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THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD*

Walking Around in Jesus' Clothes

On Sunday, September 27, we gathered to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for the ordination of Fr. Think Ngo. He wore a splendid chasuble, a gift from his parents. Fr. Think mentioned that he was deeply moved as his parents dressed him in it during his first mass in California. *Did he know he was wearing Jesus' clothes?*

Have you ever worn somebody else's clothes? It feels a bit strange. Many people do wear hand-me-down clothes, especially as children. But when I got clothes from a cousin, they were NEW for me and they became MY clothes. These days, most of my clothes come from Goodwill, but they also count as MY clothes. As an adult, my brothers have occasionally given me one of their t-shirts, mostly because of a funny political message or because of a sports team. When I wear my brothers' shirts, I feel very close to them as I laugh or cheer with them.

Fr. Think was robed in glory during the Mass. I was glad for him and I recalled the first times I celebrated Mass – nervously and full of joy. I hope that every time Fr. Think, or any priest, puts on a chasuble or a stole he remembers that he is wearing Jesus' clothes, not his own. People want to glimpse the Lord in their priests, particularly when they are celebrating the sacraments.

However, all of us, not only priests, are robed in glory as we live out our Baptismal Promises. A newly baptized person, child or adult, is clothed in a white garment of resurrection. Young people, when they receive Holy Communion for the first time, often have special clothing – white gloves, white dress and maybe a veil for the girls; new shoes and a new shirt for the boys. Weddings also bring out the clothes of glory – the DRESS, the TUX. It is good to remember that those special clothes are also the clothes of Jesus. A religious habit, a Roman collar, a teacher's apparel, an apron, and a pair of work pants, can all be Jesus' clothing.



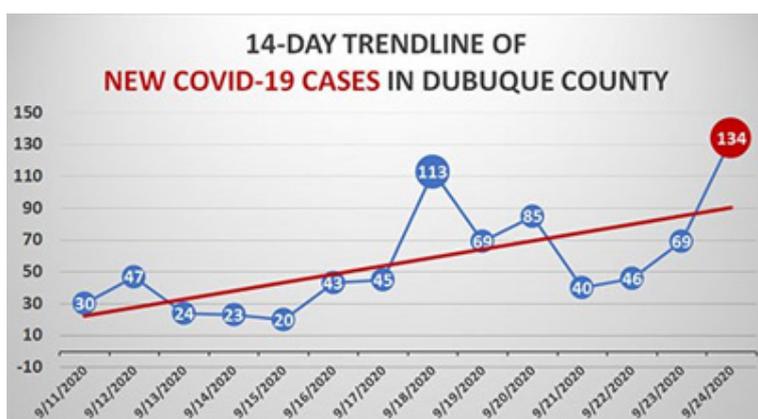
One day, just as Mary is a woman clothed with the Sun (Rev 12:1) all who are faithful, hopeful and loving members of the Church will be clothed like her. In the meantime, we are walking around in Jesus' clothes.

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DWC COVID-19 Dashboard

	Number of Tests	Tested Positive	Number Self-Isolated	Number Quarantined	Number Recovered
Before Sept 15	~200	9	9	~15	9
Sept 15-21	14	0	0	4	0
Sept 22-28	20	0	0	1	0



Dubuque area colleges and universities are experiencing a large number of cases of COVID-19. Loras transitioned to online courses upon news of 81 new COVID-19 cases last week. Approximately 271 community members are in isolation or quarantine. The University of Dubuque reported 69 active cases last Friday and has indicated that a further rise in active cases could well result in sending students home. NICC in Peosta is reporting 30 positive cases including 11 from this past week.

Please avoid crowds, wear a mask, watch social distance, and wash your hands.

As the temperatures get colder, I invite off-campus employees to feel free to use the tables in the dining room and in the hallway during the first lunch period, 11:15 to 11:45. Please avoid sitting with community members who live on-campus. That is a "barrier" that we are trying to maintain, since we take off facemasks during the meals.

Congratulations

Congratulations to:

- Dr. Mathew Kanjirathinkal who has completed 10 years of service at Divine Word College and was awarded the Fr. Charles Malin Excellence in Teaching Award for 2019-2020.
- Mr. John Osweiler who has completed 25 years of service at Divine Word College.
- Ms. Phyllis Urbain who has completed 40 years of service at DWC, and is the 2020 recipient of the Donna Puccio Distinguished Service Award.

The service pins and recognitions were presented at the Presidential Forum today, September 29. Please thank them the next time you see them.

THE HEAT IS ON!

We are not talking about the presidential debates tonight, nor about the DWC Soccer Tournament semifinal or final... The days are getting cooler here in Epworth, and the Heat is ON! Please be sure to thank Br. Vinh for all the good things he does to keep us warm and running smoothly.

Peace Vespers

On Sunday, September 27 Divine Word College hosted a celebration of Vespers (Evening Prayer) to pray for peace. It was the closing event of Dubuque's annual International Day of Peace Festival.

Mr. Art Roche, an alumnus of Divine Word College and a principal organizer of the festival wrote:

Wow. Wow wow wow wow wow! This was moving and peaceful, and instructive, and soulful. I really liked the music, the readings, Kathy Kelly's wisdom, and especially the prayer of Saint Francis sung from across the universe. It was a wonderful way to end our international day of peace festival, and I'm grateful to all of you.



You can view the celebration by following the link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1X3xwd7pj1I9cfaXpy8EDW-v7eqmmGfWu/view?usp=sharing>

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS Fr. John Szukalski, SVD

HLC Interim Monitoring Report - Update

The Institutional Action Council of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) required that DWC submit an Interim Report by November 2021 addressing the following two areas:

- [demonstrate] that different degree levels (associates vs. bachelors) have distinct sets of learning outcomes (3.A)
- [demonstrate] assessment of student learning with regard to the Core Competencies and the major program SLOs. The institution should report what data has been collected, how it has been analyzed, and how data has been used to prompt changes to the curriculum (4.B)

Given the significant diversion of energies required by the COVID-19 pandemic, DWC requested—and received—an official one-year extension of the Interim Report deadline until November 2022. The extra time will allow for the elaboration of a more coherent assessment plan and practice and the provision of a more meaningful Interim Report. While there is an Interim Monitoring Report Committee charged with drafting the document for final submission, all faculty have a shared responsibility to assist in this endeavor.

Faculty Professional Development

Bro. Brian McLaughlin, SVD, Instructor of Interdisciplinary Studies in the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies [DIS], has been granted professional development funding to attend a virtual workshop entitled “The Body Keeps the Score: Trauma Healing” from October 8-9, 2020.



Adjunct Office Space

Adjunct instructors from DTP, DIS, and IELI now have dedicated office space! Office 015-C is available for use by any adjunct instructor for doing office work, class preparation, or meeting individually with students.

September is National Suicide Prevention Month

If you or someone you know needs help, free and confidential support is available 24/7. Resources are available at the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (suicidepreventionlifeline.org) or by calling 1-800-273-TALK (-8255). If you are uncomfortable talking on the phone, you can also use the Crisis Text Line to reach a trained counselor by texting NAMI to 741-741.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD

Mass for Vocations

Many thanks to the formation group of the Romans for organizing the mass in praying for increase of priesthood and religious vocation, and in particular to Khoa Bui for sharing his vocation journey which inspired us all.

SafeColleges Online Training

As a requirement of HCL, all students are required to complete two courses of the SafeColleges Online Training for each semester. For the Fall semester, the courses are Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Workplace and Managing Stress and Anxiety. Kindly log in the website for Divine Word College: <https://dwci-ia.safecolleges.com/> Enter your college email account. Once you log in the site, click on a course title to begin the training. Once you have completed the training, please send your certificate file to Fr. Long Phi Nguyen. If any further questions regarding this matter, please ask your formation director or the Dean.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS *Mr. Len Uhal*

Mass for Vocations

Thank you to the Romans formation group for preparing today's liturgy for our monthly Mass for Vocations. We also appreciate Khoa Bui for sharing his vocation story. The DWC community's continued prays for an increase of vocations to religious life and for the Society's vocation team is greatly appreciated. In these challenging times with COVID-19, the vocation office team needs all the prayer and support we can get in our ministry. Thank you.

The Word Among Us

New books start on Thursday, October 1. Again, these books are made available to all students in seminaries in the USA because of a benefactor. We pray in thanksgiving for their generosity, which helps us to better participate in liturgies and study God's Word.

Where are they now?

Slowly and safely, the vocation directors are getting back on the road to promote vocations and help young men discern God's call. While Frs. Anthony and Emilio are in California this week, Fr. Francis is in Memphis and is making his way to Louisiana. Fr. Adam is traveling from Iowa to Oklahoma to Texas to Illinois and back to Epworth. Fr. Think is on campus now, but will travel to Minnesota this weekend. Len is also on campus this week. Thank you for your continued prayers for our vocation office team.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS *Mr. Steve Winger*

Face Masks

We know that masks are very important to keep each other safe. However, we need to make sure we are wearing the mask correctly. Please follow these simple CDC recommendations for wearing a mask correctly.

- Wash your hands before putting on your mask
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily
- CDC does not recommend use of masks or cloth masks if they have an exhalation valve or vent
- Don't put the mask around your neck or up on your forehead
- Don't touch the mask, and, if you do, wash your hands or use hand sanitizer to disinfect





- September 30** **ESL Field Trip: Dubuque Mural Project, Dubuque IA**
ESL 052 and 062 students will view and analyze art in the Dubuque Mural Project and write a response related to the field trip as part of the writing final exam for Term A.
- October 2** **ESL Field Trip: Various locations, Dubuque IA**
ESL 042 students will visit the Mines of Spain, Horseshoe Bluff, and the Julien Dubuque Monument as part of their related lesson content on archeology.
- October 6** **Departmental Meetings: DTP & DIS**
- October 8** **ESL Fall 2020 Term A – Classes End**
- October 9** **ESL End-of-Term Testing**
- October 9** **UG Fall 2020 Mid-Semester**