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THE PRESIDENT

Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD

Glory!

The football season (American-style football) is quickly coming to a close. And this Thursday, January 29, we celebrate the feast of St. Josef Freinademetz SVD. So, I'd like to share a few thoughts about **GLORY!**

Big Joe the Lineman. In football, a desperate, game-winning touchdown pass is sometimes called a "Hail Mary." Yet the glory usually goes not to Mary, but to the quarterback who threw the ball and the receiver who caught it. The crowd roars, a victory dance breaks out, and teammates congratulate the hero of the moment.

Quarterbacks, running backs, receivers, linebackers and kickers all have their moments of glory. The big men on the offensive and defensive lines usually do not. Still, I recently heard a story about a defensive lineman. Let's call him Joe.

Joe is a defensive tackle; big, strong and surprisingly quick on his feet, even at nearly 300 lbs. In one game, he managed to get to the opposing team's quarterback and sack him for a loss. Joe celebrated by thrusting his fist in the air and shouted a triumphant "Hey!" In fact, on that day he sacked the quarterback an amazing three times. The third sack came as time was running out, sealing the victory.



After the game, the TV and radio interviewers wanted to speak with Joe. It was his moment to bask in football glory. But Joe hurriedly declined; his four-year-old son was at the game, and Joe needed to take him to the bathroom!

Joe's *real glory* was not in the spotlight, but in caring for his children and being a loving partner to his wife.

Birthday Corner:

JANUARY

Thinh Duc Ngo 29

FEBRUARY

Fr. Anthony Cong Nguyen, SVD 1

God's Glory. God is like that. God's real glory is in creation, and especially in us, his children. As John's Gospel famously proclaims:

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth." (Jn 1:14).

God's glory is revealed most clearly in Jesus' death and resurrection, where the path through death into eternal life is opened for all humanity.



Josef the Missionary. Now let's leave Joe the football player behind, and turn to Fr. Josef the missionary.

The first two missionaries sent out by St. Arnold Janssen were Josef Freinademetz and John Baptist Anzer. They arrived in China in 1879. SVD missionaries today sometimes joke: "*One became a Saint (Josef Freinademetz) and the other became a bishop*" (John Baptist Anzer).



John Baptist Anzer

quite famous in Germany, and in 1897 he was granted the honorific title **von Anzer** by the Prince Regent of Bavaria. It was a mark of nobility in recognition of his work in China.



St. Josef

In 1886, Anzer was consecrated bishop for the newly formed church territory. He achieved considerable success in building churches, schools and welfare institutions. He also ensured that the territory became closely identified with the colonial administration of the German Empire. Anzer became

St. Josef's path was different. He lived among the poor and came to see China as his true home. In 1886, he wrote to his family that if he returned to Europe, he would feel like a stranger—and that he was willing to remain in China for the rest of his life.

In 1889, Fr. Josef suffered abuse and persecution along with the Christians he served. When he heard that a catechumen had been summoned before the mandarin's

court, he went to plead for his freedom. What follows comes from Fr. Josef's own account, written to Bishop von Anzer:

"But your excellency must now hear what happened next. It must have been around 9 o'clock in the morning when suddenly, without the slightest prior warning, a large crowd of young men, armed with heavy clubs, stormed into our room, grabbed Teacher Suin and beat him godlessly without saying a single word to him or to any of us. Then they turned on me, covered my back with a fine number of well-delivered blows, and dragged me out into the courtyard... They yanked out my hair, twisted my arms, and from the place where the whole world goes to ease nature, someone scooped up a handful of excrement and 'lathered' my face. Then I was dragged for a long stretch through the main street of the city.

"When I noticed that one of my catechists was at my side, a prisoner like myself, I whispered into his ear acts of sorrow and contrition and gave him absolution. I really thought our last hour had come. I offered my body to the suffering Savior as a sacrifice for the mission. I thought repeatedly of the Savior carrying his cross, how he was dragged through the streets of Jerusalem, and I considered myself fortunate to share his shame. At the same time, however, I was afraid of the martyrdom I thought was imminent and so I prayed continuously for strength.

"We had covered, perhaps, a good kilometer and a half. The main leader of the mob ordered the people not to molest me further... I used the momentary lull to speak a few words to the mob. Lying bound on the ground, I preached for about a quarter of an hour about the glories of the Christian religion. The fury of the mob abated, my bonds were loosened, and gradually the rabble melted away.

"The first thing we did when we were alone and looked at one another, was to have a good, hearty laugh at our tattered clothing, our swollen and bloody bodies, our faces smeared with dirt and filth, hatless and shoeless, complete strangers in a strange place, eleven

hours away from our Christians... Nonetheless we set out on our homeward journey, traveling the whole day [since we no longer had any money we could not stop at an inn along the way] and the whole night through. After many a detour and false turn, we arrived, utterly exhausted, just as dawn was breaking. Our Christians were just getting up for their morning prayers in common."

Fr. Josef's glory was found in the people to whom he gave his life. More than once he famously said, "*I love the Chinese, and I want to be Chinese in heaven*". In 2003, he was canonized a Saint along with St. Arnold.

Glory at DWC. How about all of us at DWC? Where is our true glory? We may look for recognition or success, but real glory is quieter. It is found in faithfulness, in love freely given, in lives poured out for others. Like fictional "Big Joe," like real life St. Josef Freinademetz, and above all like Jesus himself, our true glory is discovered not in applause, but in self-giving love.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Joshua Young



Curriculum Mapping: A Holistic View of Educational Mission

During the development of the Core Curriculum and while writing our HLC Assurance Argument, some asked why we require certain courses. Courses are designed within a curriculum around student learning outcomes, or what we might call our Core Competencies. Each course should do something to teach at least one Core Competency and sometimes they can even overlap. Take for example that a speech class may be required to help you develop effective communication skills, but it could also help teach critical thinking. Understanding how the courses fit together through curriculum mapping helps us to see the explicit relationships between the five Core Competencies, the courses, and the impact of our mission. I like to think about curriculum mapping like a house. Just as a stable home relies on bedrock, our Foundational/Solid courses provide the essential knowledge absolutely necessary to achieve a specific Core Competency. Rising from that base are Contributing/Developing courses, which act as the house's main structure, playing a significant role in building and shaping student understanding.



Surrounding this structure are Supplemental/Enriching courses—like a garden or yard—that offer valuable opportunities to broaden understanding and add depth. Finally, situated within the wider "neighborhood" of learning, Indirect/Contextual courses provide broad background perspectives that support the overall educational environment, even without a direct tie to a specific outcome. When all of these elements come together, they create the scene for the holistic development of the missionaries we teach.



VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION/DEAN OF STUDENTS

Fr. Tuan Hoang, SVD

St. Josephine Bakhita Celebration

This Saturday, January 31, 2026, the African Caribbean Student Association (ACSA) will organize a celebration to honor St. Josephine Bakhita. She was a sister of the Canossian Daughters of Charity, Servant of the Poor. She was a slave before entering religious life, and spent 45 years dedicating her life to God as a religious sister.

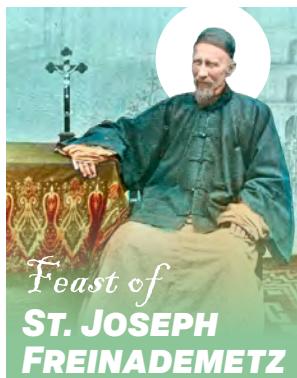
We honor and celebrate her life because of her witness and faith to God despite the struggles she encountered in her life. For her faith, she was canonized as the first African woman saint in this era. We will celebrate her special day with mass at 2:00 pm in the main chapel followed by a banquet. Please come dressed in formal or traditional attire.

A choir from a parish joins us for this special celebration with their own traditional music. Therefore, there will be no liturgy preparation this Thursday.



Feast of St. Joseph Freinademetz

Two weeks ago, Divine Word College joined the rest of the Arnoldus family to celebrate the Feast of St. Arnold Janssen. This Thursday, January 29, 2026 we will celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph Freinademetz, the first SVD missionary sent to China. This is the vision of St. Arnold Janssen, to send missionaries to countries and places where the Word of God



have not been heard. St. Joseph followed this vision, was sent off to China, and spread the Word of God to the Chinese people.



To honor St. Joseph Freinademetz, this Thursday, we will have a large community mass in the main chapel at 8:00 am to remember him and pray for all missionaries in this world.

DWC Volleyball Tournament - Winter 2026

The sports coordinators are hosting a DWC Volleyball Tournament at this time among the formation groups. The tournament already began last week, and will continue the next few weeks. Check the bulletin board for the latest updates on the tournament and know when your team is playing. Please come out and cheer for your favorite team. May the best team win!





VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS

Steve Winger

Operations & Facilities Update — Proper Use of Washing Machines

As we bring new washing machines to campus, we want to offer a few friendly reminders to help everyone get the best results from the laundry room. Each machine costs over \$1,200 to replace, and this month we had to replace four units that were only a couple of years old—well short of their expected five year lifespan. We know this is frustrating for students who rely on the machines, and it's also challenging for staff who have to remove, dispose and install new units. With just a few simple habits, we can help the new machines last longer, avoid unnecessary repairs, and reduce overall energy use. To help extend the life of our equipment, please follow these guidelines:

Do Not Overfill the Washer



- Leave room for clothes to move freely.
- Overloading stresses the motor, bearings, and suspension.
- Clothes do not clean or rinse properly when the drum is packed too tightly.

Choose the Correct Wash Settings

- Use the right cycle for the size and type of load.
- Heavy cycles are for towels, jeans, and similar items—not lightweight clothing.
- When unsure, choose the normal or regular cycle.



Make Sure to Spin Out All the Water

- Always allow the washer to complete a full spin cycle.
- Proper spinning removes more water, shortens drying time, and prevents mildew.

- Because the dryer uses significantly more energy than the washer, the drier the clothes come out, the greener and more efficient the process becomes.

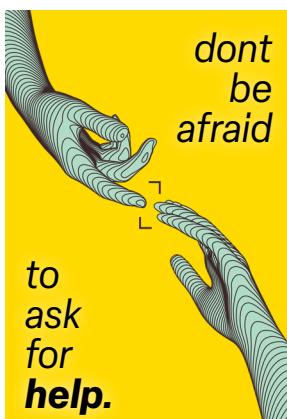
Reduce Dryer Use and Save Energy

- Dryers consume a large amount of electricity compared to most other appliances.
- Shorter drying times reduce energy use and support our efforts to lower campus energy consumption.
- Correct washing and spinning directly help reduce dryer energy demand.

Support Our Campus Commitment to Being Green

- Using equipment correctly helps conserve energy, lower operating costs, and reduce our environmental impact.
- Small actions—like not overloading washers and ensuring proper spin cycles—add up to meaningful savings.
- Regardless of the machines we purchase, all tools and equipment must be used properly to avoid damage and to support our ongoing sustainability efforts.

If You Need Help, Please Ask



If you are unsure how to use the washer or dryer, or if something does not seem right, please ask a member of the Housekeeping or Maintenance staff for assistance.

They are happy to help, and getting guidance early can prevent damage to clothing and to the equipment.

On View in the Gallery

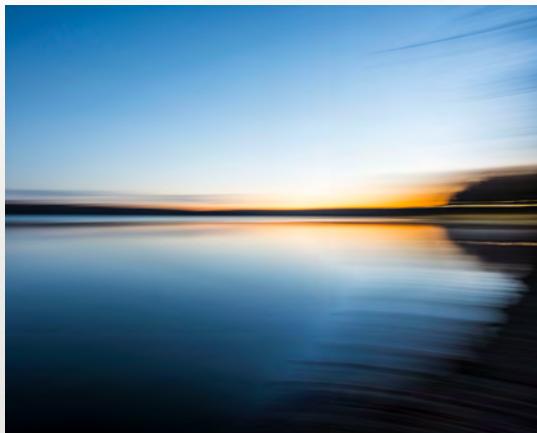
ON VIEW: News from the Weyland Art Gallery

Antithesis closes on February 14 after our Lunar New Year celebration, so you have a little over two weeks to visit the Weyland Art Gallery. Find inspiration and peacefulness during this busy semester in the art-filled space, and leave a note for photographer Greg Cooper in the guestbook. Remember to enter the Title Contest, because you might be selected to take your favorite image home after the show!

An upcoming first floor hallway exhibit, Words in Flame, presented by the Artists Support Ukraine Foundation in cooperation with the charitable foundation Library Country, offers a window into the destruction and resilience of Ukrainian libraries and publishers amid the ongoing war. Through text and photographic images, the project aims to support cultural institutions in Ukraine through public recognition of this tragedy, international solidarity, and charitable donations.

We have Adjunct Professor of Philosophy Dr. Roman Ciapalo and his former Ukrainian student, Oleh Khalayim, to thank for making us aware of this opportunity.

“The Words in Flame exhibit aims to raise awareness about a little-known but devastating consequence of the four-year old Russian invasion of Ukraine: the destruction of many of Ukraine’s libraries. The value of libraries to a culture is indisputable, making the indiscriminate attacks on Ukrainian libraries a matter of significant importance. To both the casual reader and the voracious consumer of literature, this cultural genocide must be profoundly alarming. When the war is over, there will be much work to do in order to restore this part of Ukraine’s cultural heritage,” Dr. Ciapalo explained.



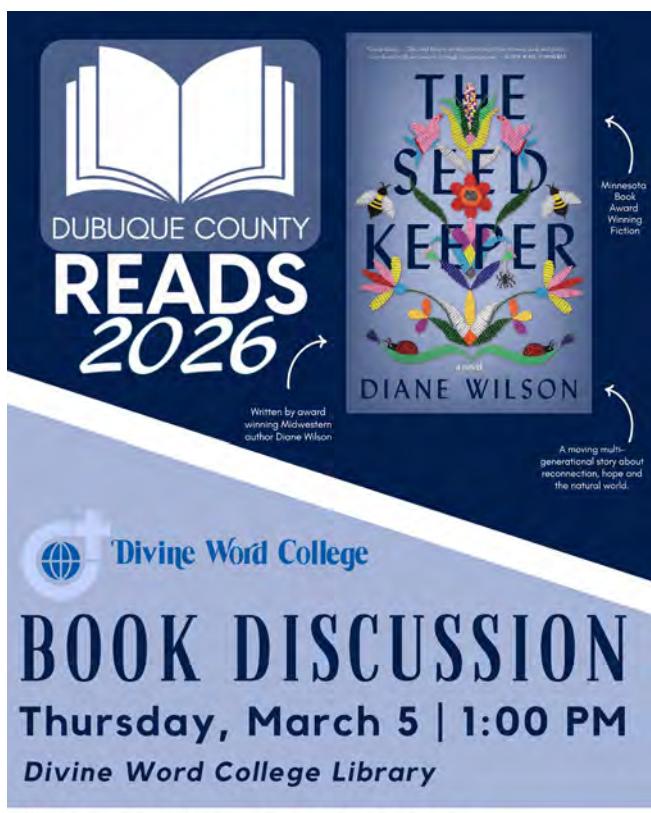


Dubuque County Reads – Start Reading Today!

The Dubuque County Reads (DCR) 2026 program is officially underway!

DCR promotes literacy, civic engagement, and community conversation through a shared reading experience across Dubuque County. This Year's Book Selections are *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson and *Berry Song* by Michaela Goade. Free copies *The Seed Keeper* are now available in the library.

The DWC book discussion will be held on March 5, 2026 at 1 PM in the library. All are welcome! If you can't attend this discussion, dozens of other dates and locations are available throughout the county. Find the full schedule at: <https://www.dbqreads.org/event>



TECH TIP TUESDAYS

1 on 1 Microsoft 365 Support

Just a reminder that I am offering individual, hands on help with Microsoft 365 tools including the following:

- OneDrive
- Teams
- Outlook
- Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- File management and organization
- And more!

Sessions are tailored to your needs—whether you want to learn a new skill or troubleshoot an issue.

To schedule a time, use my Calendly booking link:

<https://calendly.com/matthewjacobylibrary/microsoft-365-tutorial-session>



YOU ARE INVITED TO A CELEBRATION HONORING

ST. JOSEPHINE
BAKHITA



SATURDAY | 31 | 2:00 PM

JANUARY 2026

Divine Word College, Epworth, IA
Dinner Following the Liturgy in the Dining Room
RSVP: crabson@dwci.edu