Welcome Pope Francis!
Dear Friends,

As JESUITS magazine was going to press, like so many, we were happily surprised to learn of the election of our brother Jesuit, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, SJ, as Pope Francis. We are encouraged about his ministry to the Universal Church and pray for courage and wisdom as he anticipates this journey of faith. It is an extraordinary moment in the life of the Church.

We echo the words of our Father General Adolfo Nicolás, who said, “…I give thanks to God for the election of our new Pope… which opens for the Church a path full of hope. All of us Jesuits accompany with our prayers our brother and we thank him for his generosity in accepting the responsibility of guiding the Church at this crucial time.”

Signs of Pope Francis’s characteristic low-key charm were evident from the start. Soon after the white smoke appeared above Saint Peter’s Square, inciting the crowds to cheer and chant, Pope Francis stepped out onto the balcony. Before blessing the thousands crowding the square, and the billions watching around the world, Pope Francis bowed, and in reverent silence, received the people’s benediction. It was a gesture of humility and friendship, and a reminder to all of us that it is good to first listen to God.

In this issue of JESUITS, we introduce you to some of our men who have responded to God’s word and are in various stages of formation: those in First Studies after novitiate, in Regency and in final theological formation for ordained ministry. This issue also highlights Jesuits and lay colleagues collaborating in ministries of education, pastoral care and service to those in special need. We trust these stories will foster our union of hearts and minds as companions. Decree 6 of the 35th General Congregation, Collaboration at the Heart of Mission, affirms that this call entrusted to the Society of Jesus is entrusted as well to our lay colleagues and collaborators, our partners in mission.

With gratitude and affection, we thank you for working with us in our shared ministries, for supporting our men in training, and for helping us provide for our elderly and infirm Jesuits. Thank you so much for all you do with us and for us. Know that we remember you in our prayer and count on your continued prayerful support.

Sincerely in the Lord,

V. Rev. James M. Shea, SJ
Provincial of Maryland Province

V. Rev. Myles N. Sheehan, SJ
Provincial of New England Province

V. Rev. David S. Ciancimino, SJ
Provincial of New York Province
Welcome Pope Francis.................................................. 2
Looking to Our Future.................................................. 4
Celebrating Diaconate Ordinations............................... 7
Celebrating Final Vows................................................ 8
A Journey of Faith and Discovery.............................. 10
Teach Me to Be Generous............................................. 14
Ignatian Family Teach-In............................................ 16
Giving New Meaning to Matthew 25......................... 18
A Helping Hand: Hurricane Sandy Relief................. 20

In the News......................................................... 6
Across Our Provinces............................................. 12
Focus on Faith..................................................... 18
Advancing Our Mission........................................... 22
In the name of the Society of Jesus, I give thanks to God for the election of our new Pope, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, SJ, which opens for the Church a path full of hope.

All of us Jesuits accompany with our prayers our brother and we thank him for his generosity in accepting the responsibility of guiding the Church at this crucial time. The name of “Francis” by which we shall now know him evokes for us the Holy Father’s evangelical spirit of closeness to the poor, his identification with simple people and his commitment to the renewal of the Church. From the very first moment in which he appeared before the people of God, he gave visible witness to his simplicity, his humility, his pastoral experience and his spiritual depth.

“The distinguishing mark of our Society is that it is... a companionship...bound to the Roman Pontiff by a special bond of love and service” (Complementary Norms, No. 2, § 2). Thus, we share the joy of the whole Church, and at the same time, wish to express our renewed availability to be sent into the vineyard of the Lord, according to the spirit of our special vow of obedience, that so distinctively unites us with the Holy Father (General Congregation 35, Decree 1, No. 17).

— P. Adolfo Nicolás, SJ, Superior General
Fr. Hernán Paredes, SJ, a native of Ecuador, entered the Society of Jesus in 1982. As a scholastic, he studied literature and philosophy at Colegio Maximo San Jose in San Miguel, Buenos Aires, Argentina, where Pope Francis, then Fr. Jorge Mario Bergoglio, SJ, was the rector and spiritual director. He has taught theology, world religions and prayer at Loyola School in New York City since 2011. In an interview with JESUITS, Fr. Paredes shared his thoughts and reflections on the election of his friend.

**How did you learn of the election of Pope Francis?**

*Mea culpa...* I was attending a Broadway show with Loyola School freshmen. At intermission, a student told me there was a new pope but he couldn’t pronounce the name. He showed me the news story on his phone. I cried and prayed for my friend. It did not surprise me that he asked for prayers from the crowd when he first appeared on the balcony after his election. He always asked for prayers, even in his e-mails.

**What can you tell us about his influence in your life and vocation?**

I am very lucky to have had him as my superior and spiritual companion and to call him a friend. I’m a Jesuit some 30 years because of him. I learned from Jorge – excuse me but that’s what I’m used to calling him – to be humble, practical and available. As Jesuits, we are called to walk humbly with the poor. He wants priests who are faithful to God and willing to serve.

Jorge was also pastor of Saint Joseph’s Parish in Buenos Aires, and I served with him there as well. It did not surprise me that his formal installation as Pope took place on Saint Joseph’s Day, when we honor a humble and faithful servant of God. I was privileged to celebrate Mass at Saint Joseph’s last year. As his installation approached, I traveled to Belize with 10 Loyola faculty members and administrators to build homes for the needy. That is the way Pope Francis would have wanted me to celebrate his installation.

**What are some of the characteristics and gifts that Pope Francis brings to the Church?**

Pope Francis is a man who stands for and with the poor. He knows the poor by name, and I have witnessed this many times. Last year, I visited him in his office in Buenos Aires. Later in the same week, I visited a friend’s home in a poor barrio. Our friend praised then Cardinal Bergoglio for giving what money he had to help. He is known for his humility and generosity. Jorge was the community’s superior but he served others in so many ways, including cooking on Sundays for the scholastics.

He is a pastor and knows how to connect to people with his wit and words, whether in church, in conversation or informally. I remember the many times playing dominoes with him, sometimes with him and sometimes against him, and other scholastics and priests. He has a good sense of humor.

**What does his election mean for Latin America and the Church?**

It’s overwhelming. We are the Catholic Church and the word catholic means universal. I’ve received calls from people around the world, in the United States, Ecuador, Argentina and many other places, and they are so very happy. My friends in Manhattan, Long Island, Staten Island, Queens and at Loyola School believe that it is time that we recognize that the majority of the Catholics are in Latin America. Long life to Pope Francis, the Pope of the poor!
In October 2004, the Society of Jesus in the United States, in collaboration with its lay partners, embarked on a process of “strategic discernment” of how to best respond to the apostolic needs of the people of God in the future. The Assistancy Strategic Discernment (ASD) involved extensive consultations, discussions, reflection and prayer.

The vision for the future that emerged from this progress was presented in *A Meditation on Our Response to the Call of Christ* (2006). The Meditation described the mission as solidarity with “the least” and with “all,” and challenged the Society to review its existing commitment to Christ. Later, in 2008, *Responding to the Call of Christ* provided concrete direction for the mission in the areas of ministry, partnership, Jesuit life and governance.

In his approval of *Responding to the Call of Christ*, Father General Adolfo Nicolás said the ASD document provided “an invaluable tool for the years to come as the Jesuit Conference Board responds continually to the Spirit who makes all things new.”

The ASD process is past its midpoint today, with a targeted completion date of 2021. The Jesuit provinces in the United States have made a significant amount of progress in several areas in their works and apostolates through reflection, analysis and collaboration, with much more work in the years to come. In February 2013, the Jesuit Conference Board met to review progress and to examine next steps in the ASD. Information on next steps in the process as a result of this meeting will appear in future issues of *JESUITS* magazine.

As the Maryland, New England and New York Provinces move toward the formation of the USA East Province in 2020, several examples of joint initiatives and collaboration are already in place, including:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Common novitiate in Syracuse, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Common vocation office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Common formation office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Creation of The Jesuit Collaborative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>JESUITS, tri-province magazine, makes its debut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Common assistant for strategic planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Common social ministries office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Common formation gatherings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Common assistant for pastoral ministries for the New England and New York Provinces</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The provincials of the Maryland, New England and New York Provinces offer brief reflections on the ASD and the collaborative process.

We are blessed. Jesuits and our partners in ministry have embraced new models for ministry, leadership and collaboration. Collaboration with our partners has deepened richly as responsibility for mission and leadership in the Society is owned and shared. Jesuits in formation have a bold, broad and inclusive vision of the Society. They provide models and glimpses of our future.

— Fr. David Ciancimino, SJ, Provincial, New York Province

What has excited me most about the ASD process? Three things: the degree of cooperation and shared work in moving forward together; the development of shared structures to create the opportunity for further movement and discernment; and new reflections on the future of our ministry and how we move forward into the future.

— Fr. Myles Sheehan, SJ, Provincial, New England Province

I am encouraged by the renewal of Jesuit life. Spiritual depth is at the heart of our renewal. I pray that we may grow in that spiritual depth through the grace of great desires to serve God’s people as single-hearted companions of the Lord.

— Fr. James Shea, SJ, Provincial, Maryland Province

Fr. Chuck Frederico, SJ, is the director of vocations for the Maryland, New England and New York Provinces.

Fr. Michael Boughton, SJ, is the director of formation for the Maryland, New England and New York Provinces.

More on the web To learn more www.jesuit.org/about/jesuit-conference/assistance-strategic-discernment

2011/2013

Pre- and Secondary Education Leaders meet

2012

Common events, ordinations, jubilarians celebration, Province days

2012/2014

Pre- and Secondary Teacher Leaders meet

2013

Common advancement office for the New England and New York Provinces

2013

Common financial structures and treasurer for the New England and New York Provinces

2015

Higher Education Leaders meet

2020

New England and New York Provinces unite

New England/New York and the Maryland Province form the USA East Province
Saint Ignatius in Boston
Visits St. Anne’s in Jamaica

Each January for the past six years, members of Saint Ignatius Parish in Chestnut Hill, Mass., have traveled with pastor Fr. Bob VerEecke, SJ, to West Kingston, Jamaica, to work with and celebrate the Eucharist with their sister parishioners at St. Anne’s Church. Following last year’s trip, parishioners returned and raised funds to create a playground for the children in the community in a vacant lot across from the church. On Jan. 27, more than 200 people from the community attended the park blessing led by Fr. VerEecke and Fr. Rohan Tulloch, SJ, pastor of St. Anne’s. The group from St. Ignatius taught art-based faith formation classes and visited parishioners who were homebound. They also painted kitchen areas in houses recently built for St. Anne’s seniors.

Provincial Named to Hall of Fame

Fr. David Ciancimino, SJ, ‘77, provincial of the New York Province, was inducted into the Xavier High School Hall of Fame on Feb. 1. He was among eight individuals honored, including Fathers Vincent Duminuco, SJ, and Fr. John McDonald, SJ, ’45 (both posthumously).

“What a wonderful gift Xavier is for our students, our city, our nation and our Church – a gift, we pray, for all ages,” said Fr. Ciancimino. He returned to Xavier as a regent, teaching foreign language and religion, and later served as headmaster. He has served as provincial since 2008.

Ratzinger Prize Winner

Fr. Brian Daley, SJ, the Catherine F. Huisking Professor of Theology at the University of Notre Dame, was one of the two winners of the 2012 Ratzinger Prize sponsored by the Joseph Ratzinger (Benedict XVI) Vatican Foundation. Fr. Daley is a historical theologian, specializing in the early history of Christianity. Fr. Daley earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Fordham University and a bachelor’s degree, Master of Arts and a doctorate in philosophy from Oxford University. He has served as a trustee of Le Moyne College, Boston College, Georgetown University and Fordham and is executive secretary of the Orthodox – Roman Catholic Consultation in North America.

Jesuit Connections and Collaborations on the Web

Those who would like to learn more about the Jesuits need not wait for the magazine JESUITS. A constant stream of news and information is available on our web sites, and on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and iTunes. Daily offerings include prayers, podcasts, information about Jesuit ministries, Ignatian spirituality, special events and more. We invite you to visit, follow, become fans and join the conversation of the Jesuits in the Maryland, New England and New York Provinces.

On Saturday, Oct. 6, Seán Cardinal O’Malley, OFM Cap., Archbishop of Boston, ordained eight Jesuits to the diaconate at Saint Ignatius Loyola Church in Chestnut Hill, Mass.

The eight Jesuits are studying at Boston College School of Theology and Ministry. In the Roman Catholic Church, deacons are ordained to assist the bishop and his priests as ministers of the word, of the altar and of charity. They are authorized to proclaim the Word of God, to preach and to preside at the sacraments of baptism and marriage and at the rite of Christian burial. The deacons will be ordained to the priesthood in June.
Friends, family and brother Jesuits attended the Masses and celebrated at receptions following the final vows of Jesuit Fathers Mark Scalese, John Gavin, Kevin O’Brien, Philip Florio and Douglas Peduti.

Final vows are the last stage in the formation of a Jesuit, which follows the Tertianship period.


**Fr. Kevin O’Brien, SJ**, vice president for mission and ministry at Georgetown University, pronounced final vows in the Society of Jesus on Nov. 10 at a Mass celebrated by Maryland Provincial Fr. James Shea, SJ, in Gaston Hall, Georgetown University. University President John DeGioia spoke at the ceremony.

**Fr. Philip Florio, SJ**, director of campus ministry at Fordham University, pronounced final vows in the Society of Jesus on Nov. 18 at a Mass celebrated by Fr. John Cecero, SJ, at Fordham University Church.


To learn more about Jesuit formation and vocations, visit [www.jesuitvocation.org](http://www.jesuitvocation.org)

Fr. Philip Florio, SJ, pronounced final vows at the Fordham University Church on Nov. 18.
I can summarize in a word what I’ve gained during my two years of Regency teaching philosophy at Loyola University Maryland: confidence.

For one, I now have greater confidence in the authenticity of my friendship with Jesus Christ. To a greater extent than First Studies, Regency challenges a Jesuit in formation to assume added responsibility for his spiritual life. At this point in formation, superiors are no longer continually inquiring about whether and how I pray. With a full schedule of teaching, preparation, writing and other activities, I’ve had to work hard to stay nourished on a steady diet of the Word of God. Naturally, daily participation at Mass remains the center. Somewhat to my surprise, I’ve found that I’ve remained faithful to prayer (and genuinely enjoy it) even without being monitored by superiors.
Cooperating with God in this way, I move forward in formation with joy and confidence that my house is built on a firm foundation.

**Mentoring**

Second, with excellent mentoring from a couple of trusted colleagues, I’ve grown in the confidence that I can accomplish the work the Society entrusts to me. Admittedly, when I arrived at Loyola as a visiting member of the philosophy department, I felt overwhelmed. In retrospect, it was natural for me to feel like a light-weight. Most of my colleagues on the faculty had more education than I and they had already spent years teaching and writing. Nevertheless, with each semester I’ve grown as a teacher. I’ve become more adept at designing courses and classes. My judgments about what students need and can receive have become sharper. By teaching students and speaking with colleagues I’ve honed my habit of philosophical thinking. I now recognize that the extraordinary expertise of colleagues, which formerly intimidated me, is one of the foremost benefits of working at Loyola.

**Jesuit community life**

Third, as I complete Regency, I’m considerably more confident that I can not only manage, but also thrive in Jesuit community life. In many ways, I’m unlike most of the men with whom I live: I’m younger, have a different educational and formational background (before entering the Society, I trained for several years to become a diocesan priest), and have different ideas about God and the Church. Of course, differences like these sometimes present challenges for our common life. Nevertheless, they also present opportunities for spirited and sincere conversation, and such opportunities are worth seizing. Representing myself truthfully and speaking up, I’ve learned that others find my experiences and points of view interesting. I’ve also found that men with whom I differ are often full of goodness and apostolic fervor. I’m confident that God will continue to give me joy with my Jesuit brothers. Living and working at Loyola these two years has been an experience of God’s providential care. He has enkindled my desire for Him in prayer and nurtured me through the friendship of mentors and fellow Jesuits. I’m eager for the future and confident He will continue to provide.

---

“Cooperating with God in this way, I move forward in formation with joy and confidence that my house is built on a firm foundation.”

— John Peck, SJ

John Peck, SJ, is teaching philosophy at Loyola University Maryland during Regency.
Jesuits in Formation

in the Maryland, New England and New York Provinces

FIRST YEAR NOVICES

Michael Carlson  Matthew Cortese  Christopher Geraghty  Sean Hagerty  Matthew Lopez  Dickson Twelfil

SECOND YEAR NOVICES


FIRST STUDIES


In First Studies after the novitiate, Jesuits study philosophy and theology for three years at Loyola University Chicago, Saint Louis University or Fordham University.

In Regency, most Jesuits work full-time for two or three years at a Jesuit work or apostolate, such as an educational institution or in pastoral ministry.

PRAYER OF SAINT IGNATIUS

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, My memory, my understanding and my entire will, All I have and possess; you have given me, I now give back to you, O Lord; all is yours, dispose of it according to your will; Give me only your love and your grace; that is enough for me.

THE PATH OF FORMATION

Jesuit novices from the Maryland, New England and New York Provinces enter Saint Andrew Hall in Syracuse, N.Y., for the two-year Novitiate program.
In **Theology**, Jesuits continue advanced studies for three years at one of three locations in North America (the School of Theology and Ministry at Boston College, the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, located in Berkeley, Calif., or Regis University in Toronto) or at the Gregorian University in Rome.

**Recently Ordained** includes men who completed theology studies and who were ordained as priests.

**Jesuit Brothers** undergo a slightly different but equally rigorous formation process.

**Tertianship** is the final step in the formation process and the period of preparation before making final vows in the Society of Jesus.
Teach Me to Be Generous

By Elliott Gualtiere

A Generous Spirit has been instilled in me by my collaboration with the Jesuits. When I walked on the campus of Fordham University in 1991, I did not realize this decision to attend a Jesuit university would change my life. It was not until my junior year when I was put into contact with Fr. John Mullin, SJ, and I attended my first Emmaus Retreat that I would see my life go in a whole new direction. Padre (as he was affectionately called) had this way of encouraging you. He was the living example of Ignatius’s Prayer for Generosity. He was not only my spiritual director but my friend. He encouraged me to serve at Mass as both a lector and Eucharistic Minister. When I was struggling to figure out what to do after college, he put me in contact with Rocco Danzi, SJ.

Rocco Danzi was doing his Regency work at Saint Ignatius Church in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. This was a reunion of sorts since he had taught at my high school (Iona Prep in New Rochelle, N.Y.) as a layman. I went from political science major to youth minister as I would spend the two years after graduating in 1995 at St. Ignatius working with young people very different from me. Rocco epitomized the word “generous” in everything he did for those young people. He inspired me to stay on after his final year of Regency to continue working.

When I left St. Ignatius in 1997, I headed back to Fordham to pursue a master’s degree in theology. I got involved again in the religious and spiritual life of the school and worked as a resident director. This decision to return to my alma mater for grad school would again prove fateful as I met my future wife, Maura Harrigan, on the very first day I returned. Maura and I were married in October 1999. Fr. Mullin presided and Fr. Danzi delivered the homily. My wife and I have two beautiful boys, William and Nicholas. My association with the
Jesuits bore much fruit as Maura and I celebrated our 13th wedding anniversary this past fall.

After finishing my course work in theology in 1999, I embarked on my teaching career at Preston High School in the Bronx, N.Y. There I was introduced to and worked with Fr. Forbi Kizito, SJ, a Jesuit from Cameroon. Fr. Kizito was teaching at Preston while working on his Ph.D. It was Fr. Kizito’s generous nature that stood out to me. He was always helping others and encouraging others to do the same. Our son, William, was baptized by Fr. Kizito in 2003. It was during my time at Preston that I was also introduced to Fr. Vin Duminuco, SJ. Fr. Vin was beginning a Jesuit Teacher Leadership program through the Graduate School of Education at Fordham University. I was brought back to my alma mater again.

Fr. Vin gave of himself in so many ways and helped me become a much better educator. Fr. Vin is a big reason why I am here at Fairfield Prep. It was around Easter in 2005 that Fr. Vin called me and told me to send my resume to Fairfield because they were looking for a campus minister, and he knew of my interest in being part of a Jesuit high school. I received a phone call from Fr. Michael Boughton, SJ, (then president of Fairfield Prep) and the rest, you can say, is history. I am in my eighth year here, and the lessons learned from Jesuits prior to my arrival at Prep, as well as from the Jesuits I have worked with here, will last a lifetime. Jesuit Fathers Michael Boughton, William Eagan, John Hanwell, Paul Holland, Robert Levens and Laurence Ryan, among countless others, taught me how to give generously to students. The generous spirit of the Jesuits has provided me with invaluable life lessons that I have brought to my ministry as a school educator, husband, son, brother and father. Thank you, St. Ignatius and my Jesuit brothers.

Elliott Gualtiere is the director of campus ministry at Fairfield College Preparatory School in Fairfield, Conn.
The Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice (IFTJ) is an annual gathering that brings together representatives of Jesuit schools, universities, parishes and the larger Church community for prayer, advocacy and networking. It commemorates the Jesuit martyrs of El Salvador and their companions who were murdered in 1989. The 2012 Teach-In, a program of the Ignatian Solidarity Network, took place in Washington, D.C., in November and attracted more than 1,000 attendees. Many put their faith into action by advocating on Capitol Hill for social justice issues. Keynote speakers included Fr. Fred Kramer, SJ, director of the Jesuit Social Research Institute, Sr. Simone Campbell, S.S.S., executive director of NETWORK, Gabriel Bol Deng, one of Sudan’s “lost boys” and director of Hope for Ariang, and Merlys Mosquera Chamat, regional director of the Jesuit Refugee Service for Latin America and the Caribbean. The Teach-In proved a moving experience for the attendees, as seen in the reflections below from individuals affiliated with Jesuit institutions and works in the Maryland, New England and New York Provinces.
Watching representatives light a candle in remembrance of the Jesuit martyrs was overwhelming. The Teach-In was a network of advocates, connecting us to every corner of the world. We had become part of a community of people who devote themselves to the promotion of justice, and that was a true honor for me.

— Mike Coffey, Boston College High School

I learned a lot from my experience in Washington, D.C., and all the activities made me think of my life and where I’m heading. I’ve decided that maybe after I graduate I would like to do a few years of service or possibly join the military. I want my life to mean something, and I want to do more than what I am doing now.

— Maria Frances Linares, Canisius College

Whether it was learning about undocumented immigrants or listening to speakers such as Gabriel Bol Deng who experienced incredible pain and suffering, we need to listen to their stories and be inspired to help in some way. That is what I would like to take home with me and share with my community.

— Patrick Sullivan, Xavier High School

After Communion, surrounded by 1,000 of my peers singing collectively, I couldn’t help but close my eyes. Can you hear them crying? Can you feel their pain? Here at WJU, we have already begun plans to reboot the Justice and Peace for Our Time club. We won’t let our brothers and sisters suffer any longer because we are one body, one body in Christ, and we do not stand alone.

— Melinda Earnest, Wheeling Jesuit University

For me, the Teach-In provided both inspiration to continue advocating for social change and practical advice on how to bring about that change. I truly feel blessed to have had the opportunity to attend the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice!

— Lisa Dobbins, Holy Cross Parish, Durham, N.C.
Focus on Faith

Matthew 25

Giving New Meaning to Matthew 25 in Worcester and Boston

By Catherine Walsh

Watching his father, a truck driver who worked the night shift, pray on his knees before getting into bed in the morning moved Fr. Fred Enman, SJ, as a child. So did his mother’s devotion to Mary and his “thoroughly Catholic upbringing” in Worcester, Mass. A calling to the priesthood first stirred in him in elementary school, Fr. Enman recalled. He became a Jesuit because of a calling within his calling. “When I realized in college that I wanted to be a priest and to practice poverty law, it became clear to me that the obvious thing to do was to join the Society of Jesus,” said Fr. Enman.

It was the early 1970s and he was inspired by two New England Province Jesuits: Fr. Robert Drinan, SJ, who was a U.S. Congressman trying to impeach President Richard Nixon, and Fr. John McLaughlin, SJ, who was a speechwriter in the Nixon White House. “I thought that if the Jesuits can handle these guys, surely they can handle me, who only wants to be a Legal Aid lawyer,” recalled Fr. Enman with a laugh.

Life-Changing Experience

Fr. Enman went to Boston College Law School after graduating from Wesleyan University, and after completing the novitiate, he then enrolled in studies at Weston Jesuit School of Theology. He later earned a Diploma of Legal Studies at Oxford University. During his third year of theology, Fr. Enman had a life-changing experience one day while reading The True Church and the Poor, by Fr. Jon Sobrino, SJ, for a class.

In the book, Fr. Sobrino insisted that Christians must make Gospel values real in the lives of the poor. The famed liberation theologian singled out Matthew 25, which proclaims that people shall be judged on whether they fed the hungry, clothed the naked, cared for the sick, visited the imprisoned and welcomed the stranger in their midst. “I was in my room in Cambridge and I was so moved by what I was reading that I put the book down and prayed about it,” recalled Fr. Enman. “Jesuits are encouraged from time to time to make a resolution at the end of a prayer, so what I resolved was that if I had a chance someday to make Matthew 25 concrete, I would do so.”

Matthew 25

The opportunity to act on his resolution came the following year, in 1988, when Fr. Enman, a newly ordained priest in his final year of theology at Weston, had to create a pastoral project for a class. “I proposed starting a nonprofit whose mission would be to provide food and housing relief, and calling it Matthew 25,” he said. Fr. Enman convinced the 10 Jesuit houses in Cambridge to contribute their surplus goods to two yard sales for Matthew 25, one that fall and another in the spring of 1989. The yard sales were a hit and brought in $3,000. Half of the money went to food relief in Haiti and the other half to the Greater Boston Food Bank, with a small amount reserved to file for nonprofit status for Matthew 25 with the Internal Revenue Service.

Over the next few years, while teaching at College of the Holy Cross, Fr. Enman raised money for Matthew 25
through letters to family and friends. By 1994, Matthew 25 had $40,000 in the bank – enough to buy and rehabilitate its first abandoned home in Worcester. Since then, Matthew 25 has restored 10 decrepit houses in Worcester and one in Boston, renting them to the poor at affordable prices. The work, noted Fr. Enman, has been done mostly by volunteers – students from College of the Holy Cross and Boston College, Worcester Vocational High School, parish groups and youth groups from local Catholic and Protestant churches and the Ignatian Volunteer Corps, whose members are 50 and older. Fr. Enman now divides his time as executive director of Matthew 25 and as assistant dean and chaplain of Boston College Law School.

**A Community of Support**

The support that the New England Province has given Fr. Enman for his work with Matthew 25 has been crucial. “The big thing that the Province has done is to permit me to engage in this work,” he said. “The Province doesn’t have the resources to support Matthew 25 financially, but giving me permission to do the work has been the single biggest contribution they could make.” Fellow Jesuits like Fr. Bill Reiser, SJ, have also been helpful, said Fr. Enman. Fr. Reiser, a College of the Holy Cross faculty member who ran an inner-city outreach program for Hispanics in Worcester for many years, gave Matthew 25 its first office space and referred families as tenants of Matthew 25’s first two rehabbed houses. “Of any single Jesuit, Fr. Bill has been the one who has influenced me and inspired me the most,” said Fr. Enman.

His work with Matthew 25 has enabled him to see a “great connection between a Jesuit vocation and the ethical values that are developed in Scripture,” said Fr. Enman. Pointing out that justice is a dominant theme throughout the Bible, Fr. Enman added: “It’s very practical what we are called to in taking care of the basic needs of human beings in terms of food, shelter and clothing. Everyone in the community has a responsibility.”

Catherine Walsh is a journalist who has written for a number of faith-based and religious publications. She is a member of St. Ignatius Parish in Chestnut Hill, Mass.

For more information visit: http://matt25.org

---

**Before**

The first house that Matthew 25 purchased for renovation, a four-family home, dates back to 1863 and is on the Massachusetts Historic Register.

**After**

Fr. Fred with students who helped with the renovations.
The worldwide Jesuit family came to the aid of their colleagues impacted by Hurricane Sandy in November, displaying *cura personalis* (care for the whole person) to friends and strangers alike. Prayers, financial support and on-the-ground volunteers brought comfort, repairs to homes, food and supplies to many who saw their lives disrupted. A sampling of the numerous stories of living out the Jesuit motto *men and women for others* follows.

In the New York area, more than 80 students who attend Xavier High School were displaced from their homes. Alumni, friends and benefactors provided tuition assistance and other help to students and their families. Less than a week after the storm, more than 250 students and staff from Xavier helped to repair 75 homes.

Saint Peter’s Prep suffered significant damage to its physical plant. Financial support from many individuals helped to repair flood-damaged classrooms and other facilities. Students and staff from the Prep helped out with cleanup and repair efforts at the Jersey Shore over the Christmas break.

Parishioners and community members from Saint Anthony’s Parish in Oceanside, Long Island, lost homes and property as a result of the storm. Saint Anthony’s opened its doors to assist nearly 1,000 Oceanside residents by collecting and distributing emergency resources such as clothing and helping families seek financial assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Catholic Charities.

Fordham University students and staff collected funds and traveled to Breezy Point, Queens, to remove debris and assist with cleanup efforts. Fordham’s Dorothy Day Center for Service and...
Justice organized “Sandy Saturdays” throughout the winter and spring where volunteers visited affected communities and offered to help residents with removal of debris and repairs.

While Mount Manresa Jesuit Retreat House in Staten Island, N.Y., did not suffer any physical damage, it served as a temporary residence for more than 30 displaced families. FEMA, Catholic Charities and various city and state offices also used Mount Manresa as a base for community outreach and to provide information on resources and assistance available to residents.

Fairfield, Conn., was another community hard hit by Sandy. Residents, including over 300 students from Fairfield University, were displaced because of damages and destruction. Despite their hardships, students from Fairfield University and Fairfield Prep helped in their local community and traveled to New York to help with relief efforts there.

Students and staff from Jesuit institutions along the East Coast got involved to help their colleagues in a variety of ways. Volunteers from Cheverus High School in Maine worked for two days on cleanup efforts in Breezy Point, Queens, and held fundraisers on campus. Over Christmas break, students from Le Moyne College in Syracuse, N.Y., participated in service projects in Breezy Point, including food distribution and mold removal. Student groups donated funds to Catholic Charities and Covenant House to help residents in Queens who needed temporary shelter. Students at Loyola University Maryland raised funds for those in need at the Christmas Basketball Classic. College of the Holy Cross students from Worcester, Mass., faced off against faculty members on the hard court to raise money and collect canned goods. Boston College students and alumni traveled to the Jersey Shore, Queens and Staten Island to tear down drywall and hand out food, cleaning supplies and clothing. In the storm’s aftermath, the New York Province received numerous requests from people and organizations around the country seeking to assist local school communities most directly affected by the storm. The New York Province accepted monetary donations to assist students and families at Saint Peter’s Prep in Jersey City and Xavier High School in Manhattan. Individuals, schools, Jesuit communities, institutions and their alumni from throughout the country and as far as away as Micronesia contributed more than $64,000. The prayers, generosity and concern of countless individuals have helped many begin the long recovery process.
Reflections...

On ministering in an ever-changing environment

For those entering the Society of Jesus in the Maryland, New England and New York Provinces, the ordinary course of formation will take nine to 12 years for most scholastics and seven to eight years for most brothers. As the Church and the world around us change, the focus of Jesuit formation is to prepare priests and brothers who are well-educated, trained in the Spiritual Exercises and with skills to minister in a diverse and ever-changing environment. Ricardo Avila, SJ, Keith Maczkiewicz, SJ, and Stephen Surovick, SJ, share their stories.

Prior to beginning the discernment process, I met the Society of Jesus through stories my father told of his education by Mexican Jesuits in Chihuahua, Mexico. I learned some of the Society’s history through my Latin American Studies coursework.

I felt called to the Jesuits because the Society and Ignatian spirituality embrace the life-giving and creative tensions Christians are forced to reconcile. Jesuits are academics known for a spirituality of the heart; men of God who are detached from but thoroughly engaged in the world. I loved that Jesuit spirituality was not only unafraid of the tough questions but invited and demanded them, because God was, is, and ever shall be the absolute truth. Since I’ve entered the Society, God’s capacity for generosity and love in the face of my own flaws and inadequacies has become more evident to me.

In addition to our studies, I’ve been working with Fordham Law School’s Feerick Center for Social Justice as a volunteer attorney conducting legal research on debt collection and other consumer law issues. Providing limited legal advice to underrepresented, low-income New Yorkers through the Bronx CLARA project, is another part of my work with the Center. This unique work helped me put names, faces and figures to the poverty that afflicts so many New Yorkers and opened my eyes to the pressing need for legal services among New York’s immigrant communities and working poor.

Ricardo Avila, SJ, is in the First Studies program at Fordham University. He entered the Society of Jesus in 2005.
My call to religious life was gradual. The Cenacle Sisters, whose ministry is offering the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius, operate a retreat house in my hometown, so I’ve always been close to the Exercises. I entered the Society because I knew happy Jesuits when I was a student at Fairfield University and a staff member at the University of Scranton. Looking back, I see that God was leading me during those times and, amazingly enough, I was following.

Fr. Terry Devino, SJ, was instrumental in my application to the Society. As a campus minister at Fairfield University, he invited me in my senior year to a “Come and See” event at the Jesuit Community. I did not attend. My girlfriend at that time didn’t think it was such a good idea! But I never forgot the original invitation, which was accompanied by the simple phrase, “You should think about this.” I remember thinking, Wow! Someone thinks I can do this with my life! His approach was a wonderfully inviting and freeing one that I’ve never forgotten.

When I began my studies, I was advised to just get through this time; it’s not glamorous. But I’ve tried to take a different spin: consider that God has something He wants to show or teach me.

For my apostolic work, I have been serving with the Ignatian Spirituality Project, a ministry that provides spiritual retreats to men who have experienced homelessness and substance addiction. The men have amazing experiences and the retreats provide a vehicle for them to share their stories, which I’ve come to see as part of God’s story.

There is a radical sense of openness and vulnerability in the Society that is wonderful and so countercultural.

I was 29 when I realized that I was being called to religious life. My cousin, Fr. Scott Pilarz, is a Jesuit. He and other Jesuits whom I met helped me see that Jesuits were doing good work and were happy. It did not register with me then, but looking back, it is clear that seeds were planted that developed into my vocation. Attending the University of Scranton put me into contact with different Jesuits. So as my introduction to the Society through my cousin deepened, I knew that once I started to consider the priesthood, the Jesuits would be the first place I looked. Through more than nine years as a Jesuit, my relationship with Christ has deepened and my desire to serve the Church as a priest has grown thanks to the experiences that the Society has afforded me.

One of the things I’ve learned as a deacon is that it is not about me, it is about what God is capable of doing through me with and for the people I encounter. I did not become a Jesuit or a deacon on my own. Many people helped me along the way, and I have great gratitude. This reminds me that my ordination is not my own, but that I am being ordained for others.

I’d suggest to anyone who is thinking about religious life to pray as regularly as possible. Go to Mass. Read as much as you can about the spirituality and life to which you feel you are being invited. Start meeting regularly with a spiritual director. How you are moved through all of this can be the “stuff” of a good discernment.

Stephen Surovick, SJ, entered the Society of Jesus in 2003. He was ordained to the diaconate in 2012 and is serving at Our Lady Help of Christians Parish in Newton, Mass. He will be ordained to the priesthood in June.
In this interview with JESUITS magazine, Gabriele Delmonaco and Sherri Weil share their perspectives on the Maryland, New England and New York Provinces.

Gabriele Delmonaco joined the New England and New York Provinces as vice president for advancement in January 2013. Delmonaco has a proven track record as a fundraiser managing multinational teams. He most recently served as vice president for development at the Catholic Near East Welfare Association.

Sherri Weil joined the Maryland Province as director of advancement in July 2012. She has broad experience in education, advancement and strategic planning. She served in senior management positions with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Georgetown University and as director of external affairs at the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery.

**What are some of your initial impressions?**

**Delmonaco:** It’s been a great experience meeting so many benefactors. It’s obvious how deep their bonds are to the Jesuits. For some, the relationship began at a school or university, while others encountered Jesuits in parishes, on retreats or in other works. *Cura personalis* – care for the whole person – began then and has been nurtured over the years.

**Weil:** I’m struck by our donors’ broad understanding of Jesuit tradition. In my first months, I’ve had the privilege of meeting individuals – from an 83-year-old gentleman in Maryland who has been donating monthly since 1994, to relatives of Jesuit scholastics in Philadelphia, to recent college graduates in D.C. who follow us on Facebook. I’m grateful for what I have learned from them. Their enthusiasm is inspiring!

**What are some of your initial objectives?**

**Weil:** My goal was to meet as many Jesuits and friends as possible to learn about their interests, needs and priorities. While I have a long way to go, my goal remains the same: to tell these inspiring Jesuit stories. We aim to encourage continued support from those who know the Jesuits well and to expand our base to include those beginning to grasp the enormous impact Jesuits continue to have.

While 2020, when the three Provinces unite, seems a long time away, we are engaged in planning now and collaboration is essential. To quote Father General Adolfo Nicolás, SJ, “Jesuits and our lay collaborators have today an extraordinary opportunity to have a hand in helping to shape the future, not only of our own institutions, but of the world.”

**Delmonaco:** While education is a significant component of the Society’s ministry, there are many other important apostolic works. New England and New York Jesuits are on the frontiers in Jordan, Jamaica and Micronesia, in addition to serving as ministers at retreat houses, parishes, hospitals and prisons.

It is crucial to let our friends and benefactors know that the Province is the backbone supporting Jesuits from their initial calling, through formation, serving in apostolic ministries and in caring for priests and brothers in illness and old age. Our benefactors are our companions on this journey. Their prayers and generosity ensure that the Jesuits will continue to serve the Church and the Society faithfully. As the New England and New York Provinces move toward unification in 2015, the role of our lay collaborators, friends and benefactors will be essential.

**What are some thoughts you would like to share with friends and benefactors?**

**Delmonaco:** First, we are grateful. You allow the Jesuits to make a life-changing difference worldwide. Second, the needs are many, and we need your assistance. In the months ahead, we will share more with you about specific needs, along with an invitation to join us. We have accomplished much already, and your ongoing support will enable the Jesuits to meet many challenges.

**Weil:** I echo Gabe’s sentiments. We welcome your help in reaching out to a new generation. Can you imagine a world without the continuation of the Jesuit tradition? We need your help in expanding our circle of supporters.
Create a legacy of giving!

Let us know if you would like to:

• Discuss ways to plan for your family, your loved ones and also the Jesuits with a will or living trust.
• Receive a free copy of our Wills Planning Guide.
• Receive the Jesuit eNewsletter with financial planning news.
• Perpetuate the Jesuit mission by joining the Ignatian Heritage Society (IHS).

To learn more about fulfilling your financial goals through a planned gift, please call or click today!
Some great Jesuits through the centuries…

Ignatius Loyola    Matteo Ricci    Eusebio Kino    John Carroll

Miguel Pro    Alberto Hurtado    Walter Ciszek

What about you?

Discover how our history can be yours.

www.JesuitVocation.org