



THE LOG

Divine Word College

April 2
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A Bulletin for the Divine Word College Community

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THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD*

Lilies, Eggs, and Bunnies

The popular culture of the USA celebrates Easter with many springtime images, some have very deep religious roots. Three of the most significant images are the Lily, the Egg and the Easter Bunny.

The Easter Lily is widely used flower for the decoration of Churches. The sudden opening of the bud is reminiscent of the sudden bursting open of the tomb; the white stigma and the surrounding stamens suggest Jesus' new life. The trumpet shape of the flower announces the resurrection of the Lord.

The Easter Egg traces its history all the way to the 1st century after Jesus. The egg has served as a symbol of Fertility, Life and Rebirth for many religious traditions. There is evidence for the decoration of eggs in Africa as long ago as 60,000 years. Early Christians adopted the custom from Persian religious practice, and emphasized staining the eggs red in remembrance of the Blood of the Lord. Over the centuries, the custom became widespread in the Eastern Churches, and was later adopted by the Churches in the West. The Roman Ritual published by Pope Pius V in 1610 has a blessing for Easter Eggs.



“Bless, O Lord! we beseech thee, this thy creature of eggs, that it may become a wholesome sustenance to thy faithful servants, eating it in thankfulness to thee on account of the resurrection of the Lord.”

There are two Easter egg games that I liked as a kid, the Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Egg Cracking. On Easter morning, I watched DWC students out in the courtyard hunting for Easter eggs, and it made me smile. I fondly remember hunting for Easter Eggs as a child. It makes me think of Mary Magdalene looking for Jesus in the Garden of Resurrection. Egg cracking is played in many ways, but as children we used to break boiled eggs against a table, or if



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Birthday Corner

April

- 5 Karen Young
- 8 Fr. Tinh Phuc Duc Nguyen, OCist

Mom wasn't watching, against each other's heads! For many the cracking of the eggshell represents the moment of resurrection, when new life and food is freed from the bounds of the tomb.

The Easter Bunny likely emerged as a symbol of new life from German folklore. The work of the Easter bunny (a rabbit or a hare) is to bring the Easter Eggs to children who have been good. One thinks of a springtime Santa Claus, or the Christkind. I asked a little boy at Mass on Sunday whether the Easter Bunny had come to his house. His smile stretched from ear to ear as he assured me the bunny had been to his house and brought him an Easter basket full of eggs and candy. Behind him, the little boy's mom was also grinning from ear to ear. Rabbits are good reminders of the resurrection – they emerge from underground burrows, and they bear abundant life in their many offspring. There is a burrow under the front sidewalk at the College, so I expect to see some rabbits feasting on the tulips very soon.



Transitions

Several staff members will be completing their service at DWC in the coming months. We are very grateful for the generous manner in which they have contributed to the success of our programs here.

Fr. Long Phi SVD has served at Divine Word since 2016. He was the Assistant Dean for three years and was the coordinator of the Ministries Practicum program. In 2019 he was named Vice President for Formation and Student Life while also serving as the Dean of Students. Over the past three years he has been especially attentive to redesigning the Religious Formation Program for candidates for the SVD, for other religious communities, and for various dioceses.



Sr. Aprilia Untarto SSpS has served as College Counselor since August 2021. She taught some classes in Intro to Psychology and served on the DWC Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Committee. Aprilia has also helped with Formation and Student Life when serving as the Ministries Practicum Coordinator.



Mr. Mark Singsank has worked at Divine Word College since 2005 in the Development Department. Currently he is the Assistant Director with particular focus on benefactors in the general outreach section. In addition to his work for development, he also served briefly in the financial aid office. He has worked on several committees including the External Affairs Council, the Newsletter Editorial Committee and the former Sustainability Committee. Over the years he has also been a principal organizer and cheerleader for the Live Healthy Iowa Program and for the DWC Golf Outing.



We are very grateful for the great contributions these colleagues have contributed to our community. Transition planning for all three positions has been underway for the past several



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Fr. John Szukalski, SVD

HLC Assurance Argument Preparation—Orientation Session Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Members of the HLC Assurance Argument Preparation Team met for an orientation session. Team members were provided an overview of the resources, evidence, and process required to craft a coherent and effective Assurance Argument. The HLC Comprehensive Visit will take place on-campus from September 29-30, 2025.

Department of Theology & Philosophy Lecture Series: Thursday, April 4, 2024

The Department of Theology & Philosophy is pleased to announce that **Dr. Timothy Kearns**—Professor of Humanities & Integrated Studies at Legionaries of Christ College Seminary in Cheshire, Connecticut—will present two talks at Divine Word College:

- **Thursday at 1:00 PM** in the Main Chapel. “From Light into Light: A Theological Cosmology for Our Time.” This is open for all in the Divine Word community.
- **Thursday at 6:30 PM** in Room 107. “Discovering Natures and Essences through Flourishing: A Contemporary Account from Natural Philosophy and the Life Sciences.” This is open to the general public. Reception to follow. Here’s an abstract from Dr. Kearns’ paper:

“Accounts of flourishing have been employed in many disciplines. Aristotelian moral philosophers have developed accounts of flourishing based on the characteristic forms of life of living things. In this paper, I develop an Aristotelian account of flourishing for living things in general as part of a larger Aristotelian natural philosophy. I relate accounts of flourishing to evolutionary theory, behavioral studies, and ecology as well as to what flourishing is for individual organisms in their parts and activities. I distinguish between contingent and determinate activities by arguing that the behavior of living things are their contingent activities. I consider the structure of cognitive capacities in living things and their relation to flourishing, and I follow out the implications of the distinctively human capacities of cognition. This consideration of humankind allows us to show that the study and practice of human flourishing entail stewardship of nature.”

Registration for undergraduate fall 2024 semester: April 10-12, 2024

Undergraduate student registration will take place from Wednesday, April 10 through Friday, April 12, 2024. All returning undergraduate students should schedule an appointment with his/her academic advisor to review their academic progress in preparation for registration. Make plans now to register on time; *registration closes on Friday, April 12, at 3:00 p.m.* Consult the course schedule published by the Registrar this week and plan your registration accordingly.

[A Student Course Over/Under Load \[S-LOAD\]](#) form must be completed by undergraduate students and the academic advisor at the time of registration whenever students are requesting a course overload (19 credit hours or more) or a course underload (14 credit hours or less).

Assessment Bites

from Dr. Yasmin Rioux

To keep in mind important assessment concepts and terms, let's review what "closing the loop" refers to in assessment.

According to Allen (2004), "closing the loop" describes a part in the assessment process where "faculty discuss assessment results, reach conclusions about their meaning, determine implications for change, and implement them (p. 166)". In other words, "closing the loop" refers to the part in the assessment cycle that can be viewed as the end, but also the beginning because this is where faculty examine the collected data to make data-driven and based recommendations that will then be used to suggest and implement curricular or program changes that then influence the first parts of an assessment cycle again! Assessment results and data are "recycled" back into program improvement.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD

HAPPY EASTER!

Today, throughout the world, still echoes the message proclaimed two thousand years ago from Jerusalem: "*Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified, has been raised!*" (Mk 16:6).

Happy Easter to all! Many heartfelt thanks to the liturgy committee, musicians, cantors, lectors, sacristans, ministers, confessors, presiders, visual and sound technicians, decorators, and all the students who worked tirelessly, dedicating countless hours to prepare and ensure the Holy Week and Easter Triduum were joyful, uplifting and meaningful. Special thanks to the Student Senate for organizing the stations of the cross on Good Friday, which reflected on the current issues faced by our brothers and sisters in the world, and, of course, the Eater Egg hunt. We also extend our gratitude to our college chaplain, Fr. Sonny De Class, SVD and music director, Dr. Evelyn Dias, who have prepared for months, collaborating with students for all the liturgical services. In this season of celebrating our new life in the risen Christ, let us pray that our faith may be renewed and our hearts filled anew with the hope and joy Easter brings.

Donor Appreciation Celebration and the Donaghey Award

On Sunday, April 7, 2024, there will be a Donor Appreciation event and the Presentation of the Donaghey Award. This year, the award will be given to Dr. Kim Kissell, DDS who has graciously assisted our students and supported the DWC community with their dental hygiene needs. In honor of Dr. Kim Kissell, DDS, the celebration will begin with a liturgy 10:00 AM in the main chapel, followed by a banquet in the dining room. Students are highly encouraged to attend this banquet to show your support and appreciation for his contributions. Please dress formally or wear religious habits. We also ask that you mingle with our guests and sit at different tables in the dining room. Finally, the development office needs your help to assist and welcome our guests. Please sign up on the board to participate in this special event.

Vocation Mass

Last month, the vocation Mass organized by the community of St. Teresa Margaret of the Sacred Heart was canceled due to the inclement weather. Consequently, it's been rescheduled to this Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at its usual time. During this Mass, Sr. Nhung Tran, LHC will share her vocational journey about how God has called her and how she is drawn to the congregation of the Lovers of the Holy Cross of Thu Duc. We invite you to join us in supporting Sr. Nhung and the members of St. Teresa Margaret of the Sacred Heart and to continue praying for more vocations in the Catholic Church.

Summer Vacation Plans

The summer vacation is around the corner, and it is crucial to begin to make your vacation plans or any traveling arrangements as soon as possible. Please do not wait until the last minute as things become complicated. According to the Almanac, summer vacation begins on Saturday, May 18 and returns by August 13 -14, 2024. Any early travel or late return after the scheduled date must be approved by the dean. Please come to see Mr. Jeffrey Puccio at the front desk for your traveling purchase. The deadline is **Tuesday, April 30**. If any further concerns, don't hesitate to contact the Deans.



Two Come and See visitors left beautiful words of gratitude for their experience at Divine Word College during Holy Week.

A Note about Ministry Practicum

The ministry practicum is coming to an end. April 8th is the last week of the ministry practicum, except for those groups that still have to go to Davenport, Cedar Rapids, and Moline. The week of April 14th is for theological reflections in each ministry group. Please find a suitable time to meet with your supervisor and share your ministry experiences. Sr. Aprilia will send each group the format of the theological reflection and prayer this week. Contact Sr. Aprilia Untarto, SSpS, ministry coordinator, or your DWC supervisor if you have any questions.



Donor Appreciation and Donaghey Award Mass and Luncheon

On Sunday, April 7, we will welcome many college benefactors to join our community for Mass and an appreciation luncheon. Fr. Carl Gales, SVD will be our celebrant and homilist. In addition, Deacon Roger Kyaw Thu, SVD will share his vocation story during the luncheon.



Fr. Carl



Deacon Roger

We will also recognize **Dr. Kim Kissell DDS** as the recipient of the Donaghey Award for Outstanding Service to Divine Word College.



Dr. Kissell

This event is a wonderful opportunity for us to express our sincere thanks for the financial support our benefactors provide our students and the college.

All members of the Divine Word College community are invited to attend the Mass and luncheon. *All students are strongly encouraged to join the celebration and to meet our benefactors.*



Class of 2024 COMMENCEMENT

Commencement Address
Most Rev. Pablito M. Tagura, SVD, D.D.
Apostolic Vicar of San Jose
Occidental Mindoro
Philippines

Valedictorian
Sr. Fransica Doofan Aorakaa, SON

Also nominated by their peers:
Sr. Hilda Alonyo, LSMIG
Sr. Thoa Thi Pham, OP

Mass of Thanksgiving and Commencement will be available via livestream at www.youtube.com/@DWCEpworth

Motivation versus Discipline

As missionaries, many of us are excited when assigned to a new country. Even before we prepare our travel documents, we imagine the beauty of the country we will go to. People will tell us many good things about the country: the food, the people, the scenery, the history, and many beautiful things we may experience. We are optimistic that we will greatly impact the people we are about to minister to. At the same time, we are convinced that this mission will transform our lives. We arrived at our mission country and saw that everything was excellent.

Then, something occurred that challenged our views and feelings about our work. Learning a new language is more challenging than we have imagined. We struggle with the weather, food, and customs. We feel lonely, missing our family and friends. These factors shake our confidence. Suddenly, we think that we have made a wrong decision. We must now decide whether to continue even when our enthusiasm wanes. We have to make the decision to keep going until we get the outcomes we once thought we would.

Contrary to what we may think, the main factor preventing us to achieve our dreams or to be successful is not the hardship we endure; rather, it is the discipline we need to apply to see things through to completion. This is where we need to have a self-discipline. Motivation without discipline is merely an illusion.

Below is a chart that visualizes the difference between motivation and discipline (<https://www.facebook.com/ClaretCenter>).

Motivation vs Discipline

*"Motivation is what gets you started.
Discipline is what keeps you going." - Jim Rohn*

1. Serves as the initial spark that ignites action.	1. Requires self-control, focus, and willpower .
2. Comes from the desire to achieve goals and fulfill aspirations.	2. Establishes routines and habits for sustained progress.
3. Provides a temporary boost of enthusiasm and energy.	3. Helps overcome obstacles and persevere through challenges.
4. Can be influenced by external factors , such as rewards or recognition.	4. Builds resilience and mental strength.
5. Acts as a catalyst to overcome inertia and initiate progress.	5. Requires commitment and the ability to make sacrifices .
6. Inspires excitement and a sense of purpose.	6. Fosters consistency and long-term success.
7. Motivation needs discipline to get difficult things accomplished	7. Sustains progress even when motivation fluctuates.
	8. Discipline doesn't need motivation to work toward our goals.



by
Sr. Aprilia
Untarto, SSps

The Counseling Center is open **five days a week, with appointments on weekends and holidays**. Please reach out to us at auntarto@dwci.edu | Room 220 | Ext. 377 for more information.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS

Mr. Len Uhal

Come and See Visitors

Thank you! It's not easy hosting seven visitors at one time, especially during Holy Week. Thank you to Fr. Toan Vu and the entire community for helping us welcome our visitors to campus. It seems like they had an inspiring visit. Let's continue to pray for them as they discern their vocation and consider applying to the SVD formation program at Divine Word College.



Did you know?

In a recent conversation with Fr. Tom Ascherman, SVD, our illustrious College President, he said that the Admissions Office enrolled 54 new students this academic year – when we look at all four terms that started in August, October, January and March. That seemed like a lot to me, but we went back and counted everyone. Indeed, 54 new students this academic year (and we may have 1-3 yet arriving for Term E this summer!). Some students stay a short time and they have come and gone already, but others will stay a couple years or event 5-6 years. It's an amazing feat.

Students include SVD candidates and other men and women in formation, SSpS and SVD members, other male and female religious in vows, diocesan priests and lay students. Our community is a great mix of a variety of students from 20 different countries this semester. This does not “just happen,” – much work goes into the admission process. We are grateful for the work of the vocation directors and the Admissions Office staff, the referrals from SVD members, current students and



alumni. Partnerships with SVD and SSpS Provinces, (arch)dioceses, religious congregations around the world, and with the women religious communities in Dubuque have allowed Divine Word College to grow and thrive. Our students, staff, faculty, administration and benefactors make DWC what it is. Let's be grateful this Easter Season and celebrate our school as a joyful place to experience formation and education. Thank you, EVERYONE, for being part of the mission.



Matthew Jacoby Library

opac.dwci.edu

Everyone on campus and in Dubuque County is invited to read "The Personal Librarian" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. It is a **historical fiction** novel about the life of Belle de Costa Greene. Greene was employed by the infamous financier and investment banker J.P. Morgan to acquire priceless manuscripts and works of art for Morgan's newly built private library. She then went on to run the library for 43 years. The book investigates what it must have been like for Greene, a biracial woman who leveraged her light-colored skin to pass as white, to live and work in a world dominated by men and racial injustice.



Don't have time to read the book?

- Watch this short video from the Morgan Library about the new Belle de Costa Greene Exhibition: <https://www.themorgan.org/exhibitions/belle-da-costa-greene>
- Watch the play "Hidden in Plain Sight" by Dubuque's own Peggy Jackson: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKwevI1uCWQ>
- Attend the "Hidden in Plain Sight" screening and Q&A event at the Multicultural Family Center: <https://www.mfcdqbq.org/programs/educational-empowerment-programs/dubuque-county-reads/>
 - April 2nd; Doors open at @ 5 PM; Refreshments @ 5:30 PM; Play Showing @ 6 PM; Q & A with local playwright Peggy Jackson @ 7:20 PM

When is the DWC discussion event?

The on-campus discussion event is on **April 9th at noon** (next Tuesday). Grab some lunch and meet in room 143 to discuss the book! You do not need to have read the entire book to attend the discussion.

Where can I find a book?

Email ewinter@dwci.edu to request a copy of the book. The book is available in print, ebook, and audiobook versions.

Where can I find more details about this County-wide program?

Details about the Dubuque Reads Program and events are available here: <https://libguides.dbq.edu/dubuquecountyreads>.