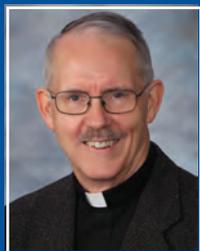


## A Word from the President:



Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD

You've probably heard of Christmas in July...how about Thanksgiving in May?

Words of congratulations abound in May as the school year ends and our graduates take center stage. However there is one detail I always find inspiring.

During the commencement exercises, the students walk in behind the department banners. Then the faculty enter. With their many-colored academic gowns honoring their scholarship and the universities where they studied, their entrance reminds me of the wide experience they bring to Divine Word College. They share it with us as a gift. Unlike the graduates, their academic finery does not provoke in me an expression of congratulations. What I feel is tremendous gratitude.

The DWC faculty is simply extraordinary. I am grateful for their solidarity and mutual respect for one another. I am even more thankful that the faculty genuinely love the students. They consistently show care and friendship that is far above expectations at other schools. This allows our students to thrive and to achieve far beyond their own expectations.

I say, "Thank You – Merci – Gracias – Cảm ơn."

That is my Thanksgiving in May.

Fr. Tom

## Congratulations



**Marc Declama**  
Haiti

- BA Philosophy
- BA Intercultural Studies
- Future Plan: Attend the SVD Novitiate at Techny



**Sr. Bich Hong Nguyen, LHC**  
Vietnam

- BA Theology & Religious Studies
- Future Plan: Continue studies in pastoral ministry



**Kodjo Emon**  
Togo

- AA Intercultural Studies
- Future Plan: Attend the SVD Novitiate at Techny



**Ha Van Nguyen**  
Vietnam

- BA Philosophy
- Future Plan: Study for the priesthood



**Sr. Cecilia Foleng, SST**  
Cameroon

- BA Theology & Religious Studies
- Future Plan: Pursue master's degree



**Huy Nguyen**  
Vietnam/U.S.

- BA Philosophy
- Future Plan: Attend the SVD Novitiate at Techny



**Sr. Florence Wairimu Muturi, LSOSF**  
Kenya

- BA Theology & Religious Studies
- Future Plan: In discussion with superiors



**Thinh Nguyen**  
Vietnam

- AA Interdisciplinary Studies
- Future Plan: Lay ministry