able to meet you all then.

In Christ,

*Father Dylan James*



Father Dylan James

## *Greeting Our New Friends*

*Join us in welcoming these new members!*

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew and Anna Blouir

Mr. and Mrs. Earl and Carol Crosby

Mr. Edward J. Geiser, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Steven and Julia Hoenig

Ms. Constance Koralewski



Third Annual  
**JOSEPHINUM 4-MILER RUN/WALK**  
October 2, 2021

## Sponsorship Deliverables

### Quick Facts

**Date:** October 2, 2021

**Start Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Distance:** 4 miles

**Course Location:** Grounds of the Pontifical College Josephinum

**Entrant Capacity:** Limited to the first 800 entrants

**Parking:** Available at One Crosswoods Center or Two Crosswoods Center, immediately across from the course

### Packet Pick-Up

Pre-race packet pick-up will be available at Fleet Feet Sports, located at 1270 E Powell Road in Lewis Center. On the event day, packet pick up will begin at 7:30 a.m.

### Event Registration & Benefits

Online registration page maintained by M3S Sports: [www.m3ssports.com/events/Josephinum.htm](http://www.m3ssports.com/events/Josephinum.htm)  
Gift bags will be given to all registrants and will include a loaf of bread, bottle of wine or jar of Trappist jam, stylized event T-shirt, and retail coupons. Official commemorative medals and ribbons will be presented to each participant after crossing the finish line.

### Event Description

More than 600 participants registered to participate in the 2019 Josephinum 4-Miler Run/Walk, including 36 Josephinum seminarians. Bishop Brennan started the event with a prayer and a blast from an air-horn. The Josephinum Rector/President and many faculty and staff, along with family and friends, congratulated all who crossed the finish line. More than 500 people registered for the 2018 event – the first run/walk event to benefit PCJ seminarians.

### Event Promoter

The Josephinum 4-Miler Run/Walk is sponsored by the Friends of the Josephinum. Since 2001, more than \$1 Million has been distributed to seminarians in need by the Friends of the Josephinum through a variety of fund-raising efforts.

### Event Organizer

M3S Sports is excited to work again with the Friends of the Josephinum and its sponsoring partners to build a fantastic 4-Miler Run/Walk event experience. M3S Sports professionals will manage event registration, participant bibs, and race-day packets, perform all race-day responsibilities, and conduct the race itself. Music, public announcements, course guides, refreshments, and free parking will be hosted by dozens of M3S Sports volunteers on-hand to assist the event.

## Josephinum 4-Miler Run/Walk Sponsorship Levels

### Gold-level Sponsorship Elements - \$5,000+

- Internet/Digital
  - Logo/link on sponsor page
  - Logo inclusion on broadcast e-mails to database of 130,000 participants w/ recognition as gold sponsor
  - Opportunity to send special offers to participant database
- Race Day
  - Prominent logo on start/finish line structure
  - (4) start line /finish line banners
  - Inclusion of logo on participant shirt
  - Inclusion of insert in participant goody-bags
- Additional Benefits
  - Inclusion on all race-day printed and digital materials
  - Two (2) public address announcements per hour during race (sponsor to provide copy)
  - A total of ten (10) complimentary race entries to use as you see fit
- Rights & Licenses
  - License to use the event logo and the designation gold partner

### Silver-level sponsorship elements - \$2,000

- Internet/Digital
  - Logo/link on sponsor page
  - Opportunity to send special offers to participant database
- Race Day
  - Prominent logo on start/finish line structure
  - (2) start line /finish line banners
  - Inclusion of logo on participant shirt
  - Inclusion of insert in participant goody-bags
- Additional Benefits
  - Inclusion on all race printed and digital materials
  - Two (2) public address announcements per hour during race (sponsor to provide copy)
  - A total of five (5) complimentary race entries to use as you see fit
- Rights & Licenses
  - License to use the event logo and the designation silver partner

### For more information, please contact:

John Reiner, Event Co-Chair  
614-679-0878

Don Brown, Event Co-Chair  
614-395-6743

Marci Maynard, Sponsorship Chair  
marcimay525@gmail.com  
740-503-2208

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## Josephinum 4-Miler Run/Walk Sponsorship Registration Form

Sponsorship Level: \_\_\_Gold \_\_\_Silver

Primary Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail form and payment (check payable to Friends of the Josephinum) by August 1, 2021 to:**

Friends of the Josephinum  
7625 North High Street  
Columbus, OH 43235

## FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends of the Josephinum,

This year has been one of the most challenging in the history of the Josephinum. This year has also been one of the most blessed in the history of the Josephinum.

First, we are blessed that Pope Francis established a Year of Saint Joseph that began December 8, 2020 and will conclude December 8, 2021. As a house, the priests and seminarians entered into a 33-day consecration to Saint Joseph that ended on Saint Joseph's Solemnity. On March 19, the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, the residents of the House of Saint Joseph prayed the consecration to Saint Joseph in the chapel of Saint Joseph! Each of us offered personal petitions for ourselves and the seminary.



Father Steven Beseau

Second, it has been a real blessing that we have made it through the entire academic year without a seminarian developing COVID-19 on campus. I am not aware of any other seminary that can make that claim; some seminaries had upwards of 40% of their students come down with the virus. I am grateful to all those who helped to craft our policies and procedures.

Now my thoughts move toward the next academic year. The challenges we face, and the continued effects of the virus, will remain. But I have entrusted everything at the Pontifical College Josephinum to the intercession of Saint Joseph. At the end of my emails, I have a quote from Saint André Bessette, "When you invoke St. Joseph, you don't have to say much. Say, 'If you were in my place, St. Joseph, what would you do? Well, pray for this on my behalf.'"

Thank you for your support of our work. The future of the Church passes through the Josephinum, and it is great to have friends like you to help us fulfill our mission.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Very Reverend Steven P. Beseau*  
*Rector/President*



Circle of Friends  
Friends of the Josephinum  
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614-885-5585 | [www.pcj.edu/friends](http://www.pcj.edu/friends)

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