



ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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A Memorable Event

The 2008 Cardinal Wright Awards Dinner was indeed, a memorable event. The evening began with the annual Vocations Mass concelebrated by Cardinal Dan DiNardo, Bishop David Zubik and fellow alumni priests and faculty! Bishop Zubik welcomed Cardinal Daniel DiNardo back to the diocese in his first official visit since his elevation to the

office by Pope Benedict XVI. The readings could not have been more appropriate! Cardinal DiNardo noted in his homily that the transfer of leadership in the Old Testament probably barely made the local news. The reading was only selected because of the Sunday's gospel readings with Peter's acknowledgement of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God". Cardinal DiNardo noted that it was not mere "flesh and blood" that revealed this to Peter but God the Father. It was all grace. He reminded us that as Bishop's Latin School students, we were reminded in our high school years often and regularly that we were mere "flesh and blood" but were challenged to recognize a deeper reality. We were created in the image and likeness of God and were called to do all for God's greater glory. Our experience taught us that this was purely result of grace. Cardinal DiNardo recounted the events in his life which were not merely the result of "flesh and blood" but the result of grace. Closing his homily in humility, he quoted the lines of the second reading.

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
How inscrutable are his judgments and how unsearchable his ways!
*For who has known the mind of the Lord
or who has been his counselor?
Or who has given the Lord anything
that he may be repaid?*
For from him and through him and for him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen.

The dinner was preceded by a photo shoot of individual pictures with the cardinal and the bishop for a suggested offering, half of which was given to each as a sign of appreciation. Approximately, 78 individuals attended the dinner, including Msgr. Ed Burns, newly assigned Vocations Director for the diocese. The event was emceed by Raymond Niedenberger, Class of '67. The awardees, Mr. Robert Irr, Fr. Albert Semler and Fr. Joe Koterski SJ were very gracious in the receipt of their awards (backgrounds on the website). Cardinal Dan DiNardo received a gift certificate for a crozier as a sign of appreciation which will remain in the diocese. As Fr. Lou Vallone, who introduced the cardinal, noted, "Cardinal DiNardo will always belong to Pittsburgh and the Bishop's Latin School". A new award was inaugurated, the Rev. Joseph E. Henry SJ award, and given to Gary Gayda (and his wife, Sue) for his commitment to the BLS Alumni Association. The classes of 1973 and 1965 were recognized in a special way. The CD of the Month Club fundraiser was announced. The evening began with an invocation by Fr. Joe Henry SJ and concluded with

benediction by Fr. William McGrath, two instructors who were with the Latin School at the beginning. In his benediction, Fr. William McGrath SJ told the story of an older woman whom he asked to pray that the Bishop's Latin School would not close. After the woman died, the school did close. However, Fr. McGrath noted the closing of the physical doors of a building did not mean finality. The spirit of the School is alive in those who have gone on before us, those present Sunday evening, and in all involved with the BLS Alumni Association. The evening was capped by a photo of all alumni in attendance.



For more pictures of the annual Vocations Mass and Awards Dinner, visit www.blsalum.org.



Father Joseph E. Henry SJ Award

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Gary M. Gayda, Class of 1971 was awarded the first ever Joseph E. Henry SJ Award. Gary's endless hours of devotion to the BLS Alumni Association, is well known as a Board Member, vice-President Treasurer, website developer, webmaster, photographer, and many other accomplishments. As a tribute to Gary, upload your own BLS pictures on flicker which you can access from www.blsalum.org.

Refer All Interested In Priesthood To Monsignor Burns

Monsignor Ed Burns, Director of Vocations, attended the annual banquet and expressed interest in cooperating with the BLS. Should anyone know any young men who are interested in the priesthood, they are welcome to provide them with Msgr. Ed Burns' e-mail address, eburns@diopitt.org. The BLS Alumni Association thanks Monsignor Burns.

Cloonan Involved In Universal Healthcare

Universal Healthcare is being actively promoted by Edward A. Cloonan. Regardless of how any of us feels on the political issue, we certainly respect the efforts of Ed Cloonan in attempting to obtain Universal Healthcare for every American. For additional information, Ed's address is below.

Edward A. Cloonan
877 Eleventh St. Ext.
Munhall, PA 15120-2068
(412) 461-9115

Lenny Thomas takes on Deacon Challenge

On May 17, 2008, Lenny Thomas '69 entered the deaconate program as a member of the class of 2013. The process is an arduous one. He is currently taking classes followed by a final exam. The candidates will be evaluated in January to determine which candidates will continue with the formation portion of the program. The actual formation program will entail 4 years of intense study including ,24 academic courses, 8 one-day pastoral workshops, 8 days of recollection, 5 retreats, monthly meetings with spiritual advisers and an annual summer 10 week pastoral experience. If this regimen appears to be overwhelming, Lenny Thomas is taking it in stride. Remember, he was a fearless competitor as captain of the basketball team while also being an academic scholar in his BLS days. While working full time as a probation officer and raising a family, he thought nothing of being a disc jockey on weekends. We feel sorry for the others in the program trying to keep up with him. Best wishes, Lenny!

New Officers Appointed

The Alumni Association elects new officers to the Board of Directors. Tony Fisher returns as Chairman. Mark Cotter will assume responsibility for the website. All other officers remain in their current positions. The vice-chairman position is currently vacant. The board encourages more alumni and friends of the Alumni Association to take a more active role in our mission to foster vocations to the priesthood. Please contact Tony Fisher at (412) 831-8898 or via e-mail at tony2002f@aol.com.

The BLS Alumni Association announces CD of the Month Club Fundraiser

The Bishop's Latin School Alumni Association has partnered with Lighthouse Catholic Media to provide an evangelization tool which helps Catholics to grow in their faith, to live their faith, and to share it with others. By living and sharing one's faith, a seed is planted in the hearts of young men. In March of this year, CARA () conducted a survey of 338 candidates for ordination regarding their vocation to the priesthood. They reported that the decision to become a priest was influenced most by the witness of priests in their lives and the example of holy men and women. Indeed, vocations to the priesthood can only flourish in a culture which is vitally and passionately Catholic. Page | 5

We are excited to announce a new fundraiser, Lighthouse Catholic Media's *CD of the Month Club*. Inspirational Catholic CDs are mailed to you each month that will build up your faith in God and give you inspiration in your life. These CDs include many conversion stories and cover topics like: *How to Get More Out of the Mass*, *How to Live Life with Purpose and Passion*, *How to Answer the Most Common Questions Catholics are Asked*, *How to Get Through the Hurts of Life*, *How to Overcome Bad Habits You Don't Like to See in Yourself*. November's release, entitled *Untold Stories of the Last Three Popes*, provides an inside look at the daily lives of Popes John Paul II, John Paul I and Paul VI by Bishop Magee, papal secretary . Speakers include people such as Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Archbishop Fulton Sheen, Dr. Scott Hahn, and Matthew Kelly.

We all have friends or relatives who have left the Church. The good news is that 53% of those who come back home to their Catholic Faith come back because someone gave them a Catholic CD or a book. Please seriously consider joining the CD of the Month.

The cost of your inspirational CD each month is only \$5. A portion of that money will go back to our Alumni Association. There is no risk because you can cancel your subscription at any time. To subscribe, complete the form on the back of this page and mail it to Mark Cotter or go to the BLS Alumni Association website, www.blsalum.org, and click on the link at the bottom of the page.

 <p>Click here for more information or to subscribe.</p>	<p>Each month, members receive an exciting talk by one of the great Catholic speakers of our time, like Fr. John Corapi, Dr. Scott Hahn, Jeff Cavins, Archbishop Fulton Sheen, and many more.</p>
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