Missionary feasting

“Come to the feast, of heaven and earth. Come to the table of plenty.” That’s the way the song begins, and it continues to resound in me in these days after our Mission Sunday celebration.

Fr. Frank Tinajero’s presence was a wonderful ingredient for the feast. He shared some stories and reflections on his many years of ministry to prisoners and with those who have been released from prison. He stressed: “It is only in recognizing our humbled human condition, that we become more aware of God’s mercy and compassion. This is what I have found in my experience with the many people incarcerated I have come to know in penitentiaries. They know what they have done, yet despite the darkness, there still is found that light of hope (in them) that illumines the darkness.” By telling a bit of their story Fr. Frank brought them to the feast!

It has been three years since our last open celebration of Mission Sunday. The pandemic had kept our doors closed for a while, but this year were delighted to welcome a big number of guests (300?) gathered from our Dubuque County neighborhood, alumni from the Theologate and from around the country, folks from our ministry sites in the Quad Cities and Cedar Rapids, and a really good number of Sisters from the Franciscans, Presentations, BVM’s and SSpS. We ourselves were decked out in colorful ethnic party clothes, and many of the guests added further to the colorful display.

All of us gathered together were the second great ingredient for our feast of heaven and earth. When we looked around, we could feel the glory of the gathering of God’s peoples. All together, we were witnesses to the great homecoming we will experience in the Reign of God, where there will be people of every nation, race, people, and tongue (Rv 7:9). If you want to get a feel for our celebration, check out https://youtu.be/XvBxHURzMGA

continued next page
Fr. Thang Hoang, our rector commented in a message to the community today: “I personally feel so uplifted and inspired by the creativity, hard work, and collaboration of the whole community. Thus, I would like to express my deep gratitude to all students, staff, and SVDs who had put so much time and effort into this beautiful celebration. You have shown the world a foretaste of what heaven is like when people from all different cultures, languages, and ways of life come together to work, enjoy each other company, and celebrate the mission that God has entrusted to each of us.”

The third ingredient? Oh, there was FOOD, and FOOD, and FOOD. That might be part of the “foretaste” that Fr. Thang mentioned. The kitchens at DWC were very busy as more than 60 dishes from around the world were prepared by students, staff, SVDs and friends.

One of my favorite descriptions of missionary outreach is: Mission is one beggar, telling another beggar, where there is bread. At our missionary feast, we did our best to share food and joy and welcome. It was a very good day at our table of plenty.

**SSpS Congregational Leader to Visit DWC**

On Wednesday, Oct 26 we expect a visit from **Sr. Miriam Altenhofen SSpS**, the Congregational Leader of the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit. It will be an honor to welcome her for a brief visit at lunch time. I’m sure she will be happy to see our busy, diverse and joyful community here in Iowa.

Sr. Miriam began her service as Congregational Leader earlier this year. She is German, made her first vows in 1984 and her perpetual vows in 1990. She studied Pastoral Theology and has a Master’s degree in Psychology. Previously she had worked in Botswana, Germany and Rome, offering service as a formator, facilitator, therapeutic accompanist, and general councilor.
Mission Sunday Appreciation

On behalf of the Formation and Student Life Committee, I would like to congratulate and express our heartfelt gratitude to the kitchen staff, faculty, SVD members, and all the students for all the hard work you contributed to a successful, jubilant, and meaningful Mission Sunday celebration. As a community, we have witnessed God’s oneness in diversity through the multicultural liturgy and the Taste of DWC. Fr. Rector Thang Hoang commented in his email, “you have shown the world a foretaste of what [the kingdom of God] is like when people from all different cultures, languages, and ways of life come together to work, pray, enjoy each other company, and celebrate the mission that God has entrusted to each of us.”

A successful Mission Sunday was indeed a teamwork effort. Special thanks to musicians, cantors, dancers, flag bearers, altar servers, ushers, sacristans, student association groups, the DWC chefs, live stream technicians, public relations staff, and all those who helped or worked behind the scenes to make the Mission Sunday Celebration possible. We did it! Congrats.

Formation Group Weekend Retreat

The formation groups of Romans and Colossians will make their annual retreat this weekend, beginning Friday, October 28 until Sunday October 30, in East Troy, Wisconsin. The members of the Romans group will start their retreat journey a few days in advance leading to their weekend retreat. Please remember them in your prayers, Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD, Fr. Raymond Akumbilim, SVD and their formation group members. May they be filled with God’s grace and love.

Halloween Party

The Student Senate will organize the Halloween party on Friday, October 28, beginning with evening prayer at 5:15 PM in the main chapel. There will be activities prepared in the dining room and followed by the supper. More information will be posted on the Student Board. Be alert! Happy Halloween!

All Souls Day

The college chaplain, Fr. Sonny de Class, SVD, reminds us that for the celebration of All Souls Day on Wednesday, November 2, Divine Word College Community will pray for the souls of our friends, benefactors and loved ones. Please write down their names and put them in the urn placed at the front door of the main chapel.
**Spiritual Director Professional Development.**

Sr. Anna Trang Mai, IHM and Fr. Simon Thoi Hoang, SVD have been granted professional funding to attend the Federation of Seminary Spiritual Directors Conference, at St. Mary’s Abbey in Morristown, New Jersey, from October 27-30. The topic for this conference is “Spiritual Direction Skills and How the new edition of the Program for Priestly Formation shapes seminary spiritual direction ministry.”

**Dubuque Area Vocation Association (DAVA)**

On Wednesday of this week, DAVA members will be on campus for a meeting hosted by the SVD Vocation Office. Three members will be present for lunch, including Sr. Skolastika Wea, SSpS, and another 2-3 will arrive in time for the 1:00 PM meeting. A few members will also join us via Zoom as we discuss ways to collaborate and promote vocations to priestly and religious vocations.

**The Word Among Us**

Later this week, vocation office staff will distribute copies of the new edition of The Word Among Us. The new issue will be for November. Students, watch your mailboxes! A few additional copies will be available in the vocation office as well as some issues in Spanish. Please pray for the benefactor that makes this resource available to us.

**Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Council**

**Divine Word College**

**Native American Heritage Celebration Week**

**October 31 - November 4, 2022**

The Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation Council invites members of the DWC community to learn more about Native American people, celebrate culture, and participate in social justice advocacy by commemorating Native American Cultural Heritage Month through a week long exploration of interculturality of the relationship between Native and non-Native Americans.

**See the flyer attached to this LOG for full details**
by Liz Winter

In mid-October I attended the Iowa Library Association’s annual conference in Coralville, IA. Keynote speakers Hayden Kristal, Mitali Perkins, and Ty Rushing each imparted the audience with poignant calls to action that riffed on the conference’s theme of “It’s all Connected: Libraries, Communities, Equity, and Information.” Please see my Dialogos article for a recap of those speakers. Ty Rushing’s call to action was especially prescient in light of current events. He urged the audience (of mostly librarians) to continue the fight against censorship.

Censorship efforts are alive and well in the United States. From January to August 2022, there were 681 attempts to ban books in libraries. Distressingly, 2022 has seen the highest number of attempted book bans since the American Library Association (ALA) began documenting this information 20 years ago.

The Matthew Jacoby Library stands in solidarity with librarian’s who are fighting censorship efforts. We are looking for ways to highlight the importance of the free flow of information. One of those ways is to publicize the ALA’s Library Bill of Rights, which most libraries ascribe to. Many of you have not likely heard about the Library Bill of Rights, but this document is integral to the Matthew Jacoby Library’s mission, policies and procedures, and operation. Please take the time to read through the Library Bill of Rights.

Library Bill of Rights
The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

1. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.

2. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

3. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

4. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

5. A person’s right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

6. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they
serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

7. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people’s privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.


Inclusion of “age” reaffirmed January 23, 1996.


DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Cycle Challenge a success!

Our first-ever Divine Word College Cycle Challenge is in the books and was a great success! Thirty bicyclists raised more than $17,000 to help our students with their educational expenses. The bicyclists rode more than 3140 miles – which would be like riding from Seattle, Washington to Tampa, Florida.

Thank you to all of our employees and students who donated, or rode their bicycles and encouraged friends and family to donate. Your help is greatly appreciated! Congratulations to Len Uhal for raising the most donations in the employee contest with more than $2,000.

Start getting your bicycles tuned up and be ready to join us next year!

Click the link below to see a special thank you from DWC students.

All Souls Day November 2

Our annual All Souls Day Mass and reception will be Wednesday, November 2. Many friends of Divine Word College will be here for 8 am Mass followed by a reception. Everyone is invited join our guests for the reception in the dining room.

The All Souls Day Mass is a special way for all who attend to remember a loved one who passed away during the previous year. Remembering a loved one with a Mass can be a very helpful part of the grieving process for many people. With that in mind, we want to make this a very special day for all who attend.

In order to save room for our guests, all employees are asked to please park in the spaces on the north side of the swimming pool.
KIMBERLY BURNETT-HACKBARTH
REGISTRAR

INSPIRATION
People who are joyful despite difficulties

RANDOM FACT
I still hold a record for the farthest frisbee throw of 121 feet from the 1987 Dubuque Schools Elementary Track Meet

FAVORITE SUPERHERO
Professor X from X-Men

KARAOKE FAVORITE
Secret by Madonna

WHAT TAKES UP TOO MUCH OF YOUR TIME?
Mowing my grass and manicuring my lawn
Divine Word College
Native American Heritage Celebration Week
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Events will take place in the Pour House throughout the week and span the month of November

**Monday, October 31 - Native American Music Mindfulness Experience**
Join us over the lunch hour learning about traditional and contemporary Native American music. Participants will get a chance to see traditional Native American instruments.

**Tuesday, November 1 - Celebration of Native American Saints and Missionaries**
Come learn about Lakota and Christian Holy Man Black Elk. Wanting to be known as a Lakota and a Christian, Black Elk was a missionary for the Church. The documentary shown will begin at 12:00pm and runs approximately 1 hour.

**Wednesday, November 2 - Elimination and Assimilation of Native Americans**
Life on reservations has been unbearable and unjust for many Native American communities. The documentary, *Dakota 38* presents historical events leading to the largest federal execution in US history. This film will start promptly at 11:40am and lasts 1.5 hours.

**Thursday, November 3 - Native American Representation in Media and Culture**
American culture idolized Native American identity, commercializing it in American media and culture. The documentary, *Reel Injun*, presents that history and attempts by Native artists to present and preserve more authentic Native experience. The documentary will begin at 11:40am and lasts 1.5 hours.

**Friday, November 4 - Food for Thought: Life on the Reservation**
Come enjoy the taste of Three Sisters Soup, while learning about contemporary life on reservations. The three sisters (corn, beans, and squash) are central to traditional Native American agricultural practices and the foods provided nutrition and sustenance over the long winters on the Plains. It is also a traditional meal of the Meskwaki, a tribe headquartered in Iowa that once lived in what is now Epworth.