

# THE LOG

## Divine Word College

March 30  
2021

*A Bulletin for the Divine Word College Community*

**Vol. 40 No. 27**

### In This Issue:

COVID Dashboard	2
Fr. Bill Shea Scholarship	3
Fall Registration	4
Student Referrals	5
Holy Thursday Collection	6

### Birthday Corner

#### April

- 2 Mr. Nay Kaw Sho
- 5 Ms. Karen Young

### THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD*

#### *Holy Week Grief*

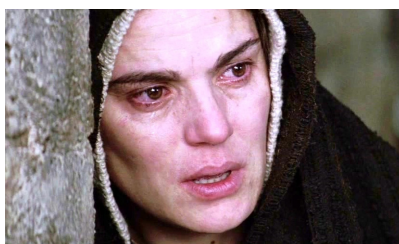
This week celebrates the coming to be of the new world of God's Kingdom. Theologians like to say – it is already, but not yet. Our salvation is already underway – but not yet fully arrived. Ms. Jill Heitzman composed the following brief essay to share with you. It describes, so beautifully, the in-between times in which we live.

#### *Your Personal Good Friday*

by Mrs. Jill Heitzman

This year has been a particularly grief-stricken year for so many members of our community. I am not a counselor or psychologist, but I have a lot of experience with grief. I have had to take grief on my life's journey and learn to give it time and love. As hard as it seems to say, grief is a blessing. (For those of you that don't know me well, my Father, Mother, and husband, dearest David Carlock, all died in a span of 5 years. My son was 9 when his Dad had a massive stroke, and my son was 14 when his Dad died.)

First, let me tell you my favorite Good Friday poem. This poem was found on the wall of an ancient Irish monastery, the author is unknown.



#### *The Crucifixion*

At the cry of the first bird,  
They began to crucify thee,  
Oh, Lord.

Never shall lament cease because of that,  
It was like the parting of day from night.

Ah, sore was the suffering borne,  
By the body of Mary's son.

But, sorer still to him was the grief;  
Which for his sake,  
Came upon his Mother.



*continued next page*

This poem gives the stark human reality of Christ's Crucifixion. He was human. He had friends, a mother, and a father. A mother lost her son. As real today as it has been for 3000 years, we lose loved ones. It is an unspeakable loss to lose those who loved us and knew us best. Grief is difficult but it is not our enemy. Grief is our friend, reminding us that we were greatly loved and greatly blessed. Tears are nothing to be ashamed of. Tears will flow for a long time, for years, and sometimes at unexpected or inconvenient times. Welcome them. They are the waters that cleanse our souls and soothe our hearts.

When you are surrounded by friends and classmates who have suffered loss, don't be afraid to say, "I'm so sorry" or other words of comfort. Even if you feel like you don't know what to say, that is okay. Even just a meaningful look can speak volumes or write a short note. Every phrase and word of comfort; from my friends, students, colleagues, and family; are all really saying, "I love you." And, to this day, that makes me cry tears of joy. These tears are not tears of sorrow; they are a blessing.

Remember, after Christ's torture and death, we say "Alleluia." Sometimes, on the day after Good Friday, that seems crazy. It seems too soon. But, it isn't. We are left on earth for a reason. "Alleluia" is how to go forward. Our lost loved ones want us to live every minute, love, laugh, and enjoy the rest of our journey. It is not easy; it is the hardest thing to do. But, all of life's most important things to do, are also the hardest things to do. To my beloved friends, I want to say, "I'm sorry." I also want you to take an "Alleluia" journey, the rest of your lives.

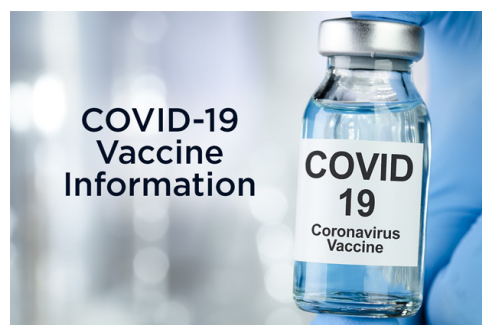
## DWC COVID-19 Dashboard

	Number of Tests	Tested Positive	Number Self-Isolated	Number Quarantined	Number Recovered	Vaccination Completed
Before Sept. 15	~200	9	9	~15	9	
Sept. 15 - Dec. 31	220	8	8	~80	8	
Jan. 1 - March 1	354	33	33	~80	33	16
Mar. 2 - 15	25	0	0	0	0	9
Mar. 16-22	59	0	0	1	0	4
<b>Mar 23 - 29</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>

**Beginning April 5**, every adult in Iowa (aged 16 and up) can register for a COVID vaccine. The following link may be helpful (<https://vaccinate.iowa.gov/providers/>).

At present, roughly 18% of Iowa's population is fully vaccinated. At DWC, 21% of the 180 members of our community are fully vaccinated.

There is excellent news on the effectiveness of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines. The CDC reports on a new study of 4000 health care personnel, first responders, and essential workers who were tested weekly for the virus that causes COVID-19. The estimated effectiveness **for prevention of infection was 90% for of those with full immunization.** The study shows that "authorized mRNA COVID-19 vaccines



are effective for preventing SARS-CoV-2 infection, regardless of symptom status, among working-age adults in real-world conditions. This means that the vaccines are effective not only in preventing symptoms of COVID-19, but also preventing the virus from infecting a person who is without symptoms” (CDC). That makes it much, much harder for the virus to spread. COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for all eligible persons.

## Recognition and Awards Luncheon

At its recent meeting, the Board of Administration decided to cancel the Luncheon on April 29th, in keeping with the guidelines of social distancing and wearing masks. Lunch will be at the usual times.

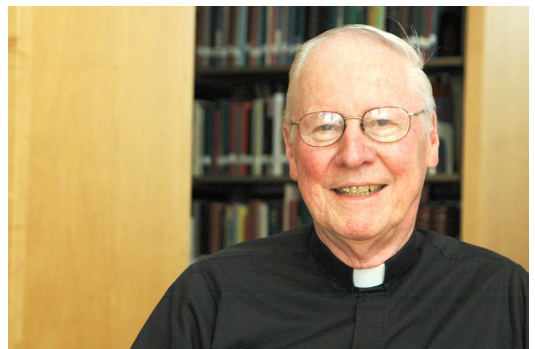
The Recognition Awards Ceremony will still be held on April 29th, in the main chapel, at 12:45 p.m. All are expected to attend. Classes will begin at 2:00 pm.

## Divine Word Alumni Association *Fr. Thang Hoang, SVD*

### Fr. Bill Shea, SVD, Scholarship Event

During almost 60 years of service to the Church and the Society of the Divine Word, Fr. Bill Shea has touched many lives as a priest, religious superior, teacher, spiritual director, mentor, tutor, pro-life advocate, coach and friend.

You are invited to join in a special celebration--*in person or virtually*--on **Sunday, April 11** as we inaugurate a scholarship in his name and recognize Fr. Bill's many contributions.



10:00 AM Liturgy

Presider and Homilist – Fr. Bill

A special presentation will immediately follow the liturgy

Link to attend virtually: <https://www.facebook.com/events/773373393287131/>

**The Rev. William Shea, SVD Scholarship** has been established in honor of Fr. Bill, and aims to provide financial support to students in need of assistance for their undergraduate, cross-cultural, or language studies at Divine Word College.



### You can still contribute!

If you would like to make a gift to The William Shea, SVD Scholarship, visit the college website at [www.dwci.edu/sheascholarship](http://www.dwci.edu/sheascholarship) or give directly to the development office.

## **VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

*Fr. John Szukalski, SVD*

### **Registration For Undergraduate Fall 2021 Semester: 7-9 April 2021**

Undergraduate student registration will take place from Wednesday 7 April through Friday 9 April 2021. All returning undergraduate students should schedule an appointment with their academic advisor to review their academic progress in preparation for registration. Make plans now to register on time; registration closes on Friday 9 April at 3:00 p.m. Consult the course schedule published by the Registrar 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). The S-LOAD form is available on the [DWC website under the DWC Community > Student Forms](#).

## **VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS**

*Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD*

### **Lenten Reconciliation Service**

Our community Lenten Reconciliation Service is this Wednesday, March 31, at 7:30 pm in the main chapel, led by Fr. Paul Aquino, SVD. Reconciliation is what God does. Receiving it and celebrating it is what we do. Let us take advantage of this opportunity to celebrate God's reconciling and healing love for us as we prepare ourselves for Easter.

### **Holy Week**

The Holy Week program is posted on the Student Board. Please check all the activities carefully and participate actively in all. All those who play an active role in the various celebrations (servers, readers, musicians, cantors, ushers, etc.) during the Holy Week, please check your rehearsal schedule and come on time for rehearsals. May this Holy Week fill our hearts with joy, peace, and love of the risen Christ. Have a blessed Easter!





## VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS *Mr. Len Uhal*

### **Come and See Visitors**

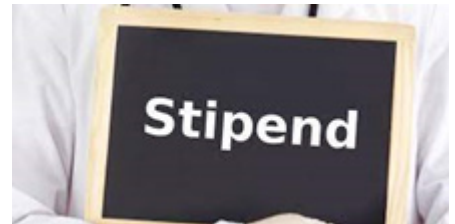
The vocation office will host three Come and See visitors this week. These men feel God may be calling them to religious life and their visit to Divine Word College is a chance to learn more about our college seminary formation program and to learn more about the Society of the Divine Word. Thank you in advance for helping them feel welcomed in our community. Those visiting include:

- Dominic Egre (originally from Nigeria) living in Stillwater, Oklahoma
- Hai Ho Nguyen (originally from Vietnam) living in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Shadrack Whabyely (originally from Liberia) living in Rock Island, Illinois

### **Student Referrals**

As noted last week at the student assembly on Thursday in the chapel, the second best referral source to the vocation office are referrals from current Divine Word College students. About 22% of young men referred by a current DWC student enters formation as an SVD candidate. We have learned that “word of mouth” advertising is better than any ad we can put on the internet or in a magazine. The vocation office appreciates referrals from DWC students of young men who might be interested in further discerning a call to join the SVD.

Thus, there has been a long-standing tradition of offering a stipend to current Divine Word College students who refer young men to the vocation office. The only requirements to be eligible for the \$200 stipend are that the person you refer must enter formation and that you must still be a student at Divine Word College when he first enrolls. Over the last ten years, the vocation office has paid 20 stipends for student referrals. The last two stipend recipients were Michelet Boncoeur, who is now in the SVD novitiate at Techny, and Marc Declama, SVD, who is now in temporary vows at the Divine Word Theologate in Chicago. Back in 2016, the vocation office gave a stipend to Sr. Ly Nguyen, LHC, for making a referral to the vocation office.



We encourage religious sisters, diocesan priests and all students at Divine Word College to share your experience and invite and encourage young men you know to consider formation with the Divine Word Missionaries. If you know someone interested, talk with him and refer him to the vocation office. If he enters formation and you are still a DWC student, you'll receive a \$200 stipend!

### **The Word Among Us**

The vocation office staff placed copies of the most recent issue of The Word Among Us in student mailboxes earlier today. Again, this is a generous gift from an anonymous benefactor that makes this booklet available to all students in seminaries in the USA. Please keep the benefactor in your prayers. If you would like a Spanish version of the booklet, please stop by the vocation office to get one.

### **Where are they now?**

Frs. Anthony, Thinh and Adam will be on campus this week hosting our three Come and See visitors. Fr. Francis is also on campus for part of Holy Week, but will assist at a parish in Wisconsin for the Triduum. Fr. Emilio is in California this week and Len will be on campus all week, except on Good Friday.

## VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS

*Mr. Steve Winger*

### Vaccines and PTO

Divine Word College strongly encourages everyone to get one of the COVID vaccines as soon as it is made available. As an incentive, DWC employees are not required to use vacation or PTO if a COVID vaccine appointment occurs during working hours. While faculty are not required to use PTO for COVID vaccine appointments, they are still required to submit a Faculty Class Absence Report (F-CAR) form if missing class time.

If you have already used vacation or PTO while getting your COVID vaccine, please contact Ann in the Business Office and she will reimburse your time.

## JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION COUNCIL

### Holy Thursday Collection for Migrants at the Border

Migrants are again arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border at increased levels, including thousands of children. Preliminary government data shows Border Patrol detained more than 11,000 unaccompanied migrant children between February 28 and March 20, already eclipsing the number apprehended in the full month of February. As of March 24, there are about 16,000 unaccompanied children in US custody (from CNN website).

#### Why are people coming to the US?

The pandemic has taken a dramatic toll on Latin America, where Covid-19 cases and deaths have soared and economies once projected to grow have been decimated. The region was also hit with two devastating hurricanes. The decline in economic growth in 2020 is expected to worsen income inequality and poverty in the region.

#### What can we do?

Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley (CCRGV) in Texas provides humanitarian relief to immigrant children and families. It's Humanitarian Respite Center provides a place for the countless men, women, children, and infant refugees to rest, have a warm meal, a shower, and change into clean clothing as well as receive medicine and other supplies, before continuing onto their journey. Thousands have been helped over the past five years. Sister Norma Pimentel, the Executive Director of CCRGV, writes "The social mission of the Church to help those in need is clearly advanced through services carried out by all who participate with Catholic Charities." Your contribution through our Holy Thursday collection will help Sister Norma, her staff and volunteers to help migrants in need. Donation can also be made through the CCRGV website: <https://www.catholiccharitiesrgv.org/Home.aspx>

#### Anything else?

Yes! In June 2004, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration and The Catholic Legal Immigration Network, INC. (CLINIC) Board of Directors resolved to make comprehensive immigration reform, with special emphasis on legalization, a major public policy priority within the Church. Many other national Catholic institutions have also made legalization a policy priority. Please visit the USCCB website: <https://www.usccb.org/offices/migration-policy/justice-immigrants>