

Bishop's Latin School Alumni Association

# Alumni Newsletter

#### Volume IV Number 2

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### **Third Annual Vocation Awareness Event**

The Bishop's Latin School Alumni Association is hosting its third annual vocation awareness and fundraising event on October 24, 2004 at St. Boniface Church on Pittsburgh's North Side.

The event will begin with a concelebrated Latin Mass of the New Rite at 5:00 PM. Mass will include Latin hymns and Gregorian Chant sung by the choir of St. Boniface Immediately following Mass, a dinner reception will be held at the Teutonia Mannerchor at 857 Phineas St. on Troy Hill. At dinner the association will present the John Cardinal Wright Awards to three individuals who have exemplified their devotion

to God, Church and family. This year's awardees are Father William J. McGrath S.J, Ed Cloonan, class of 1965 and John Flaherty, class of 1972.



St. Boniface Church

Please come and join us in honoring these men and renewing past friendships. Your continual prayer and support will help us fulfill our mission to foster religious life. Directions to St Boniface Church and the Marrerchor are enclosed in the news-letter.

October 2004

Saint Boniface Church is

located at 2208 East Street, in the Northside. From downtown Pittsburgh, take the Fort Duquesne Bridge to Interstate 279. From Interstate 279, take Exit 9, Turn right onto East

Street. Proceed 3/4

mile. Saint Boniface Church will be on left side of the street. Parking is available in both upper and lower parking lots.

Reservation form is on page 4

## Fr. William Joseph McGrath, S.J.

Fr. William J. McGrath, S.J. was born at an early age\* in Philadelphia, PA on July 11, 1928, the son of William J. McGrath and Bridget C. Rudden. He attended the Gesu parochial school and St. Joseph's Prep. in Phila-

delphia, PA before entering the Society of Jesus at the Novitiate of St. Isaac Jogues, Wernersville, PA on August 14, 1946.

After completing his novitiate, Fr. McGrath took his first vows as a Jesuit Scholastic on August 15, 1948 and then for two years pursued College or Literary Studies at Wernersville.

In 1950, Fr. McGrath was assigned to study (Continued on page 3)

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#### ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

#### Please pray for those who have died . . . Deceased Alumni

1965 Daniel J. Conn John E. Heidenreich Richard J. Pater Paul J. Schratz (Rev.) Norman Van Horne

#### 1966 Roger E. Craska Anthony Lombardozzi

1967 John F. Reed John Yurko

#### 1968

Dennis Clougherty Paul R. Kraus Gregory Rybar Kenneth M. Sauers

#### 1971

Dave Kriss (Rev.)

#### 1972 Robert H. Scheeser John Urban

1973 Jeffrey Stokan

#### **Deceased Faculty and Staff**

Richard L. (Major) Bennett Fr. F. J. Dougherty, S.J. Fr. James F. Gallagher, S.J. Fr. John P. Klein Fr. George Krieger, S.J. Fr. J. B. Lanahan, S.J. Mr. Patrick McShane Mrs. Delia Reilly Fr. Vincent Taggart, S.J.

#### **Deceased Relatives**

Marilyn McKenna, the Sister of Norbert Sieber ('65) The Mother of Ray Niedenberger ('67) Sis Mackowiak, the Mother of Msgr. Bill Ogrodowski ('67) Blanche Lewandowski, the Mother of Dennis ('72) and Fr. Tom Lewandowski ('74) Elizabeth Cotter-Santos, the Sister of Mark Cotter ('72) Elizabeth Booker, the Mother of Bill Booker, '69 The mother of Ed Cloonan ('65)

#### **Alumni and Relatives Who Are Ill** Mark Cotter ('72)

The Sister, Cathy McNeilly, of Fr. Lou Vallone ('65)

### **Greg Brown OFMCap**



2004, Greg Brown, class of 1972, was ordained a priest into the Province of St. Augustine in the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin. The ceremony was held at St. Augustine Church in Pittsburgh, PA and was officiated by Most Rev-

erend Sean O'Malley, OFM Cap., the Archbishop of Boston, MA.

In his homily Archbishop O'Malley explained that the priesthood is a career dedicated to God and God's people. He continued about the importance, the significant shortage and the tarnished image of the priesthood over recent years. But he emphasized that continued prayer is the source needed to foster religious vocations and to keep the current religious strong in their duties as shepherds of the Church

On Saturday, October 2, 2004, Greg Brown, class of 1972, was ordained a priest into the Province of St. Augustine in the Order of Friars Minor





# Meet the Seminarians

The Bishop's Latin School Alumni Association hosted an open forum with the seminarians from St Paul's Seminary on October 6 at St. Mary the Mount. We discussed how our organization can help in fostering vocations for the priesthood in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Many suggestions were developed out of the discussions. Most ideas highlighted different ways to expose the current seminarians to as many parishes as



possible. Several modes included newsletters, retreats, RICA programs and pastoral invitations. But all the seminarians felt that prayer is the most powerful source for religious vocations.

The current seminarians at St. Paul's are John Allemang, Benjamin Brown, Jack Demnyan, Robert Fleckenstein, Thomas Gillespie, Daniel Lange, Brian Noel, John Nagle, Nicholas Vashov, Mike Savage and Thomas Zimmerman. Please keep these young men in your prayers, as they continue their studies and preparations for the priesthood.

# Fr. William Joseph McGrath, S.J.

(Continued from page 1)

Philosophy from 1950 to 1952 at Woodstock College, Woodstock, MD and from 1952 to 1953 at Bellarmine College, Plattsburgh, NY. From 1953 to 1956, as a Jesuit Regent, he taught Catechism, English and Math to Middle School students at Georgetown Prep School in North Bethesda, MD. From 1956 to 1960, Fr. McGrath pursued his Theological Studies at Woodstock College, MD, where he

was ordained in the College by the Most Rev. Francis P. Keogh, Archbishop of Baltimore, on June 21, 1959. After completing his Theological Studies, he made his Tertianship



(studies in Pastoral and Ascetical Theology) at Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine in Auriesville, NY. Fr. McGrath took his Final Vows in the Society of Jesus on August 15, 1962 in the Chapel at St. Joseph's Prep, Philadelphia, PA

Fr. McGrath began his long teaching assignment at Bishop's Latin School in Pittsburgh, PA, where he taught Freshmen Latin, Religion and English until 1973. He was also Moderator of the St. John Berchmans Society for a

time and Minister of the Jesuit Community there from 1961 to 1963.

From 1973 until the present, Fr. McGrath has taught freshman and Sophomore Latin at Scranton Prep School, Scranton, PA.

\* (as were most of Fr. McGrath's Freshman English students.) Each

year, Fr. McGrath gave the freshman English and assignment to write a brief autobiography. And every year, Fr. McGrath said that one of the students had opened the report with the words, "I was born at



an early age...." Fr McGrath would then lament that his workwas cut out for him, and with the grace of God he would try to teach us English. I have checked several sources, and not only did Fr. McGrath use

this same tactic on the students of the Latin School, but the principal of Scranton Prep. stated that Fr. McGrath used the tactics on him, when he was a Fr. McGrath freshman English student!

And remember: "2X, boys, 2X.

For other awardees see page 4.

### Awardees John Flaherty & Ed Cloonan

John Flaherty is an alumnus of the class of 1972. After Bishop's Latin School, John received degrees from both University of Slippery Rock and Catholic University in Washington D.C. He has been a long time employee of, and has held several positions with, the Diocese of Pittsburgh. He is presently serving as Associate General Secretary. John lives in the North Hills with his wife Rita and daughters Sarah and Rachel.

Ed Cloonan graduated from the Bishop's Latin School in 1965. He attended Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and graduate school at St. Vincent College in Latrobe. He remained at home taking care of his parents until they passed away. He was employed by the Pennsylvania State Store System and president of Independent State Store Union, which represents managers of stores under the control of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board. He is a lifetime member of St. Theresa Parish. Munhall.

# **Dave Kriss**

As this newsletter was being published, we received a report that Rev. Dave Kriss, class of 1971 and pastor of Our Lady of the Valley, Donora, died unexpectedly while traveling with a group of Pittsburgh priests to Mount Saint Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination. He collapsed before celebrating Mass and died immediately. His funeral was held October 12, 2004 at Our Lady of the Valley.

\$

# **DINNER RESERVATION FORM**

YES, PLEASE ORDER TICKETS @ \$50 FOR THE DINNER

PLEASE ACCEPT MY ADDITIONAL DONATION \$ TO AID IN THE WORK THE BLS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S SUPPORT OF VOCATIONS IN THE DIOCESE

SORRY, I CANNOT ATTEND, BUT PLEASE ACCEPT MY CONTRIBUTION FOR THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION \$

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: Make checks payable to "Bishop's Latin School Alumni Association"

NAME:

ADDRESS:\_\_\_\_\_

CITY, ST ZIP:\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # E-MAIL:

MAIL TO: **BLS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 1700 HARPSTER STREET PITTSBURGH, PA 15212-4393**  FOR MORE INFORMATION:

CALL: FR. JOSEPH HENRY, S.J., 412-231-8606 or EMAIL: JHENRYSJ@AOL.COM