



THE LOG

Divine Word College

October 19
2021

A Bulletin for the Divine Word College Community

Vol. 41 No. 10

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THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD*

Rivers do not drink their own water. . .

A beautiful quotation, popular in Spanish and English, has roots in Hindu culture of the 14th century. The first verse reflects sentiments expressed in a Sanskrit proverb.

Nothing in nature lives for itself.
The rivers do not drink their own water;
the trees do not eat their own fruit;
the sun does not shine on itself and
flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves.

Living for others is a rule of nature.
We are all born to help each other.
No matter how difficult it is...
Life is good when you are happy;
but much better when others are happy because of you.

Many other variants have been produced by writers in the past twenty years. Perhaps somewhat doubtfully, the second verse is often attributed to Pope Francis. In any case, the quotation communicates many of his favorite themes.



As we approach Mission Sunday 2021, I find myself captivated by the line: "Living for others is a rule of nature." The purpose of being a human – our common mission – is to reach out to God, to other humans and to all creation. St. Paul had a similar insight in mind when he wrote in his letter to the Romans:



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None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. (14:7-9).

American culture has always stressed individual freedom. However, freedom is to be balanced with individual responsibility. We sing in the national anthem, "... the land of the free, and the home of the brave." In the current situation, marked by polarizing politics, overly confrontational media, and the COVID-19 pandemic, we need enough bravery to balance personal wants and needs with the urgent needs of many others. We do not live for ourselves.

I live here at Divine Word College along with my brother SVDs. We are giving ourselves away to the DWC community and to the surrounding area. We believe that God is calling us to this mission. It is a way of life that brings me a great deal of joy.

As we celebrate Mission Sunday with the theme of Think Global, Act Local, I will be musing over a few inspiring poetic lines:

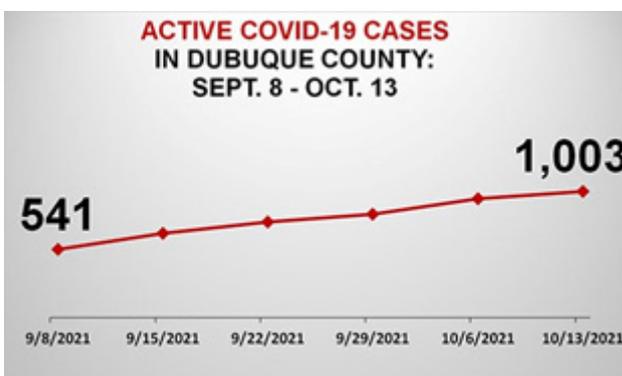
None of us lives for oneself,
Rivers do not drink their own water;
Living for others is a rule of nature.

DWC COVID-19 Dashboard

	Number of Tests	Tested Positive	Number Self-Isolated	Number Recovered	Vaccination Completed
2020-2021	913	101	101	101	129
August 1- Sept. 4	231	0	0	0	4
Sept. 5 - Oct. 2	78	0	0	0	2
Oct. 3 - 9	35	0	0	0	0
Oct. 10 - 16	20	0	0	0	0

While the number of COVID-19 cases nationwide is declining, the number is still climbing in Dubuque County. This past week it was reported that last week there were 85 active cases of the infection among the 902 students at Western Dubuque High School! Not surprisingly, the cases emerged after homecoming celebrations of the previous week. The number of active cases at West Dubuque has now declined to 43.

As we look to celebrate Mission Sunday, please be careful to wear a mask, and be grateful that our DWC community is 97% vaccinated.





Spring 2021 Assessment Project Data

As discussed on various occasions during the past year, we have been working on the Spring 2021 AQUA Assessment Project! During this first round, we aimed at gathering data for the following programs through the Spring 2021 AQUA Assessment Project:

ICS	PHI	IDS	CORE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BA/ICS/1 • BA/ICS/3 • BA/ICS/4 • BA/ICS/5 • BA/ICS/6 • AA/ICS/1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BA/PHI/1 • BA/PHI/2 • BA/PHI/3 • BA/PHI/4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AA/IDS/3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CORE 2 A (Written Communication) • CORE 2 B (Oral Communication)

An initial look at the data reveals the following information:

- The general **average** for all assessed **ICS** categories was between 2.22 and 2.8.
- The general **average** for all assessed **PHI** categories was between 2.27 and 3.27.
- The general **average** for the assessed **IDS** category was 2.12.
- The general **average** for all assessed **CORE** categories was between 2.52 and 3.04.

Please note that the given findings present one round of data collection, which is not sufficient to make sound data-driven recommendations. However, the data still yield insightful information and a snapshot of a current situation.

Next year, when another set of data is available, we will be able to produce comparative data.

All given data has been disseminated among the college faculty via department meetings and will again be discussed during the Faculty Senate on October 26th. The Academic Assessment Committee has also met (October 14) to discuss the findings and make specific recommendations for each program. If you have any questions or would like to provide feedback, please email me and we can set up a time to talk! Thank you to all who have so graciously offered and provided their time to make this first project so successful!

The complete data and a summary of each set can be found on the Populi DWC Assessment Site! Please join our group if you have not already done so!

VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD

Liturgy Preparation

Liturgy Prep is scheduled for Thursday, October 21, at its usual time of 1:00 pm in the main chapel. Attendance is mandatory.

Mission Sunday

Happy World Mission Sunday! All Catholics around the world will be celebrating World Mission Sunday on October 24. It is a remarkable event that we are called to recommit ourselves to the proclamation of the Gospel. In his message for 2021, Pope Francis reminds and challenges us to share the gift we have received (Acts 4:20). The theme of this year's Mission Sunday, the DWC community recommits ourselves to "think global and act locally." Concretely, the proceeds of the collection during this celebration will go to help the people of Myanmar.

The detailed program of activities is posted on the Student Board. Please read it carefully and plan with your formation groups/community accordingly, so that we can have a well-coordinated and smooth celebration. Let us join with the Church in celebrating the presence of Christ in our midst.

Taste Of DWC 2021

Sincere gratitude to all the DWC chefs for your willingness to prepare a cultural dish and share it with the entire community as we celebrate World Mission Sunday. The Taste of DWC needs you to be successful! In order to make our preparation possible, please pay attention to the following points:

Friday Night And Saturday (October 22- October 23)

- The main kitchen and Martha's kitchen are reserved until midnight for all the chefs to prepare their meals. Please note that the kitchen staff are still working, respect their working space.
- All common ingredients such as pepper, salt, sugar, onion, cooking oil, etc. are available in the kitchen for you to use. Please put them back after you are done.
- You can use cooking utilities such as pots and pans. Please be gracious to clean them and put them back where you found them.

Vocation Mass

The formation group of St. Teresa of Calcutta will organize a vocational Mass on Wednesday, October 27. Please come to support and pray with Fr. Stephen Kha Nguyen, SVD, and members of St. Teresa of Calcutta for the growth of vocations in religious life and for the work of missionaries all around the world.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS

Mr. Len Uhal

Presidential Scholarship

Congratulations to **Fr. Engelbertus Salmon, SVD**, and **Sr. Diem Thi Hong Ngo, IHM**, who were selected as the 2021-22 recipients of the Divine Word College Presidential Scholarship!

Divine Word College first awarded the Presidential Scholarship in 1979. This scholarship is a recognition of and an honor for students who show promise of superior academic achievement. The scholarship includes an annual award of \$3,000 renewable each year the recipient continues to meet the established guidelines.

Current DWC students who continue to receive the Presidential Scholarship include Sr. Magdalene, Formilack, SST, Omar Gonzalez, Sr. Liem Thi Hoang Nguyen, IHM, Sr. Tram Thi Thu Tran, IHM, and Sr. Thuy Thi Tran, LHC.



Come and See Visitors

Currently Brandon Vu from Thornton, Colorado, and Andrew Caffro from South Bend, Indiana, are visiting campus. They will be joined by Hoa Kim Pham from Houston, Texas, who will arrive on campus this Thursday, October 21. Andrew leaves this week on Wednesday, but the other two will be with us for Mission Sunday. Hoa plans to leave on Sunday and Brandon on the 26th. This campus visit is a helpful experience for each of these young men as they continue to discern God's call in their lives. Thank you for your support.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS

Mr. Steve Winger

For your information

Natural gas providers are warning customers that the cost of heating is going to be a lot more this winter. According to industry experts, the cost for companies to acquire natural gas has changed dramatically after a drop in production and rise in demand. Customers can expect bills to increase by "anywhere from 46 to 96 percent" during the heating season, which runs from November to March.





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|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| October 22 | No Classes (ESL & UG) |
| October 24 | Mission Sunday |
| October 25 | No Classes // Faculty In-Service (ESL & UG) |
| October 26 | DWC Blood Drive -- 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM in the gym |
| November 3-5 | Registration – Undergraduate Spring 2022 Semester |