

Saint Francis de Sales
SEMINARY



Salt *of* *the* Earth

A Saint Francis de Sales Seminary Communication

Fall 2022



CELEBRATING THE SALESIANUM

Our Storied History Begins a New Chapter

The Seminary community gathers after the Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee installed the Very Reverend Luke N. Strand as 20th rector of Saint Francis de Sales Seminary.

3 Annual Seminary Dinner

4 New Rector Installation

8 Scenes from the Salesianum



A Word from Our Rector

Filled with Hope

Dear Friends,

Standing at the door of the Wisconsin Center, I was edified to thank the hundreds – thousands – of friends who joined us for the 2022 Annual Dinner. As each departed, many repeated the same phrase, “Father, I am so filled with hope. Thank you.”

Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ’s promises. (CCC#1817). It is not mere optimism or positivity. Rather, it is a gift from God – a grace that helps us to rely more and more on Him.

At the beginning of the dinner, we entrusted the evening to Our Blessed Mother, Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. We prayed that our time together would lead us into greater union with God and would prove to be a time of conversion. To be filled with hope means to be filled with the goodness of God. To depart in hope is to depart in trust, in faith, and in greater fortitude.

Friends, thank you for making the Annual Dinner an occasion of hope. Thank you for your sacrificial generosity and prayers. Thank you for your support of Saint Francis de Sales Seminary.

Let us pray together, an Act of Hope:

O Lord God,
I hope by your grace for the pardon
of all my sins
and after life here to gain eternal happiness
because you have promised it
who are infinitely powerful, faithful, kind,
and merciful.
In this hope I intend to live and die.
Amen.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Luke N. Strand
Rector

Annual Seminary Dinner

FORTITUDE draws record attendance of 2,000

The 20th Annual Seminary Dinner was held at the Wisconsin Center on Friday, October 7 – the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The evening began in prayer and ended with a call to support the men who will pass on the faith. The lively program and videos were frequently interrupted by applause from the exuberant gathering.

Thank you to all who made it a powerful event in support of priestly formation! Links to the videos shown at the dinner are posted at www.sfs.edu/AnnualDinner. Save the date for next year’s dinner – October 6, 2023.



Archbishop Jerome Listeki presents our 19th rector, Fr. John Hemsing, with the Johnny Award for his outstanding service to the Seminary.



Aaron Siehr (Milwaukee) gives a powerful talk on spiritual fatherhood.



The sold-out ballroom is a testament to the dedication of our benefactors.



Co-chairs Julie Malucha and Fr. Patrick Burns kick off the evening with enthusiasm.



Two thousand people pray a decade of the rosary together.



Our men make sure every table is greeted by a seminarian.



The Schola Cantorum offers beautiful hymns of praise.



The formation faculty are brought onstage as Fr. Strand explains the formation program.



80 seminarians is a beautiful sight for the faith-filled crowd!



Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKi presides over the Order of Installation.

A New Beginning

Fr. Luke Strand becomes rector

After 177 years of continuous formation, the list of Salesianum rectors finally reached #20 when Fr. Luke Strand began his tenure on June 21. He was formally installed by Archbishop Jerome ListECKi during a beautiful Mass on Sunday, August 28. The Order of Installation included Fr. Strand making a Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity with his hand on the Book of Gospels.

Later in the day, priests from throughout the state arrived for Solemn Evening Prayer and Eucharistic Benediction. Fr. Strand's brother, Fr. Jacob Strand, offered a homily on priestly unity, and paid tribute to the new rector: "We have all come to celebrate the installation of the 20th rector of this Seminary. But *he* has invited us to come to celebrate the gift of the priesthood of Jesus Christ."

The seminarians worked from early morning until late at night to help make the day special. The Schola Cantorum sang at both liturgies, while other teams handled the receptions and meals that followed each service. An anonymous benefactor kindly underwrote the entire day.

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Over 200 people worship together during the Mass in Christ King Chapel.



Fr. Strand's parents, Bernadette and Jerry Strand, bring up the offertory gifts.



Fr. Luke Strand presides during Evening Prayer and Eucharistic Benediction.



Over 100 priests come together for Evening Prayer.



Fr. Jacob Strand preaches during Evening Prayer.



Fr. Strand greets guests at the luncheon following Mass.



Seminarians help to make the installation events go smoothly.



Fr. Strand is congratulated by his former rector, the now-Bishop Donald J. Hying of Madison.

Our 2022 – 2023 Seminarists

These are the men answering the Lord's call.



Archdiocese of Milwaukee – Front row: Quinn Rusch, Joshua Miller, Dominic Van Hecke, Noah Giebel, Matthew Kehoe, Scott Zarling, Aidan Parks, Bennett Feudner, Andrew Lesniewski. Second row: Spencer Wagner, Adam Widder, Christopher Moede, Timothy Heyrman, Charles Pomroy, Andrew Beine, Michael Milam, Eric Kohr. Third row: Dennis Beltré, Brady Gagne, Alejandro Rivera, Redmond Tuttle, William Murray, Zachary Galante, Kevin Durand, Dcn Ryan Ackmann. Fourth row: Dcn Joseph Heit, Charles Luke, Peter Danner, Craig Richter, John Lesniewski, Dominic Lazzaroni, Denny Jacob, Joel Kolb, Dcn Kenneth Anyanwu. Back row: Alexander Becker, Nicholas Waddell, Dcn Kevin Tanel, Oliver Niles, Dcn Michael Courchaine, Aaron Siehr, Nicholas Dhein, Timothy Sanchez, Andrew Swietlik, David Sweeney. Not pictured: Jacob Bruns and Gabriel Flores.



Diocese of Superior – Front row: Andrew Kreye. Second row: Carl Oman, Scott Pederson. Back row: Dcn Daniel Tracy, Dcn Julian Druffner, Dcn Isaiah Schick.



Diocese of Green Bay – Front row: Olivier Ndorimana, Robert Reynebeau, Nicholas Vande Hey, Michael Janczakowski, Jacob Bovee. Back row: Joseph Cherney, Nathan Budde, Mark Rydell, Juan Carlos Altamirano, John Sparks.



Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana – Jason Diebolt.



Diocese of Madison – Front row: Ryan Ruhle, Dcn William Kearley, Dcn Mark Foley, Bradley Grobbel, David Jaramillo. Back row: Barry Meinholz, David Drefcinski, Dcn Simon Tipps, Casey Cooney, Anthony Kersting.



Diocese of La Crosse – Front row: Dcn Alex Kren. Second row: Joseph Glatczak, John Duranso. Back row: Matthew Szymanski, Dcn John Zweber, Brian Ward.



Diocese of Gary – Dcn Robert Ross.



Scenes from the Salesianum

The fall Eucharistic Procession around our campus is a deeply moving encounter with the Lord.



Esteemed alumnus Bishop Emeritus Fabian W. Bruskewitz of the Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska visits over the summer. Accompanying him is Lincoln's Vicar General Fr. Justin Fulton, Chancellor Fr. Daniel Rayer, and Fr. Luke Strand.



Alejandro Rivera (Milwaukee) meets some of his new Teaching Parish committee members from Holy Family, Whitefish Bay during orientation for new Teaching Parishes.



Fr. Joe Laramie, S.J. helps our men enter into a new year of formation with a Day of Reflection entitled, "My Heart, His Heart, All Hearts."



Anthony Kersting (Madison), Dcn Dan Tracy (Superior) and Dcn Joseph Heit (Milwaukee) have fun with a first-day-of-school tradition at the Seminary.

Upcoming Events at the Seminary

St. Andrew Dinner | Thursday, December 22

Mass, dinner, and discussions for young men high school age or older

Duc In Altum | January 13 - 15, 2023

Silent discernment retreat for young adult men ages 18-35

Ethics Lecture | Monday, February 27, 2023

Dr. Matthew Levering will present *The Spirit of Truth and the Ordinary Universal Magisterium: Infallibility, Revisability, and How to Understand Magisterial Teaching.*

de Chantal | Tuesday, February 28, 2023,

led by Fr. John Baumgardner

Tuesday, May 9, led by Fr. Justin Kizewski

Visit www.sfs.edu for more information.



The rain does not dampen the spirits of Mike and Fifi Stevens and Bill and Trish Reilly at our June 13 golf outing.



The enthusiastic golfers have a great time connecting with friends at the Pallium Scholarship Benefit.

Meyer Hall and Salzmänn Library

Two key buildings, named for former rectors, are updated for today's seminarians.

At the Annual Dinner one year ago, the Seminary asked for donations to transform Meyer Hall to accommodate our growing enrollment. The tremendous outpouring of support allowed us to renovate the 1902 building into 27 new student rooms, plus a kitchen, lounge, and laundry room. The renovation of its chapel is next! Fifteen seminarians were able to move into Meyer Hall in time for the new school year.

On the other side of campus, work also began on Salzmänn Library. This treasure, with its impressive column façade, was built in 1906 as a 50th anniversary gift from alumni priests. It features terrazzo floors and an outstanding view of our woods, not to mention an impressive collection of books. The library needs functional updates with creating more study space for all our seminarians as the first priority. This summer's initial phase included taking down an interior wall to open the first floor and repair of the terrazzo floor. Generous benefactors have come forward to donate both time and money to get the work done.



Salzmänn Library is a popular place for seminarians to meet for small group or independent study.



Meyer Hall's kitchen features a refinished terrazzo floor, new cabinets, and appliances.



Cream City Brick walls are left exposed in many of the new student rooms in Meyer Hall.



Meyer Hall's basement lounge has original hardwood floors and a Cream City Brick wall.



The library's newly wide-open first floor boasts a splendid view of fall foliage and a gleaming terrazzo floor.



Ordinations

The second round of our 2022 ordinations completed a joyful season of celebrating.

The Seminary contingent in La Crosse included five formators who participated in the ordination of Fr. Matthew Bowe and Fr. Steven Weller by Bishop William P. Callahan, O.F.M. Conv. Fr. Bowe is from St. Paul's in Bloomer and is now serving at Queen of the Apostles, Tomah. Fr. Weller is from St. Florian in Hatley and is serving at Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Wisconsin Rapids.

One of the gifts of being a provincial seminary is having the opportunity to celebrate Mass in different churches. Our seminarians are typically ordained to the transitional diaconate and priesthood by their own bishops in their diocesan cathedrals. Following ordination, there is usually a

Mass of Thanksgiving in the newly ordained's home parish. Thus, the Seminary community found itself driving many miles over the spring and summer to attend eight ordinations and 22 Masses of Thanksgiving! From Superior to Gary, Indiana, it was a joy to be with our seminarians in their hometowns.



Bishop Donald J. Hying of the Diocese of Madison celebrates with Fr. Matthew Pearson. Fr. Pearson is from St. Patrick in Doylestown and is serving at St. John Vianney and Nativity of Mary, Janesville.



Dcn Robert Ross is elated after his ordination by Bishop Robert J. McClory of the Diocese of Gary.



Bishop James P. Powers of the Diocese of Superior rejoices at having three new transitional deacons: Dcn Julian Druffner, Dcn Daniel Tracy, and Dcn Isaiah Schick.

Shoremen Win!

Our teams take the Thunder Cup Tournament by storm

For the second year in a row, our seminarians won both the volleyball and soccer championships at the Thunder Cup Tournament at Conception Seminary College in Conception, Missouri! Go Shoremen!



Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, Inc.
3257 South Lake Drive
St. Francis, WI 53235

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The team congratulates goalie Kevin Durand (Milwaukee) after his saves win the shootout for the Shoremen.



John Lesniewski (Milwaukee) jumps to deliver a winning spike.



Our men celebrate two first place finishes, two years in a row!

For more information or to support the mission of Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, visit our website at www.sfs.edu.
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(414) 747-6400