



THE LOG

Divine Word College

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A Bulletin for the Divine Word College Community

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Birthday Corner

March

- 1 Dr. Seo Hyun Park
- 2 Fr. Sonny de Class, SVD
- 3 Bro. Brian McLaughlin, SVD
- 3 Fr. Trung Thanh Nguyen, CRM

THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD*

Books for Lent

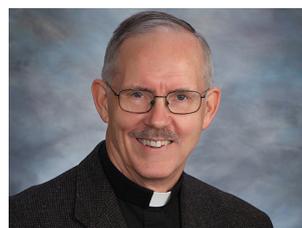
“Free books!”

At the entrance to the DWC dining room, there is a table reserved for things that people would like to give away/recycle. Everything is available at an unbeatable, missionary price – FREE. Depending on the day, you might find knick knacks, socks, holy cards, used purses, backpacks, or a little bit of everything else.

A couple of months ago, I was in the dining room when some students came in and noticed the table piled high with cast-offs from the library. One student loudly exclaimed, “Free books!” Other students began circling the table, and soon a few more came to see what the fuss was about. In minutes, the table was cleared. In the last few days, we have had a particularly rich supply of books donated by the Dubuque Sisters of Charity of the BVM. Six or seven titles have found a new home on my own stack of books to read.

As we enter the Lenten season, I am reminded of a bit of wisdom from when I was doing doctoral studies. One day at a bookstore, a classmate remarked that there is a reading room in purgatory. The rules are: *you have to read every book you ever bought before you can enter heaven!!!*

Oh my! I suspect there



will be plenty of SVD and SSpS missionaries in that reading room along with many, many college instructors. (I wonder if the purgatory rule also applies to free books.)

This morning I asked one of the instructors here, “What do you plan to give up for Lent.” She wants

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to give up something big – no TV; her plan is to use the extra time to read. I encouraged her to put the emphasis on the reading, and then the fasting from TV will be automatic. I'm not courageous enough to give up TV, but I am definitely going to do some extra reading.

If you are planning some extra Lenten Reading, here are a few suggestions:

- The Gospels and a commentary. One of the free books I picked up is Invitation to the Gospels (2002) by five famous Catholic Bible scholars: Paul Achtemeier, Daniel Harrington, Robert Karris, George MacRae and Don Senior. Fathers Karris and Senior were professors of mine in seminary.
- *An introduction to various stages of prayer*: Try one these short books by Thomas H. Greene, S.J. Opening to God, (1977 - beginning) When the Well Runs Dry (1979 - medium) and Experiencing God (2010 - advanced). I have learned a lot from Greene's writing and return to it regularly for a refresher.
- *Mere Christianity* (1952) by the Anglican lay theologian C.S. Lewis is a fascinating post WWII apologetic work. Lewis explains in clear language why he is (was) a Christian as he explores the fundamental teachings of Christianity.
- *Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis (1942) is a satire built of imaginary correspondence between a beginning tempter and Satan. Lent is always a good time to think about temptation and a good time to smile.

Maybe this Lent you will find the enthusiasm DWC students have for BOOKS! Personally, I hope to get some time off Purgatory.



Intro Video <https://youtu.be/qkBFNdY8HFM>

During the season of Lent, Divine Word College is sponsoring Ashes2Easter --- an educational series answering questions about LENT. The link above will take you to a brief video introducing the series.

You can follow the series by Liking and Following the college page on Facebook. Click on this link to go to the college page www.facebook.com/DWCseminaryEpworthIowa/

Transforming the World with Compassion

The Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters will begin their 15th General Chapter on April 15. Let us pray for the SSps in this important time of discernment. I have attached a modified version of the prayer that they are praying in these days.

Most Holy Trinity, we praise and thank you,
for calling us to share in your loving unity,
and for entrusting us with the mission,
of widening the circle of Communion.

We pray for the Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters
as they prepare for a General Chapter.
Send them your Holy Spirit
to guide them in their discernment.
Grant that they may be united
as they listen with compassion
to the longings of their Congregation
and the cry of our broken world.

Triune God,
all of us long to be immersed
in your life of love
and to share in your work
of transforming the world with compassion.
May the Holy Triune God live in our hearts
and in the hearts of all people.
Amen.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Fr. John Szukalski, SVD

Faculty Professional Development

Dr. Ron Condon—Chair of the Department of Theology & Philosophy [DTP]—and **Dr. Cathleen Cleary**—Chair of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies [DIS], have been granted professional development funding to attend the Department Chair Workshop sponsored by The Council of Independent Colleges [CIC] held April 2-4, 2020 in Des Moines, Iowa. This workshop is intended for new Department Chairs and covers the following topics: Department Chairs—Beyond the Job Description; Using Data Effectively; Hiring Practices; Faculty Performance Evaluation; Difficult Faculty Conversations; Becoming a Leader, and; Building and Maintaining a Collegial Department.

Dr. Jason Reed, Assistant Professor of Philosophy in the Department of Theology & Philosophy [DTP], has been granted professional development funding to attend the Development of Doctrine Conference held June 18-20, 2020 at Mount Mercy University in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Sabbatical Approved

Fr. Stephen-Kha Nguyen, SVD, D.Min., Assistant Professor of Theology in the Department of Theology & Philosophy [DTP], has been approved for a one-year Sabbatical Leave during the 2020-2021 academic year. Fr. Stephen-Kha will be teaching theology at the Dalat Diocesan Seminary in Vietnam.

ESL Faculty Candidate Interviews

The Search Committee for a Full-Time Instructor in ESL (August 2020) worked hard to review the many applications that were received and performed several remote interviews. Two of the three top candidates have already visited Divine Word College for the on-campus interview, with a third candidate interviewing this week, as indicated below. Thanks to the members of the Search Committee for their efforts to help secure a qualified ESL Instructor for August 2020 (Dr. Seo Hyun Park—Chair; Mr. Larry Udry; Ms. Gwyneth Gates, and; Dr. Richard Garrett).

- Monday, February 17, 2020: Ms. Sofia Ballicora
- Friday, February 21, 2020: Mr. Lucas Derry
- Thursday, February 27, 2020: Dr. Ashley Heiberger

Kudos for Divine Word College

On February 17, 2020, Fr. Mike Patella, OSB and Ms. Donelle Poling from St. John's University in Collegeville, MN visited DWC to speak with students interested in potentially attending St. John's for graduate studies. Fr. Mike wrote back the following note, which reflects positively on DWC's faculty and students, on our academic and formation programs ... Congratulations to us!

"I know I have mentioned this before, but I still feel I must emphasize that students from Divine Word are among the best in our classes. Their language proficiency is really fine, and they bring with them a great trained skill set for graduate work. They also add so much to the community here; we are always pleased to have them at Saint John's."

Faculty Professional Development: Annual Data Collection for Calendar Year 2019

Divine Word College encourages and facilitates ongoing professional development for instructional faculty. Indeed, ongoing professional development is necessary for faculty to maintain “a high level of subject matter knowledge and ensures that course content is current, accurate, representative, and appropriate to the position of the course within the student’s program of studies.” (DWC Policy Handbook 7.05.01) One of the Higher Learning Commission’s criterion for accreditation states: “The institution has processes and resources for assuring that instructors are current in their disciplines and adept in their teaching roles; it supports their professional development.” (HLC Criterion 3.C.4)

Through the Office of the VP for Academic Affairs, the College provides ample opportunity and generous funding for faculty ongoing professional development both for internal events (Faculty Institute, Faculty In-Services, web-based training) and for participation in external events (professional conferences and workshops).

In order to accurately document that all faculty are actively engaged in ongoing professional development activities, the Office of the VP for Academic Affairs compiles and publishes an Annual Report on Faculty Professional Development for submission to the Board of Administration and the Board of Trustees. All faculty, excluding adjuncts, are kindly requested to briefly list their professional development activities during calendar year 2019 (January 1 – December 31) using the six categories indicated below. If there was no activity in a particular category, simply write “nothing to report.” Please email your report to the Registrar, Ms. Kimberly Burnett-Hackbarth, no later than noon on Friday, February 28, 2020. Thanks in advance for your collaboration.

- Professional Memberships
- Publications (Monograph/Article)
- Conference Presentations
- Conferences Attended
- Performances, Exhibitions
- Other (research, webinars, etc.)

* A listing of Safe Colleges Training modules will be included for each member automatically.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Bang Tran, SVD

Thank You

Many thanks to the formation group of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus for all their hard work to make our cultural dinner so delicious and enjoyable. Well done, thanks!

Lenten Season

The Lenten Season will begin with Ash Wednesday on February 26. During the Lenten Season all students are invited to pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7:00 PM in the main chapel organized by the following Formation Groups:

- 1st Week (28 February): Shalom & SVD Jr.
- 2nd Week (6 March): St. Therese of the Child Jesus
- 3rd Week (13 March): Romans
- 4th Week (20 March): Galatians
- 5th Week (27 March): St. Teresa of Avila
- 6th Week (3 April): Ephesians & Colossians

Mass for Vocations

The Mass for Vocations is scheduled for Friday, February 28, 2020. The formation group of Ephesians will be in charge of the Mass. Please come to pray for an increase of religious vocations, in a special way for the formation director of the Ephesians, Fr. Thang Hoang, SVD and his formation members.

Mid-Terms

In observance of the Mid-term week, there will be no ministry. Wishing you all the best of luck!

ESL Ministry

ESL Ministry is scheduled for Saturday, February 29, 2020. ESL students will visit the sisters of the Presentation in Dubuque. The list of those ESL students expected to go will be posted on the Student Board. Please gather at the front entrance promptly at 9:20 A.M for departure.

Cultural Dinner

The formation group of Romans will prepare a cultural dinner on Sunday, March 1, and as usual it will be served at 5:00 P.M in the dining room. Come to celebrate our community night.

Spring Break

Spring Break Vacation begins Sunday, March 8. Those students planning to travel please inform the Dean and give him all of your travel information by noon of Monday, March 2nd. For those students who stay at DWC during the Spring Break, you will have to contribute three (3) hours of community service each day to defray the cost. If the Dean does not hear from you by noon of March 2nd, you will be assigned to any community service available. Enjoy and have fun!

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS *Mr. Len Uhal*

Honor Scholarships

Divine Word College's Honor Scholarships are for SVD Candidates. Historically, they were only for domestic students (U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents). However, the Board of Administration changed the guidelines last year and now the scholarships are available to all SVD candidates who meet the scholarship criteria, including international students. Each SVD candidate should have received an application for the scholarships last week at the Wednesday night formation group meetings. The applications are due Friday before spring break, March 6. All SVD candidates are highly encouraged to apply for the nine available scholarships if you meet the scholarship criteria. If you have questions, please see Carolyn Waechter or Len Uhal.

Spread the Word

Most students at Divine Word College learn about the College from Divine Word Missionaries, or from current or former students. Please help spread the word about Divine Word College and the programs we offer for local and international students. As a reminder, the Vocation Office offers current Divine Word College students a stipend for referrals of young men who may be interested in discerning a religious vocation with the Divine Word Missionaries. See Len Uhal for details.

Some students will leave campus for spring break. Please help spread the word about Divine Word College wherever you visit. Feel welcome to stop by the Vocation Office to take some prayer cards and brochures with you. Tell others your story—the Divine Word College story—and they may be curious to learn more. The Admissions Office is always grateful for any and all assistance in helping us find more students to attend Divine Word College. Thank you!

The Word Among Us

The Vocation Office distributed the most recent issue of *The Word Among Us* and placed them in students' mailboxes yesterday. We placed a few extra copies in the SVD lounges and there are a few left in the Vocation Office. We also have some copied in Spanish. If you would like one, please stop by the Vocation Office.

Mass for Vocations

We look forward to celebrating our monthly Mass for Vocations on Friday and appreciate the Ephesians Formation Group planning the liturgy.

Where are they now?

Fr. Anthony and Fr. Francis are still in California. While, Fr. Francis plans to visit St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Santa Ana, CA this weekend, Fr. Anthony will continue to reach out and visit/call candidates. Fr. Adam returns to Chicago on Wednesday and will host a Come and See visitor in Chicago and at Divine Word College. He will arrive in Epworth Sunday night. Len and Bro. Duylinh are on campus this week if you need anything.



- February 29- March 1 World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend**
- March 18 HLC Assessment Academy Orientation, Chicago, IL**
- March 5 ESL Spring Term C 2020 – Classes End**
- March 6 ESL Spring Term C 2020 – End-of-Term Testing**
- March 9-13 NO CLASSES (Spring Break)**
- March 20 Student Resource Center Workshop**
“Professional Writing and Professional Presentation” – This workshop explores how to compose professional and effective documents and PowerPoint presentations.
- March 21 Student Lenten Recollection 10:00 am – 5:00 pm**
- March 22 Donaghey Award & Donor Appreciation Mass and Brunch 10:00 am Mass**
- March 28 Loras College Antioch Retreat Service 6 - 9 pm Held in Main Chapel**
- April 1-3 Registration for Fall 2020 Semester (UG)**
- April 3 Student Resource Center Workshop**
“APA Seventh Edition...What’s New?” – This workshop reviews major changes to APA citation and style in the new seventh edition.
- April 9-10 NO CLASSES (Holy Week Triduum)**
- April 18 Seniors CCTST (California Critical Thinking Skills Test)**
- April 24 Employee Retirement & End-of-Year Party**
5:00 – 7:30 p.m. at “The Barn House,” 13527 Gun Club Road, Epworth, IA
- April 30 Recognition and Awards Luncheon 11:50 am – 1:30 pm**
- May 1-2 Board of Trustees Meeting**
- May 15 Commencement**
- May 16 Summer Break begins**
- June 3-5 HLC Assessment Academy Roundtable, Chicago, IL**
- June 15-17 Dubuque Archdiocesan Priest Convocation**