

THE LOG

Divine Word College

May 2
2023

A Bulletin for the Divine Word College Community

Vol. 42 No. 31

In This Issue:

Class of 2023	4
Come & See Visitors	15
Summer Projects	16
Employee Spotlight	19
Summer Schedule addendum	

Birthday Corner

May

- 4 - Sr. Thoa Thanh Thi Tran, LHC
- 8 - Sr. Thoa Thi Pham, OP
- 9 - Sr. Yvette Muyere Shey, SST
- 12 - Roman Ciapalo
- 15 - Sr. Angela Onyeché Omola, SON
- 15 - Sr. Dien Thi Vu, LHC
- 15 - Ben Winter
- 15 - Fr. George Koottappillil, SVD
- 16 - Kentory Philippe
- 18 - Fr. John Szukalski, SVD
- 19 - Fr. An Thien Ngoc Huynh, SVD
- 19 - Fr. Alexander Roedlach, SVD
- 19 - Fr. An Thien Huynh, SVD
- 20 - Thi Van Nguyen
- 21 - Berson Bien-Aime
- 24 - Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD
- 25 - Ae Pa You Paw (Mu Mu)
- 26 - Sr Thuy Thi Tran, LHC
- 27 - Sr. Lan Huyen Ngoc Hoang, LHC
- 29 - Long Hai Ngoc Nguyen



Summer birthdays
listed on page 20

THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD*

All my shirts are party shirts!

I used to think of the University of Iowa as a party school. These last few days at DWC make me think that our little college in Epworth is, on a per capita basis, just as ready to celebrate. This past weekend, from Thursday through Sunday, I attended at least seven parties! A couple more invitations were just not possible, I was already at another party. One visitor mentioned that he had consumed a month's worth of calories in three days!

On Sunday, at Mass in the local parish, I told the congregation about our heavy schedule of celebrations. I added that you have to be a party-animal if you want to be a Christian – there are forty days of Lent, but there are fifty days of Easter! We have a good ways to go before Pentecost.



I think God likes parties. Pope Francis noted the exuberance of God in the opening lines of his 2013 apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium – the Joy of the Gospel*. He wrote:

“...the prophet Zephaniah... presents God with his people in the midst of a celebration overflowing with the joy of salvation. I find it thrilling to reread this text: “The Lord, your God is in your midst, a warrior who gives you the victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing, as on a day of festival” (3:17).

My sister has a pillow in her guestroom that catches my attention when I visit her. It says – *Choose Happy*. She has done a good job of choosing happy throughout her life. There is only one little piece of editing I would suggest, I'd say, *Choose JOY*. Happiness comes and goes, but joy is a sustaining anchor that underlies drama, hardship, frustrations, anger. A regular diet of parties helps remind us to get happy, and that leads back to joy.



continued next page

At the end of the sixth day of creation, God did not say, "It is OK, but it sure needs some work." Instead, "God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good." Moments of prayer, and especially a morning Mass, give me a chance to see through God's eyes and choose joy. I am challenged to choose whether to focus on an imperfection in our celebration, or to focus on something that makes me thankful. Thankful makes me happy; and I land once more in the lap of joy.

Allow me one last comment. For major DWC celebrations, we have a custom of wearing some very colorful shirts and blouses from around the world. I have acquired quite a collection! Whenever I put on one of my party shirts I remember a friend and confrere with whom I worked in Mexico City. The usual uniform for Tim and me was jeans and a t-shirt. Our parish was enormous and very poor, but it was rich in celebrations. At a major event, my partner, Tim, was wearing his *best* shirt, and he looked good! I teased him saying, "Oh, you do have a party shirt after all!" He had a great response: "**All my shirts are party shirts!**"

The DWC Trustees will be coming to the College this weekend. More parties! Let us welcome them with joy.



DWC Spring Elections

The close of the academic year is always marked by elections for the Student Senate and the Faculty Senate.

Fr. John Szukalski SVD, VP for Academic Affairs, reported the outcome of the faculty election:

On April 25, 2023, the Faculty Senate held scheduled elections for President and Secretary with the following results.

- Faculty Senate President-Elect: **Dr. Joshua Young**, Assistant Professor of Communication & English in the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, was re-elected as Faculty Senate President and will begin his second two-year term in August 2023.
- Faculty Senate Secretary-Elect: **Dr. Benjamin Winter**, Assistant Professor of Theology in the Department of Theology & Philosophy, was elected as Faculty Senate Secretary and will begin his one-year term in August 2023.

Congratulations to Dr. Young upon re-election to this key leadership position for shared governance; he wields that oversized gavel with authority yet moderation. Many thanks as well to **Ms. Sharon Sinton** for keeping meticulously accurate minutes and documentation over the past academic year.



Young



Winter

Fr. Long Phi Nguyen SVD, VP for Formation and Student Life, reported the results of the **student elections**:

- Mr. Vuong Minh Vu was elected President after three ballots.
- Mr Marc Anderson Vaval was elected Vice-President.
- Sr. Tram Huyen Nguyen LHC was elected to serve as Treasurer.
- Ms. Ae "Mu Mu" Pa You Paw was elected to serve as Secretary.



President
Mr. Vuong
Minh Vu



Vice President
Mr. Marc
Anderson Vaval



Treasurer
Sr. Tram Huyen
Nguyen, LHC



Secretary
Ms. Ae "Mu Mu"
Pa You Paw

Congratulations to the new student leaders, and thanks to the outgoing President and Cabinet: Mr. Omar Gonzalez, President, Mr. John-Edeve Augustin, VP; Frt. Engelbertus Salmon SVD, Secretary; and Sr. Thoa Thi Nguyen LHC-PY, Treasurer.

DWC Commencement Speaker – Fr. Anthony Le Duc SVD

Fr. Anthony is an educator and the Executive Director of the Asian Research Center for Religion and Social Communication at St. John's University in Bangkok, Thailand.

He was born in 1975 in Nha Trang, Vietnam. Fr. Anthony came to the U.S. in 1985, settling with his family in Costa Mesa, California. In 1998, after completing undergraduate studies at Cal Berkeley, he enrolled at DWC to take courses in theology and philosophy in preparation for novitiate in Techny and seminary studies in Chicago. After perpetual vows and ordination in 2006, he was assigned to Thailand to work with people suffering from HIV and their families. Fr. Anthony focused on the spiritual and social aspects of the disease. His pastoral efforts aimed to bring people together—those with HIV/AIDS and those who were not infected.



Fr. Anthony has long felt that: "In Asia we have a lot of issues with misunderstanding each other's religion, and sometimes you have conflicts that arise from these religious misunderstandings.... So as a missionary, it would be helpful if I can engage in this kind of work." He completed a doctoral degree in religious studies at Assumption University in Bangkok in 2015, and has been working since then to help overcome misunderstanding with open, generous dialogue.

Class of
2023
**CONGRATULATIONS
GRADUATES!**



John-Edeve Augustin

B.A. Philosophy

Hometown: Hinche, Haiti

Plans after graduation? My plan after graduation is to continue with my studies.

How has your experience at DWC impacted your faith? My experience at DWC has helped me grow significantly in my spiritual life. I have learned how to listen to God's voice and how God is present in every situation.



Junior Jean Baptiste

B.A. Philosophy

Hometown: Jeremie, Haiti

Plans after graduation? After graduation, I plan to move on to the Novitiate and continue my formation program with the SVD Community to respond generously to God's call.

How do you plan to share your faith with others in the future?

As a future missionary and priest, I will share the Good News where the Holy Spirit guides the congregation to send me. I will put into practice all that I have learned at DWC to benefit those in most need.



Berson Bien-Aime

B.A. Philosophy

Hometown: Jeremie, Haiti

Plans after graduation? I am still planning and do not have an active plan right now.

What is the greatest lesson you learned at DWC? I have learned to see people as God sees them because sometimes individuals judge others and their situations without knowing who they are or what they've actually gone through. Somehow, I have learned to understand, be compassionate, and forgive others.



Peterson Forestal

B.A. Philosophy

Hometown: Delmas, Haiti

Plans after graduation? After graduation, I plan to pursue a master's degree.

How do you plan to share your faith with others in the future? During my time at Divine Word College, I have learned several types of meditation, and prayer that have helped me to grow my faith. I plan to continue to read my bible on a daily basis, and share the good news of God. Also, I will use the words of Saint Thomas Aquinas to tell others that in God there is no plurality or distinction, except the three real relations that are opposed.



Omar Picon Gonzalez

B.A. Philosophy and Intercultural Studies

Hometown: Memphis, Tennessee, United States

Plans after graduation? I plan to continue further studies at the University of Memphis to prepare for the LSAT. My end goal is to become an attorney.

How do you plan to share your faith with others in the future? I plan to work with the marginalized, the forgotten, and the needy in the legal field. This is what we are called to do as believers of Christ.



Wilson Joseph

B.A. Philosophy

Hometown: Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Plans after graduation? After graduation, I will pursue another study.

How has your experience at DWC impacted your faith? It was a great experience. I learned how to live with people from different backgrounds. The formation program also helped me in my personal growth. I feel like I have become more mature, humble, and straightforward. Daily Mass, prayer, and reflections also helped me live out my faith. I will carry all I learned at DWC to help others.



Sr. Margaret Kissani, SSps

B.A. Theology & Mission

Hometown: Madang, Papua New Guinea

Plans after graduation? No plans because of my illness.

How has your experience at DWC impacted your faith? If you are struggling, take comfort in knowing you are not alone. This was my experience when I was diagnosed with a medical issue. I felt the prayers of Fr. Thang Hoang and the entire SVD community, as well as the faculty, staff and students. To you all and to God, I am very grateful. This experience reminds me to always give thanks with a joyful heart.



Sr. Thom Mai, FMV

B.A. Theology & Mission

Hometown: Ha Tinh Province, Vietnam

Plans after graduation? After graduation, I will return to Vietnam, where I will join my sisters in the opening of the Jubilee Year on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of my congregation. However, I am still unsure about my future ministry.

How has your experience at DWC impacted your faith? Living and studying at DWC, I have not only grown academically but also spiritually. Through participating in multicultural events, I had a groundbreaking experience with the ways people in different nations worship and portray God in their own customs, which differ from mine. As a result, I have learned that there are plenty of ways to worship God that I can practice here at DWC, such as dancing and shouting during Mass, which is not encouraged in the Vietnamese Church. I have come to appreciate my sisters and brothers, as what I have learned from them is priceless.



Cederick Morando

B.A. Philosophy

Hometown: Manila, Philippines

Plans after graduation? If I am accepted into the Novitiate, I will move to Chicago on the 25th of July. From there, I hope to complete my formation and be ordained a Priest. I do not know how long that will take, especially if I go through with my current plan of doing CTP in Japan (2-3 years). Although, as Deacon Quang said, expectation kills. So, my main priority is to seek out God's will for my life at the present moment, always remaining open to where the Holy Spirit moves me.

How has your experience at DWC impacted your faith? Taking all of those philosophy classes at DWC really made me question my faith a lot, which I think is a good thing since it helps to bring it to maturity. Furthermore, living in a co-ed school/seminary and going through the formation program has strengthened my conviction about my vocation. It also directed me to essential resources, like counseling, that helped me face and overcome my personal hang-ups. Therefore, I would really like to thank all of you who have made all of this possible for countless others and me. May God continue to bless you and your loved ones.



Sr. Isabel Tiago Mula, CPS

B.A. Theology & Mission

Hometown: Xai-Xai, Mozambique

Plans after graduation? After the graduation I will return back to my country.

How do you plan to share your faith with others in the future? I plan to share my faith with others through religious education programs in the parishes and in the small Christian communities. I will also be applying what I learned to the formation program for the young girls that are discerning religious life.



Sr. Diem Hong Ngo, IHM

B.A. Theology & Mission

Hometown: Cam Ranh, Khánh Hòa, Vietnam

Plans after graduation? After graduating from the DWC, I will continue to study at another university.

How do you plan to share your faith with others in the future? My experience at DWC equips me to be confident in sharing my faith with those I will meet. It has become a part of my life, so I will live it out as my being.



Long Cao Nguyen

B.A. Philosophy

Hometown: Dong Nai, Vietnam

Plans after graduation? After graduation, I plan to continue discerning my vocation and seeking God's will for my life. I believe that the time I have spent at the Divine Word College has prepared me well for whatever path I may be called to follow. I am open to the possibility of continuing my education in theology. Ultimately, I trust that God will guide me in making the right decision.

How has your experience at DWC impacted your faith? My experience at DWC has had a profound impact on my faith. The diverse community of students and faculty, with their varied perspectives and experiences, has enriched my understanding of the Catholic faith and deepened my relationship with God. In addition to the academic formation, the emphasis on prayer, spiritual direction, and community life has helped me grow in my faith and develop a strong foundation for my future ministry.



Sr. Thoa Thi Nguyen, LHC-PT

B.A. Philosophy

Hometown: Binh Thuan, Vietnam

Plans after graduation? After graduation, my plan is to pursue a master's degree at Boston College. Once I have earned my degree, I will return to my country to serve my congregation and diocese.

How do you plan to share your faith with others in the future? By demonstrating a deep commitment to prayer, living out the Gospel message, and being of service to others, I can be a living witness to the love of Christ. As a religious sister, I am called to share the truths of the Catholic faith through teaching and spiritual guidance. Being present, listening, and showing compassion are powerful ways to share my faith as a living example of Christ's love. I remind myself that sharing faith is about inviting others to experience God's love, not imposing my beliefs. By being open, compassionate, and respectful, I can help others encounter the joy and peace of a life of faith.



Sr. Thuy Thi Tran, LHC-QN

B.A. Philosophy

Hometown: Quang Nam Province, Vietnam

Plans after graduation? After graduation, I will return to my country and continue my ministry.

The greatest lesson I learned at DWC?

The greatest lesson I learned is to be humble and patient in service. Thanks to the many humble and patient models around me in this environment.



Miguel Romo Romo

Certificate in Pre-Theology

Hometown: Jalostotitlán, Jalisco, Mexico

Plans after graduation? Continue my discernment in the Society of Divine Word.

How has your experience at DWC impacted your faith? I arrived at DWC as a lay student. My experience here helped me realize that God could be calling me to serve Him as a missionary priest



Joseph Simbre

Certificate in Pre-Theology

Hometown: Fresno, California

Plans after graduation?

My plans after graduation are to hopefully enter the SVD Novitiate.

How has your experience at DWC impacted your faith? My experience at DWC tremendously helped my faith as I have been inspired by the charity and hopefulness of the community.

December graduates



Sr. Ndigue Formilack Magdalene, SST

B.A. Philosophy

Hometown: Mutengene, Cameroon

Plans after graduation? Currently I am in one of our High Schools in Kumba, helping in the Bursary and teaching.

How has your experience at DWC impacted your faith? Value people for who they are regardless of where they come from. I have learned to encounter God not just in the routine prayers but in every encounter.



Franciste Mervil

B.A. Philosophy

Hometown: Cap-Haitien, Haiti

Plans after graduation? After graduation, I plan to continue my vocation with the Divine Word Missionaries.

What is the greatest lesson you learned at DWC? I realized that adapting to a new environment or path is not easy, but I did my best and had the best experience of my life. I learned about time management, being more responsible, and strengthening my integrity. Even though sometimes I found myself confused or feeling doubtful, the formation I received at DWC helped me have a better understanding of life itself.



Sr. An Thuy Thi Ngo, LHC-QN

B.A. Theology & Mission

Hometown: Hoai Nhon District, Binh Dinh Province, Vietnam

Plans after graduation? I will do ministry with my sisters in Vietnam.

How do you plan to share your faith with others in the future? I will share my experiences and achievements with people in places where I do ministry in the future.



Sr. Liem Hong Thi Nguyen, IHM

B.A. Theology & Mission

Hometown: Ninh Thuan, Vietnam

Plans after graduation? I would like to do ministry for people with special needs through education, career orientation or catechism.

How do you plan to share your faith with others in the future? My faith should be shared with others through my ministry and my life. I want those who I serve and live with to experience God's love and presence through my witness.



Sr. Nhiem Thi Nguyen, LHC-V

B.A. Theology & Mission

Hometown: Nghe An, Vietnam

Plans after graduation?

I am doing my OPT program to gain experience in ministry before going to further studies.

How has your experience at DWC impacted your faith?

My experience at DWC impacted my faith in many ways, such as building personal relationships with the Lord through Eucharistic celebration, touching others' vocation stories, and recognizing the love of God in people.



Sr. Thuong Hoai Thi Phan, FMV

B.A. Theology & Mission

Hometown: Danang, Vietnam

Plans after graduation? I am returning to Vietnam to do ministry and prepare for my final vows.

How do you plan to share your faith with others in the future? The faith I want to share with others is what I have received and experienced at the DWC community: love, peace, joy, generosity, friendship, serving, and so on. Indeed, I received many good things from the DWC community. In my turn, I continue carrying and living out these fruits to where I come and those I meet.



Sr. Phuong Thu Thi Tran, LHC-HH

B.A. Theology & Mission

Hometown: Phu Tho Province, Vietnam

Plans after graduation? I am going back to Vietnam to serve people whom I am sent to serve.

What is the greatest lesson you learned at DWC? The greatest lesson I have learned at DWC is an attitude of readiness to adapt and openness to accepting differences in living environments, cultures, and ways of thinking to proclaim the Gospel effectively.



Sr. Duong Y, IMM

B.A. Theology & Mission

Hometown: Kontum, Vietnam

Plans after graduation? I graduated from Divine Word College December 2022. After graduation, I plan to continue to my education by entering a master of theological studies program.

What is the greatest lesson you learned at DWC? The greatest lesson I learned at DWC is communal life. I found a real community at DWC in the way everyone welcomes others, prays, lives, and shows hospitality. Living within a community of friends and mentors that have walked with me every step of the way helped me to grow more maturely and nurture my religious life.



Mass of Thanksgiving
Friday, May 12, 2023 8:00 a.m.

Commencement
Friday, May 12, 2023 10:30 a.m.

Livestream at youtube.com/@DWCEpworth





VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Fr. John Szukalski, SVD

Department of Interdisciplinary Studies [DIS] Dr. Cathleen Cleary – Acting Chair for Fall 2023 Semester

After due consultation with Dr. Yasmin Rioux—DIS Chair—and upon the recommendation of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, I am pleased to announce that President Thomas Ascherman SVD has officially appointed Dr. Cathleen Cleary as Acting DIS Chair for the Fall 2023 Semester, effective August 1, 2023. Dr. Cleary is well prepared to serve in this temporary role. She is an Assistant Professor of Biology and holds a Ph.D. in Microbiology and Molecular Genetics from Rutgers University. She served as the DIS Chair from 2019-2022, and has been a faculty member since 2002.

Dr. Rioux will be on leave during the Fall 2023 Semester, and will return as the DIS Chair for the Spring 2024 Semester.

Student Course Evaluations for ESL / Undergraduate Courses

All ESL and Undergraduate students are highly encouraged to complete the Student Course Evaluations in Populi at the end of the current ESL Term and UG Semester. Students' honest feedback regarding course effectiveness and their own learning experience is taken seriously. Note that course evaluations are anonymous—student names do not appear on the evaluations. Faculty and administration can review students' anonymous evaluations only after final grades are posted and locked.

Student Course Evaluations facilitate the routine evaluation of each course, with the following specific objectives in mind:

- Provide students with a mechanism for expressing constructive feedback to enhance the quality of learning and teaching
- Encourage faculty reflection on course design, delivery, and revision
- Collect data concerning the achievement of Student Learning Outcomes, Program Learning Outcomes, and Core Competencies
- Identify areas for improving program curriculum
- Gather evidence for documenting and recognizing quality teaching.

Student Course Evaluations are available in Populi, as follows:

- ESL: Open on Wednesday, May 10, 2023
Close on Thursday, May 11, 2023
- UG: Open on Monday, May 8, 2023
Close on Friday, May 12, 2023



Assessment Bites

from Dr. Yasmin Rioux

Dear DWC Community!

I am grateful to have been able to collaborate with so many of you again this year! Thank you all for your contributions, help, assistance, and dedication as we continuously move towards improving our assessment practices here at the institution! May you all have a wonderful, relaxing, and productive summer!

While I will not be on campus too often in person next fall, please feel free to email me with any assessment-related questions you may have after November 20. I will attend various committee meetings, prepare all relevant OAP projects for the fall, and keep running things behind the scenes, but I will also be enjoying a lot of time with our new daughter, who will soon bless us with her presence this August.

Please keep in mind the Spring '24 assessment project rubrics, and let me know if I can assist you in any way. Kimberly has my personal contact info, so don't hesitate to reach out!

God bless, have a wonderful summer, find joy in whatever you will spend your time with, and see you next AY!



VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD

Student Senate Cabinet of 2023-2024

Many blessings and congratulations to the newly elected Student Senate Cabinet of 2023-2024.

President: Mr. Vuong Minh Vu

Treasurer: Sr. Tram Huyen Nguyen, LHC

Vice President: Mr. Marc Anderson Vaval

Secretary: Ms. Ae Pa "Mu Mu" You Paw

I want to express my gratitude to the members of the Election Committee for all the hard work they did to organize a fair election. The election committee included Cederick Morando (chair), Sr. Tinh Le, LHC, Sr. Rose Ange M. Woulaou, PSP, and Sr. Thoa Pham, OP. Many thanks to the outgoing Student Senate Cabinet: Mr. Omar Picon Gonzalez, Mr. John Edeve Augustin, Frt. Engelbertus Salmon, SVD, and Sr. Thoa Nguyen, LHC. We are grateful for your leadership, dedication, and commitment to serving the Student Body and the DWC community.

Board of Trustee Meeting

Members of the Board of Trustees will meet this weekend, beginning Friday, May 5, until Saturday, May 6. Please offer our guests the most hospitable welcome you can. All students are expected to attend a large community Mass with the members of the Board of Trustees on Saturday, May 6, at 11:15 am in the main chapel. Semi-formal attire is required.

Room Inspection

The Deans of Students, Fr. Long Phi Nguyen and Fr. Raymond Akumbilim, will do an early room inspection on Thursday, May 11, at 8:30 pm for those students who will leave DWC immediately after the commencement on Friday. Another room inspection will be done on Friday, May 12, at 3:00 pm. If you want to have your room inspected anytime, don't hesitate to contact the Deans. Please remember that in order to get your room key deposit back from the Business Office, your room needs to be clean without any damage. For those students leaving the college, please return your room keys before departure.

Student Storage Room

All students living in the main building are asked to clean and pack all your belongings and bring them to the storage room on the ground floor. Megan Hall and Arkfeld House residents are also expected to bring your belongs to the designated storage locations. The storage room in the main building is limited, so please be considerate of others and mark your name on your belongings. Please remember, "Do not open or move around other people's boxes." Thank you!

Contact Information

Stay calm, and summer vacation is finally here. All students, please send Fr. Long Phi Nguyen your contact information where you might be reached during the summer. Check your school email periodically when you are away. I wish you all a wonderful and enjoyable summer vacation. Have fun and stay safe!

Final Exam Week

The academic year has come to an end. During this busy time with papers and exams, please remember to take time for yourself for prayers, relaxation, exercise, and participation in the daily Eucharist. As usual, two Masses will be scheduled at 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM in the main chapel. The Student Senate also sponsors free Donuts and Coffee served in the Pour House during the final exam week. Come and enjoy! Please check the Student Board for all the activities of the final week. Good Luck with your finals!

FINAL WEEK SCHEDULE

Monday 8 – Thursday 11

8:00 AM	Eucharist
9:00 AM	Free Donuts and Coffee (Pour House)
6:00 PM	Evening prayer
6:30 PM	Supper
8:00 PM	Eucharist

Thursday, May 11

8:30 PM – 9:30PM	First Room Inspection
------------------	-----------------------

Friday May 12

8:00 AM	Eucharistic Celebration (Chapel) Followed by coffee & donut (Dining Room)
9:30 AM	Graduates robe in caps & gowns (Room 107)
10:00 AM	Graduates group photo (Chapel)
10:15 AM	Graduates, faculty, marshals, trustees line up for procession (Corridor)

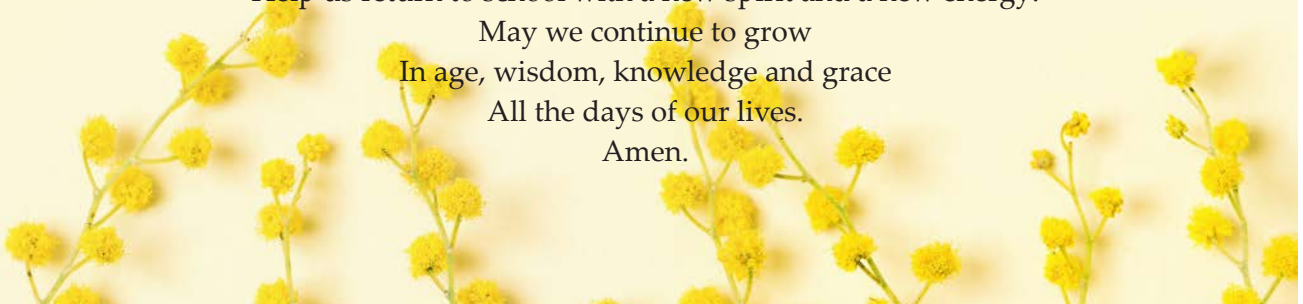
- 10:30 AM Commencement Exercises (Chapel)
Followed by lunch (Dining Room)
- 3 – 4:00 PM Second Room Inspection
Get your room and key deposits back from the Business Office
- 5:30 PM Supper
- Saturday May 13** Summer schedule begins (See attached)

From the JPIC Council

As we wind down the academic year, the JPIC Council offers this prayer:

End of school year prayer

O God of all beginnings and endings,
We praise and thank You for the gift of this school year.
It has been a time filled with grace and blessings,
With challenges and opportunities,
joys and sorrows.
The days have passed quickly, O Lord.
The weeks, the months, the seasons,
the holidays and holy days,
The exams, vacations, breaks, and assemblies,
All have come forth from Your hand.
While we trust that Your purposes
have always been at work each day,
Sometimes it has seemed difficult to understand and appreciate
Just what You have been up to in our school.
Give us the rest and refreshment we need this summer.
Let our efforts of this past year bear fruit.
Bring all of our plans to a joyful conclusion,
And bless us, according to Your will,
With the fulfillment of our summer hopes and dreams.
Watch over us in the weeks of rest ahead,
And guide each day as You have done this past year.
Help us return to school with a new spirit and a new energy.
May we continue to grow
In age, wisdom, knowledge and grace
All the days of our lives.
Amen.



Words of Encouragement for Your Final Weeks

Finally, the time is coming. It is a bittersweet feeling inside of us now. All of us are worried and anxious, feeling that we still have a lot to study for the final exams, write the final papers, and give the final presentations. The graduates might feel uncertain. What's next? However, all are excited that Summer Break awaits us two weeks from now.

These last weeks might be rough, too, but stay focused, and don't be troubled. You must close this semester with positive vibes. Here are some words of encouragement when you want to *throw the towel*.

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." *Robert Collier*

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure." *General Colin Powell*

"When you say 'It's hard,' it means 'I'm not strong enough to fight for it. Stop saying it is hard. Think positive.'" *Unknown*

"Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you haven't planted." *David Bly*

"Exams are not meant to intimidate you; they are meant to push you to succeed." *Unknown*

"Use your time wisely; time wasted will never be recovered." *Unknown*

"Failing one test is not the end of the world." *Unknown*

"Don't stress, do your best and let God do the rest." *Unknown*

The last drag of the semester is tough, but you're almost done. Summer is right around the corner. During these times, you are welcome to relax in our office. 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.



by
Sr. Aprilia
Untarto, SSps



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS

Mr. Len Uhal

Campus Visitors

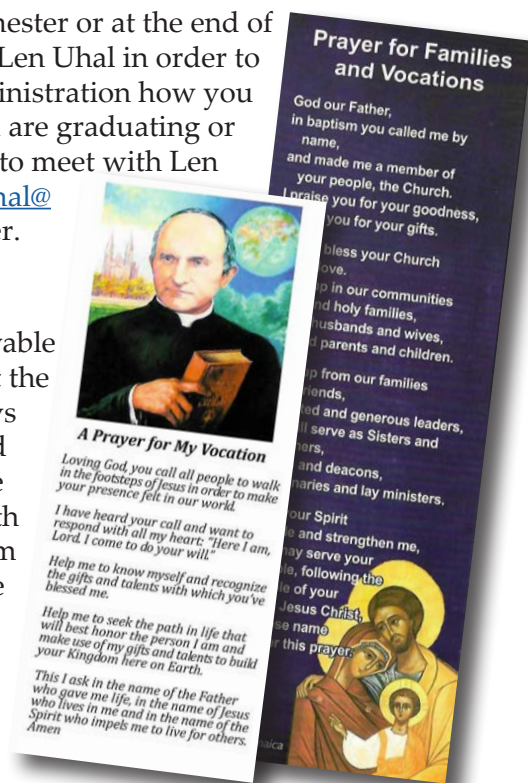
On Wednesday, May 3, Vocation Director Fr. Anthony Nguyen, SVD, will arrive on campus with two Come and See visitors. Please welcome **Charles Tri Doan** from San Jose, California, and **Tan Duy Trinh** who is currently living in Garden Grove, California. Both men feel God may be calling them to religious life and they are here to learn more about the Divine Word Missionaries and Divine Word College. We welcome them to our campus!

Exit Survey

We ask students leaving Divine Word College at the end of this semester or at the end of the summer ESL term to please schedule an appointment with Mr. Len Uhal in order to complete an exit survey. This is your chance to share with the administration how you feel about your time here at Divine Word College. So, whether you are graduating or coming to the end of your ESL program, please take a few minutes to meet with Len to complete the survey. It takes about 20 minutes. Email him at luhal@dwci.edu to schedule an appointment before the end of the semester.

Summer Vacation

The staff of the Admissions Office wishes everyone a safe and enjoyable summer break! In your travels, please consider telling others about the Divine Word Missionaries and Divine Word College. We are always looking for new SVD candidates to enter formation for the SVD and new students at Divine Word College are always welcomed. Please stop by the Vocations/Admissions Office to take some literature with you. Give someone a prayer card or a brochure and encourage them to consider a religious vocation and visit our websites to learn more about DWC and the SVD.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS

Mr. Steve Winger

It is going to be a busy summer at DWC. Below is a partial list of projects we hope to complete this summer.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Install disc golf course | Declutter & clean maintenance rooms |
| Remove some perimeter fencing | Clean grounds and plant trees |
| SVD bathroom remodel | Add signage to Megan Hall |
| ESL lab remodel | Build SVD gazebo |
| Pour House remodel | Repair cracked windows |
| Install new monitors and podium in Dining Room | Remove old window units |
| Repair heating system in kitchen | Repair or replace bicycles |

As you can see, there is a lot of work to do. We would not be able to complete this work without the dedicated workers in our Maintenance and Housekeeping Departments. We are also grateful to our student-workers who help with many of these projects.



Finals Week in the Library

Come study in the library during finals week! There will be snacks and drinks available throughout the week. If you need a break from studying, there will also be coloring books and colored pencils.

Koha Tip of the Week – Return or Renew Items

Before you leave for summer break, please be sure to log into your library account. If you have items out, renew them (if needed) or return them.



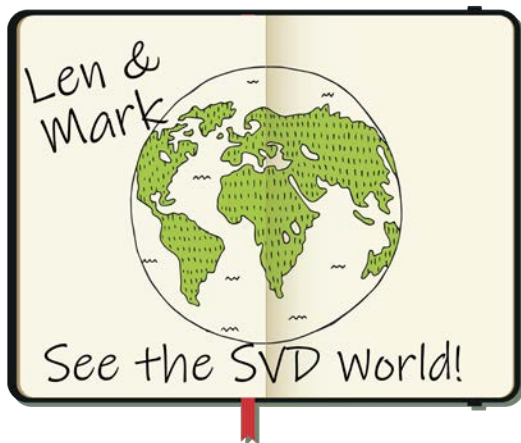
To log into your account:

1. Go to the library's online catalog: <https://opac.dwci.edu/>
2. On the right-hand side of the page, enter your log in information. Please contact the library if you need assistance with your username or password.

Library Reorganization During Summer Break

With the help of a couple students, we will be working on getting the library's mezzanine organized. If you are looking for a book with a call number of 530 or higher, please ask for assistance if you are unable to locate it. Books will be moved around during this process.





This is the last installment of Len Uhal's and Mark Singsank's adventures visiting the Philippines, Indonesia and Vietnam during January and February 2023. We hope you've enjoyed their first-hand account of SVDs in the world.

Connecting with Men in Formation - Len Uhal

In last week's issue of The Log, Mark Singsank gave a comprehensive review of our visit to Vietnam. From a tour of Saigon on an open air double-decker bus and a visit to the Chu Chi Tunnels to the City Gardens in Da Lat and a walk along one of the beautiful beaches in Nha Trang, we were able to get a taste of Vietnamese history and culture. We walked the streets, rode on motorbikes, visited museums, enjoyed meals at local restaurants and saw some of the breath-taking views of the countryside as we drove from Nha Trang to Da Lat. What a beautiful country.



However, as a vocation director, I think the aspect of visiting Vietnam that was most intriguing to me were our visits to formation houses. In addition to SVD formation houses, we also visited the Motherhouse of the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) in Nha Trang. What a warm reception we had there—greeted by Sr. Agnes, a Divine Word College alumna, her Superior General and members of her congregational leadership. We enjoyed a tour of their convent and we were treated to a huge meal, which included all of the sister singing for us—in English! Both Mark and I had tears in our eyes because of their gracious hospitality.

During our time in Vietnam, we stayed a few nights at the SVD theology house in Saigon. We also stayed two nights at the postulant house in Nha Trang and a night at the novitiate house in Da Lat. Finally, we had a chance to visit the philosophy house of formation in Saigon as well. At each of the different SVD houses of formation, we got a chance to visit with the men in formation. Some of the conversations were “in passing” and informal, but Mark and I gave a presentation to the novices and answered many questions the men had about the USA and SVD formation in the USA. Despite my inability to speak to them in Vietnamese, the men were quite successful in their conversations with us in English.



Click for
more photos!



I was impressed by their sincerity and commitment to the Society. I think the future of the SVD is in good hands, not just with the men we met in Vietnam, but also in the Philippines and Indonesia.

What I will remember most of all from our visit to three countries in Southeast Asia will be the warm welcome we received by the SVDs at each place we visited. As SVD Lay Partners, they welcomed us into their homes and into their communities. Everyone greeted us, talked with us and wanted to know more about us, our families and our ministries with the SVD. We are truly part of one large family, building intercultural relationships and ministering to God's people in a variety of ways.

Additional Spotlights to Share!

We have more spotlights than issues of The LOG! [Click to learn about five more of our wonderful employees!](#)



MARK GARTON
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR - ESL

SUPERHERO
Thermoman

COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT
The changing seasons

FARTHEST YOU'VE BEEN FROM HOME
Hungary

WHAT JOB WOULD YOU BE TERRIBLE AT
Cell phone sales

RANDOM FACT
I had my first music lesson at age 56

I WILL NEVER AGAIN
Try to learn PowerPoint

HOBBIES
Stamps, '60s pop culture, math, history

 **Divine Word College**
EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

A portrait of Mark Garton, a man with glasses and a white polo shirt, is centered in the spotlight graphic.

SUMMER BIRTHDAYS!

June

4 - Fr. Thang Hoang, SVD
5 - Fr. Lusius Mite, SVD
8 - Steve Winger
11 - Sr. Paschaline Kengran Dzelimnyuy, SST
15 - Sr. Thom Thi Mai, FMV
20 - Sr. Dao Thi Ho, LHC
21 - Fr. Roberto Carlos Alvarenga Henriquez
26 - Sr. An Linh Th Hoang, LHC

July

1 - Bro Quoc Bao Le, OCist
7 - Do Kim Tuang
10 - Fr. Ngoc Van Ngo, CM
12 - Cederick Erron Morando
15 - Jason Reed
16 - Ernsuze DeClama
17 - Jean Floyd
19 - Fr. Huy Quoc Huu Nguyen
20 - Sr. Scovia Okello Apiyo, LSMIG
20 - Sr. Yolette Dorce, SSps
24 - Cathleen Cleary
24 - Mary Kay Lueck
26 - Emily Shedek
26 - Sr. Tung Thi Tran, MCV
27 - Richard Garrett
27 - Sr. Nhi Thao Thi Nguyen, LHC

August

8 - Sr. Tram Thuy Thi Nguyen, MSC
10 - Fr. Simon Thoi Hoang, SVD
13 - Sr. Anh Nguyet Thi Pham, LHC
14 - Sr. Nguyet Thi Nguyen
15 - Fr. Telephore Dusabe
17 - Elizabeth Winter
19 - Sr. Tuyen Thanh Thi Nguyen, LHC
20 - Fr. Cong Van Nguyen
20 - Fr. Sam Cunningham, SVD
22 - Amy Hartman
23 - Fr. Milot Frederique, SMM



2023 SUMMER DAILY SCHEDULE

Divine Word College

Monday – Friday

7:30 AM Breakfast

NOON Lunch

5/30-7/7 early lunch at 11:30 (ESL students)

5:00 PM Eucharist

5:30 PM Supper

Saturday

8:00 AM Eucharist

8:30 AM Breakfast

NOON Lunch

5:30 PM Supper

Sunday

8:00 AM Breakfast

11:00 AM Eucharist

Noon Lunch

5:30 PM Supper

Both morning prayer and evening prayer will be private during the summer.

Staff on call:

Fr. Long Phi –May 13—June 1

Fr. Thang Hoang

Fr. Sonny DeClass

Effective *Saturday, May 13, 2023.*

Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD

Dean of Students