

THE LOG

Divine Word College

March 19
2024

A Bulletin for the Divine Word College Community

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THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascherman, SVD*

Spiritual Echoes

I have a new favorite story I've been retelling throughout Lent. Every time I tell it, I feel personally challenged by its message.

There was a little boy, maybe about five years old, who went on his first ever visit to the mountains. He walked among the trees and explored some of the hiking trails, keeping safely close to the family camp site. While exploring, he came upon a big lake-filled canyon stretching out below the trail. Wow!

He thought he heard someone down in the canyon, so he called out, "HELLO." A moment later he heard a soft voice from below, "hello". The boy was not really familiar with the experience of echoes, so he thought there was another boy down below.



He called out, "WHAT'S YOUR NAME?" Then he heard, "what's your name?" Getting a bit annoyed, he yelled, "I ASKED YOU FIRST," then heard, "I asked you first...." Now he was mad and shouted, "I HATE YOU." When he heard, "I hate you...." he ran back to his mom to tell her about the mean boy down in the canyon.

Mom listened carefully, and then gave some advice about how her son could best handle the situation.

The boy ran back to the canyon's edge and called out, following his mom's advice, "HELLO!" "Hello." Then he shouted, "I'M SORRY!"

The response from below was, "I'm sorry...." That changed everything, and so he called out, "I LOVE YOU." He heard the same message coming back, "I love you...."

I suppose the little boy in the story eventually learns about the basic physics of echoes in a



canyon, how sound bounces back from a distance. More important though, his mom helped him with a deeper spiritual lesson. If you broadcast judgment and hate, you will likely get the same harsh realities back from others. If you broadcast reconciliation and love, you will likely receive the same blessings.

Jesus teaches: “Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you” (Luke 6:37-38).

I pray that more and more of the “noise” I make will echo kindly through the world.

New COVID-19 Guidance

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, DWC has paid close attention to the guidance of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the advice of the local Public Health Department. The CDC has published updated recommendations for responding to COVID-19. Given the availability of vaccines and medications, and noting the much lower level of COVID infections, the advice for COVID-19 infections is the same as the advice for flu and RSV infections. (<https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/prevention/precautions-when-sick.html>)

“When you may have a respiratory virus...

“*Stay home and away from others* (including people you live with who are not sick) if you have respiratory virus symptoms that aren’t better explained by another cause. These symptoms can include fever, chills, fatigue, cough, runny nose, and headache, among others.

“You can go back to your normal activities when, for at least 24 hours, both are true:

- Your symptoms are getting better overall, **and**
- You have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication).

“When you go back to your normal activities, take added precaution over the next 5 days, such as taking additional steps for [cleaner air](#), [hygiene](#), [masks](#), [physical distancing](#), and/or [testing](#) when you will be around other people indoors.

- Keep in mind that you may still be able to spread the virus that made you sick, even if you are feeling better. You are likely to be less contagious at this time, depending on factors like how long you were sick or how sick you were.
- If you develop a fever or you start to feel worse after you have gone back to normal activities, stay home and away from others again until, for at least 24 hours, both are true: your symptoms are improving overall, and you have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication). Then take added precaution for the next 5 days.”

DWC Guidelines for Respiratory Illness

The Board of Administration reviewed the new recommendations, and after consulting with Br. Mike Decker SVD, the DWC health coordinator and with Fr. Simon Hoang SVD, the rector, I am happy to present the following DWC guidelines adopted from the CDC website.

1. **If you are sick**, especially if you have a fever, **STAY HOME** or **STAY IN YOUR ROOM**.
2. You can **return to College activities** when you are fever-free for 24 hours and your other symptoms are improving,
3. **For the next five days**, be especially careful to keep your distance, to wear a mask, and to practice good hand washing.

DWC strongly encourages keeping up to date with vaccinations for COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases.



Lenten series continues

Several more DWC Community members have shared their thoughts on Lent and ways to make it meaningful. The videos are available on the college Facebook page and by clicking on the images below.

Thank you to Dr. Jason Reed, Sr. Joellen Price, PBVM, Frt. Rafael Yescas, SVD, Sr. Maurine Okpara, SST and Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD for participating in this project.

Be sure to **LIKE** and **FOLLOW** the college Facebook page so you don't miss any of the uplifting messages from members of the DWC Community.



Welcome NEW STUDENTS!



Fr. "Peter"
Wanchalong Buran



Fr. "Alexis" Thien
Duc Nguyen, OCist



Fr. Thinh Phuc Ngoc
Nguyen, SVD



Bro. "Martin" Phong
Thanh Tran, OCist



Assessment Bites

from Dr. Yasmin Rioux

Institutional Mission

As we are moving into HLC Assurance Argument writing season, it is important to bring to mind our institutional Mission. According to Allen (2004), a Mission is "a holistic vision of the values and philosophy of a program, department, or institution" (p. 169).

Our Mission:

Divine Word College, a Roman Catholic seminary in the tradition of the Society of the Divine Word, educates men and women for missionary service as priests, brothers, sisters and laypersons. For this purpose, we offer an education that combines spiritual formation, a liberal arts curriculum, language learning and mission preparation within an environment that teaches and honors the rich cultural diversity of the world. This spiritual, academic, and experiential preparation serves the particular learning needs of our students, promotes their development as whole and responsible persons, and fosters a lifelong commitment to serving God's people.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD

Welcome Back!

A warm welcome to four new students! And to all who were away for Spring Break, welcome back! I hope your break was refreshing and that you returned full of energy as we now head into the second half of the semester at Divine Word College. Special thanks to all students who participated in the Spring Break Project at various SVD parishes. I have heard many good comments about your hard work helping out with the parish activities. I hope that you've gained valuable insights about Divine Word Missionaries and found your ministries there rewarding.

Liturgy Preparation

In preparation for the Holy Week celebrations, Liturgy Prep is scheduled for Thursday March 21, 2024 at its usual time of 1:00 pm in the main chapel. It is important that we learn to sing well all the songs for the celebrations during the Holy Week. All students are required to attend.

Mass for Vocation – St. Teresa Margaret of the Sacred Heart

On Friday, March 22, 2024, the St. Teresa Margaret of the Sacred Heart community will organize a vocation mass. During this mass, Sr. Nhung Hong Tran, LHC will share her vocational journey about how God has called her. Let's come together to join in prayer for the members of St. Teresa Margaret and for an increase in vocations to the Catholic Church.



SVD and SSpS Lenten Recollection

The SVD and SSpS members will have their Lenten recollection day on Saturday, March 23, from 9:00 am until 6:00 pm. The main chapel will be reserved for their exclusive use from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Please keep them in your prayers.

Holy Week Schedule

We approach the final week of the Lenten Season. This Sunday, March 24, 2024, our community will celebrate Palm Sunday, marking the beginning of Holy Week. It will be a busy week as we prepare for these significant events. The Holy Week program is included as an addendum to The LOG and will be posted on the Student Board. Please check all the activities carefully and participate actively in all. Those assigned ministries (altar servers, readers, musicians, cantors, ushers, etc.) for various celebrations should check the rehearsal schedule and come on time for rehearsals.



All students are required to attend the Holy Triduum celebrations from Thursday, March 28 through Saturday, March 30 at Divine Word College. Please refrain from making any other plans or celebrating these events at another parish. May this Holy Week fill our hearts with the joy, peace and love of the Risen Christ.

Donor Appreciation and Donaghey Award Mass and Luncheon

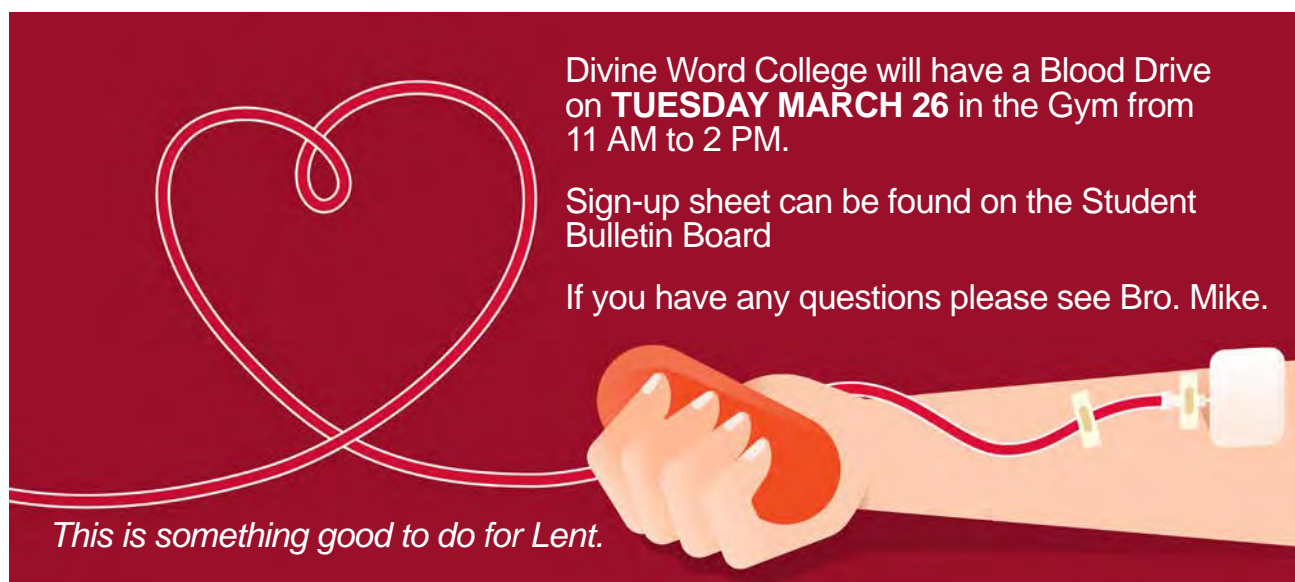
On Sunday, April 7, we will welcome many college benefactors to join our community for Mass and an appreciation luncheon.

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



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.

A graphic with a dark red background. On the left, a white line forms a heart shape that loops around to become a blood tube. The tube is held by a hand and has a red cap. The tube continues across the bottom and then goes up to a white blood collection bag. Text is placed to the right of the heart and above the hand.

Divine Word College will have a Blood Drive on **TUESDAY MARCH 26** in the Gym from 11 AM to 2 PM.

Sign-up sheet can be found on the Student Bulletin Board

If you have any questions please see Bro. Mike.

This is something good to do for Lent.

Marriage Encounter Group - April 12 - 14

DWC is hosting a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend April 12 - 14. A group of facilitators will lead married couples through presentations and exercises to strengthen their marriage through dialogue with each God and each other.

Presentations are in Room 107 but you may encounter our guests in the dining room and in other public areas of the building as couples find space for private conversation.

Please make our guests feel welcome!



Self-Esteem – Characteristics of People with High Self-Esteem (by Nan Peck)

I found an article on self-esteem written by Nan Peck, a former DWC Counselor. Even though it was written many years ago, this article is still appropriate for us to ponder. I divided it into three sections since it is a long article. Enjoy the second section, which is Characteristics of People with High Self-Esteem.



1. They are future-oriented and not overly concerned with past mistakes or failures.
 - They learn from their errors and are not immobilized by them. Every experience has something to teach if you are willing to learn.
 - Falling down does not mean failure. Staying down does.
2. They are able to cope with life's problem and disappointments.
 - Successful people have become to realize that problems need not depress them or make them anxious. It is their attitude towards problems that makes all the difference.
3. They are able to feel all dimensions of emotion without letting those emotions affect their behavior in a negative way.
 - This characteristic is one of the major reasons people with high self-esteem are able to establish and maintain effective human relations with people around time.
 - They realize emotions cannot be handled either by repressing them or by giving them free rein and lashing out at other people.
 - Remember – you cannot help the way you feel, but, you can help the way you think and act.
4. They are able to help others and accept help.
 - People with high self-esteem are not threatened by helping others to succeed, nor are they afraid to admit weaknesses.
5. They are skilled at accepting other people as unique, talented individuals.
 - They accept others for who they are and what they can do.
 - Their relationship, built on mutual respect for one another's differences and strengths, can help both parties grow and change.
 - Acceptance of others is a good indication that you accept yourself.
6. They exhibit a variety of self-confident behaviors.
 - They accept compliments or gifts by saying "thank you," without self-critical excuses, and without feeling obligated to return the favor.
 - They can laugh at their situation, without self-ridicule.
 - They let others be right or wrong, without attempting to correct or ridicule them.
 - They feel free to express opinions, even if they differ from those of their peers.
 - They enjoy being by themselves without feeling lonely or isolated.
 - They are able to talk about themselves to others without excessive bragging.



by
Sr. Aprilia
Untarto, SSps



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS

Mr. Len Uhal

Welcome Students

As we return from spring break and begin Term D of the English language program, we welcome four new students to Divine Word College this March. They are:

SVD Member

Fr. Thinh Phuc Ngoc Nguyen, SVD Vietnam

Male Religious

Bro. Phong Thanh Tran, OCist Vietnam

Fr. Alexis Thien Duc Nguyen, OCist Vietnam

Diocesan Priest

Fr. Peter Wanchalong Buran Thailand

Come and See Visitors

Next week is Holy Week and the Vocation Office will have seven men on campus for a Come and See Visit. You will recall that this visit is an important part of the discernment process as the prospective students discern whether or not God is calling them to religious life and specifically to the Divine Word Missionaries. This visit allows for the men to learn more about the SVD and Divine Word College and the visit helps them decide if they wish to apply for SVD formation. Our visitors will arrive on campus Wednesday afternoon, March 27th and stay with us through Easter Sunday. Thank you in advance for welcoming them to our community.

JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION COUNCIL

Upcoming Presentation

Fr. Greg Boyle of L.A.'s Homeboy Industries will be speaking at Loras College on March 20 at 11:00 am in the Athletic Wellness Center. This event is free and open to the public. Fr. Boyle wrote *Tattoos on the Heart* among other books, and he is founder and director of the largest gang rehabilitation program in the world. He will be speaking on "cherished belonging" in divided times. *See addendum for more information.*

Many of you might not be able to attend this event in-person. Loras will be making a recording of Fr. Boyle's talk, so as soon as it is made available, Bro. Brian McLauchlin will provide a link for publication in The LOG.

SPRING BREAK!

ministry reflection

Resurrection of Our Lord Parish, St. Louis, Missouri

by Br. Quốc Bảo Lê, OCist and Br. Ha Van Tran, CSA

It was a good time for us to present at the Resurrection Parish with parishioners in St. Louis. We recognize that there is an active movement of the Church through young people, so doing missions for them is the most essential thing that every member of the Church should be concerned about.

Fortunately, we attended the recollection day with the youth with the theme “Moving Forward.” During this recollection day, we had opportunities to listen to youth’s struggles, such as depression, anxiety, isolation, etc. Youth need the accompaniment to help them overcome those issues so that they grow in the life of faith and find the meaning of their life. Assisting them in recognizing God’s presence and love is one of the most crucial missions everyone needs to concentrate on.

Besides that, we also listened to parents’ worries about their children. Parents feel a big gap with their children because parents cannot understand their children’s emotions and thoughts due to language and culture. Moreover, parents need more time to take care of their children or have opportunities to listen to children’s sharing. Both children and parents need to have the right direction from the Church through priests, sisters, brothers, and parishioners to assist them in overcoming life’s struggles.

We must deepen our knowledge and strong faith for our future missions to help everyone on the faith journey.



SPRING BREAK!

ministry reflection

St. Thomas Parish in Gassaway, West Virginia

Fr. Tuan Hoang, Cong Nguyen, Rafael Yescas, Angel Rodriguez, Bao Nguyen

WOOHOO!

The Spring Break Project at St. Thomas Parish in West Virginia has been one of the most enriching experiences we have ever had. In just one week, we installed a new floor into the rectory, fed over a hundred families at the food pantry, helped a parishioner construct a garden terrace, and, of course, went sightseeing around the natural beauty of West Virginia.

It was much hard work, but it was incredibly refreshing. One of the most critical pieces of this experience was Father Thien, the pastor of St. Thomas Parish. Within the first hour of arrival, we learned about his endless energy and positive attitude with his signature “WOOHOO,” a phrase to commemorate any moment you desire. Fr. Thien was also extremely passionate about his work. “Heaven is for rest,” he said whenever we commented on his dedicated and disciplined work ethic. Despite this, he still made time for us to enjoy the community life of the SVDs.

Every day, we would pray together, cook and eat meals together, and enjoy time either talking about life or watching movies. We also gained an exceptional model of a missionary in Fr. Thien. Despite the small size of the parish, its close-knit community was just like a family. Fr. Thien created an opportunity for us to interact with the parishioners, eat meals with them, and aid them in their monthly food pantry. From there, we realized that the parishioners here loved and admired him through his working hard, being active, and being funny. Our time in West Virginia flew by quickly. Even though it was hard work, the spring break was incredibly restful, and we learned many things about work in a parish community. As SVD Juniors and Candidates, spring break was a time of discernment as we look forward to our future as missionaries.





Matthew Jacoby Library

opac.dwci.edu

Women's History Month Display

March is women's history month! Stop by the library to check out a [book](#) today or watch a movie on [Kanopy](#).



Project Muse Database Trial Ends April 2

Try Project Muse for your next research project: <https://muse.jhu.edu/>!

Project MUSE offers complete, full-text versions of scholarly journals and books from many of the world's leading university presses and scholarly societies. The library is trialing the Premium journal collection, which is MUSE's foremost collection of high quality, peer reviewed, interdisciplinary journals.



You can access Project Muse content on all campus computers and while connected to the campus Wi-Fi. The free trial ends April 02, 2024.

Dubuque County Reads Discussion Events Start Next Week

Don't forget to pick up a book for the Dubuque County Reads Event! This year's title is "The Personal Librarian" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. It is a historical fiction novel that tells the remarkable true story of J.P. Morgan's personal librarian Belle da Costa Green.

If you would like to participate, the Matthew Jacoby Library still has 6 print copies available. The library also has an [eBook](#) and [audiobook](#) copy available through Overdrive/Libby.



Complete details are available online at <https://libguides.dbq.edu/dubuquecountyreads>. If you are unsure about how to participate in a book discussion check out these "[Tips for Participants](#)."

Here are the event dates:

EVENTS

CASCADE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday, March 27th 4:30 PM

JAMES KENNEDY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Monday, April 1st 5:00 PM

UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE LIBRARY

Monday, April 8th 11:00 AM

CARNEGIE-STOUT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Monday, April 8th 6:00 PM

DIVINE WORD COLLEGE LIBRARY

Tuesday, April 9th 12:00 PM

LORAS COLLEGE LIBRARY

Tuesday, April 9th 4:00 PM

DUBUQUE COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT - FARLEY

Wednesday, April 10th 6:00 PM

WARTBURG SEMINARY LIBRARY

Thursday, April 11th 12:00 PM

CLARKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Thursday, April 11th 12:45 PM

VIRTUAL DISCUSSION

Thursday, April 12th 5:30 PM Registration Required

DUBUQUE COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT - ASBURY

Saturday, April 13th 11:00 AM



All events are open to the public. Copies of The Personal Librarian are available to borrow from participating libraries, or available for purchase at River Lights Bookstore. For registration and more info visit: libguides.dbq.edu/dubuquecountyreads

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2024

Divine Word College Seminary

PALM SUNDAY, March 24

8:00 AM	Breakfast
10:00 AM	Eucharist (<i>Gather first in the gym for blessing the palms</i>)
7:30 PM	Vespers—All students

MONDAY, March 25

6:30 AM	Breakfast
8:00 AM	Eucharist
6:00 PM	Evening Prayer—All Students
7:30 PM	Holy Hour

TUESDAY, March 26

6:30 AM	Breakfast
8:00 AM	Eucharist
6:00 PM	Evening Prayer—All Students

WEDNESDAY, March 27

6:30 AM	Breakfast
8:00 AM	Eucharist
6:00 PM	Evening Prayer —All Students
7:30 PM	Lenten Reconciliation Service (main Chapel)—All Students.

HOLY THURSDAY, March 28

8:00 AM	Breakfast
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer (<i>Main Chapel</i>)
9:30 AM	General Spring Cleaning (<i>check the assignments on separate sheet</i>)
11:15 AM	Practice for the Lord's Supper - Servers and assistants (main Chapel)
12 NOON	Lunch
1:00 PM	Liturgical Music Rehearsal (<i>see a separate sheet</i>)
5:30 PM	Supper
7:30 PM	Celebration of the Lord's Supper – (<i>formal attire required</i>).
8:45 PM	Adoration in the Mother of Asia Chapel until midnight. <i>(Adoration schedule will be posted on the student bulletin board)</i>

GOOD FRIDAY, March 29

PLEASE KEEP GENERAL SILENT THROUGHOUT GOOD FRIDAY.

8:00 AM	Breakfast
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer (main Chapel)
10:00 AM	The Stations of the Cross —(<i>gather in the gym</i>)
11:30 AM	Practice for the Lord's Passion - Servers and assistants (Main Chapel)
12 NOON	Lunch
12:45 PM	Readers Practice (main Chapel)
1:45 PM	Presider, cantors & musicians Rehearsal (main Chapel)
3:00 PM	The Lord's Passion in the main Chapel —(<i>Formal attire required</i>)
5:30 PM	Supper
7:30 PM	Stabat Mater —Prayer of the Sorrowful Mother (main Chapel)

HOLY SATURDAY, March 30

8:00 AM	Breakfast
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer (Main Chapel)
10:00 AM	Readers Practice
12 NOON	Lunch
1:00 PM	Practice for Easter Vigil – Presider, Servers and assistants)
4:30 PM	Cantors and Musicians rehearsal (see a separate sheet)
5:30 PM	Dinner
8:00 PM	Easter Vigil —(<i>Formal attire required</i>)
	Gather in the back courtyard if weather permitting
	Social in the dining room after the Vigil.

EASTER SUNDAY, March 31

8:00 AM	Breakfast
10:00 AM	Easter Sunday Mass —(<i>Formal attire required</i>)
	Easter Egg Hunt after Mass (Student Senate)
11:00 AM	Brunch
5:30 PM	Dinner
	Sunday Vespers private

MONDAY, April 1– FRIDAY, April 5 (Octave of EASTER)

8:00 AM	Eucharist (large community Mass only)
7:30 PM	Holy Hour (Monday)



*Cherished Belonging:
The Healing Power of
Love in Divided Times*

With Homeboy Industries as a backdrop, this talk will explore the power of love to transform the disunity that currently keeps us from each other. Loving is our home, and knowing that, is to never be homesick again.

**Wednesday, March 20
11:00 a.m. Keynote & Student Panel
Lillis Athletic & Wellness Center**

Please join Loras College in welcoming

**Fr. Gregory Boyle
of LA's Homeboy Industries**



LORAS COLLEGE

Free and open to the public
Please RSVP here:





Divine Word College

Dr. Donna Puccio Distinguished Service Award

The College established the Distinguished Service Award to honor Dr. Donna Puccio who has served the college with great generosity, grace and dedication for over 50 years. The award is given to a staff member for his or her outstanding service to the College community.

Eligibility

A nominee must be a full-time staff member employed by the College for a minimum of three consecutive years. The President and members of the Board of Administration are not eligible. Previous recipients of the award are not eligible for nomination.

Nomination

Nominations for the award may be made by any member of the College community (students, faculty, staff, and administrators) using the attached nomination form. It is not necessarily an annual award.

Criteria

- Employed by the College for a minimum of three consecutive years as full-time staff.
- Provides outstanding service to all or some part of the College community (colleagues, students, faculty, SVDs) and the public.
- Strives to continually improve the quality of work and delivery of service.
- Develops creative solutions to recurring problems to improve operational efficiencies in significant ways.
- Demonstrates a willingness to go beyond the call of duty to serve the needs of all colleagues.

Procedure

1. Complete the nomination form attached.
2. Address how the nominee meets the criteria and cite specific examples of accomplishments (three pages maximum)
3. Submit your nomination to the Vice President for Operations and Finance. The deadline for nominations is **April 1**.

Selection

The Board of Administration will select the recipient. The President will present the award during the Spring Recognition ceremony. The College will inscribe the recipient's name on a plaque displayed on the College Honors Board.

Dr. Donna Puccio Distinguished Service Award

Nomination Form

Deadline for submittal is **Monday, April 1, 2024**

Please submit to: Vice President for Operations and Finance

Mr. Steven Winger, Box 142

I nominate: _____

Please provide information about your nominee and how he or she meets the criteria for the award. If you need more space, please attach additional pages.

- Has been employed by the College full-time since: _____
- Provides outstanding service to all or some part of the College community (colleagues, students, faculty, SVDs) and the public.
- Strives to continually improve the quality of work and delivery of service.
- Develops creative solutions to recurring problems to improve operational efficiencies in significant ways.
- Demonstrates a willingness to go beyond the call of duty to serve the needs of all colleagues.

Name of person nominating: _____