

DIALOGUE

"Priestly Formation for the 21st Century" • A Publication of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary • Spring 2008



SPECIAL ISSUE — WHAT'S INSIDE

The 2008 Friends of the Seminary

Catherine R. Murphy - Title Sponsor

Bishop Felipe J. Estévez & Diane Simowitz Receive Award

Named & Memorial Seedlings Gifts • 2008 Calendar



LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends:

I am writing to you shortly after a splendid Friends of the Seminary event here at your seminary. We were blessed with ideal weather, wonderful support, the chance to renew old friendships and the opportunity to recognize two most deserving individuals with our annual award. Accordingly this issue of DIALOGUE is devoted to our Friends of the Seminary evening.

The evening began with Solemn Vespers celebrated by Bishop Gerald Barbarito of the Diocese of Palm Beach. Reverend Mr. Richard Vigoa, student council president, gave a fine homily in which he recounted a moving experience he had during his Clinical Pastoral Assignment this past summer at a healthcare facility in New York with a young terminal patient. Our choir was at its best.

This issue contains information and photos of our St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary award recipients Mrs. Diane Simowitz and Most Rev. Felipe J. Estévez, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Miami. I applaud our board's decision to recognize these most deserving recipients.

At the conclusion of Vespers and in keeping with our theme, Les Amis du Seminaire 2008, the more than 200 attendees were given gift beads as they left the chapel for the reception area. Dinner followed and I am most appreciative of the assistance provided to our seminarians by local members of the Knights of Columbus as they helped served our guests to an outstanding meal prepared by Chef Philippe Pedemey and his most capable staff.

Friends of the Seminary is our main fund-raising event each year. Thanks to the leadership of Event Chairman John Herrick, the generosity of our donors and particularly Mrs. Catherine Murphy, our title sponsor, more than \$205,000 was raised this year. Additionally, the cost to raise those funds was 12 percent, an important consideration.

I encourage you to enjoy this edition of DIALOGUE. As always, please accept our most sincere thanks for your continued prayers and support.

Keith R. Brennan, J.C.D.
Rector/President

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Bishop Gerald Barbarito of the Diocese of Palm Beach, Mrs. Catherine R. Murphy, 2008 Friends of the Seminary Title Sponsor and Msgr. Keith Brennan, Rector and President, SVDP.

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Editor – Msgr. Keith R. Brennan
Associate Editors – Stanton Cadow, Cindy Krueger, Sharon Melancon, Keith Parker
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Contributing Writers – Stanton Cadow, Jim Frankowiak
Administrative Assistants – Herminia Garcia, Cindy Krueger, Sharon Melancon

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Dialogue Design Director – Claudia O'Leary
Photographers – Lucien Capehart & Michael Tall

Advertising Sales

Sharon Melancon – smelancon@svdp.edu

Correspondence

10701 S. Military Trail, Boynton Beach, Florida 33436-4899
Send address changes to: Sharon Melancon, 10701 S. Military Trail, Boynton Beach, Florida 33436-4899 or email: smelancon@svdp.edu
Telephone: (561) 732-4424 – Fax: (561) 737-2205
Web site: www.svdp.edu

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Mission Statement

The primary purpose of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary is to provide a human, spiritual, academic, and pastoral formation program to prepare candidates for the Roman Catholic priesthood. In response to the large number of Hispanic Catholics in Florida, and throughout the United States, the Seminary formation program is bilingual and multicultural.

The secondary purpose of the seminary is to provide continuing theological education to qualified clergy, religious, and laity of all denominations.



Friends of the Seminary 2008... A Resounding Success

Event Raises More than \$200,000; Award Recipients Honored

Friends of the Seminary, the annual signature event of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, set a record this year for most funds ever raised at more than \$205,000. Event Chair John Herrick also noted the cost to raise those funds was less than 12 percent. “Both the amount raised and the cost to raise those funds are significant.”

For the first time in its history, Friends of the Seminary benefited from a title sponsor, Mrs. Catherine “Sis” Murphy who felt the sponsorship was a fitting tribute to her late husband, former seminary board member Thomas A. Murphy, and a continuation of the family’s support of the seminary.

Thanks to Mrs. Murphy’s sponsorship Friends of the Seminary 2008 has been the most successful ever in terms of funds raised.

“We have actively supported the seminary for many years,” said Mrs. Murphy. “Tom was a member of the board and Investment Advisory Committee from 1988 until shortly before his death.

“We both felt that our service and financial support of the seminary was an important way for us to give back for all of the blessings Our Divine Lord has showered upon us. In addition, I hope others will recognize the great blessing we have in the seminary and how important it is to the future of the Church. I am pleased that we have been

able to support the seminary,” said Mrs. Murphy.

Mrs. Murphy’s daughter, Cam, continues the work of her father as a member of the seminary board, Investment Advisory Committee and Rector’s Development Council.

Mild weather greeted the more than 200 attendees as they entered the campus and chapel for Solemn Vespers celebrated by Bishop Gerald Barbarito of the Diocese of Palm Beach. Reverend Mr. Richard Vigoa, a seminarian and student council president, gave the homily during which he related a moving experience he had while on his Clinical Pastoral assignment during the summer at a health care facility in New York. He described his relationship with a terminally ill young woman and her journey of faith during her final days.

Monsignor Keith Brennan, rector/president, then announced the recipients of the annual St. Vincent de Paul Award: Mrs. Diane Simowitz and Most Rev. Felipe J. Estévez, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Miami. Presented annually by the seminary, the award honors those persons, one lay person and one member of the Clergy, who have excelled in witnessing to the values of the Gospel through their lives and service to the People of God.

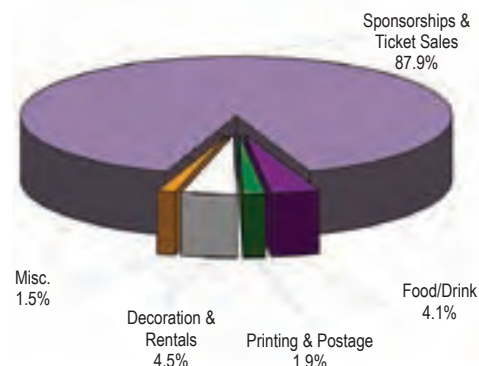
Chair of the Rector’s Development Council for the seminary, Mrs. Simowitz

Income & Expenses



also serves on the Board of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Palm Beach, the Board of Holy Cross School, All Saints School, Jupiter Medical Center Diabetes Education and Jupiter Health Auxiliary Center. Mrs. Simowitz is a member of St. Patrick’s Parish in Palm Beach Gardens where she serves as a Eucharistic Minister. Monsignor Brennan noted that “daily Mass and communion are important parts of her life.” Mrs. Simowitz has a tradition

Income/Expenses by Percentage





of volunteerism and stewardship and a desire to “give back for a life that has been very good to me with many blessings from God.”

Bishop Estévez was ordained to the priesthood in 1970 and Pope John Paul II conferred the rank of Monsignor upon Fr. Estévez in 2001 and appointed him Auxiliary Bishop of Miami in 2003. He was ordained bishop in January 2004. Bishop Estévez has been a faculty member at two seminaries in Honduras; he has served as a Campus Minister at Florida International University and Pastor of St. Agatha Church, Miami. He has served as faculty, Dean of Spiritual Formation and President/Rector at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary.

Monsignor Brennan noted award nominations are solicited from the seminary’s Board of Trustees which then votes upon the nominations received.

Guests then moved from the chapel to the reception area while receiving Mardi Gras-type beads befitting the new event theme, Les Amis du Seminaire. Dinner followed. Members of local councils of the Knights of Columbus provided assistance to seminarians with guest meal and beverage service.





SunTrust was the lead corporate sponsor, CapTrust/Schott Group was also a supporting sponsor, and both US Foods and SYSCO Southeast Florida made in-kind contributions to the event. Tony Chachere's and Hershey's also provided products supporting the event.

"It was a wonderful evening of renewed friendships and remarkable support for a very important Catholic institution," said Herrick. "My personal thanks to Sis Murphy and my fellow donors, as well as the seminary staff and seminarians for all of their efforts in helping to make Friends of the Seminary a great event."

(See back cover for photos of all the award recipients.)

Please go to <http://web.mac.com/miketall/iWeb/SVDP/Photos.html> to view and download free images from the evening's affair, or to see a copy of the "Friends of the Seminary" program. Also go to <http://97.66.155.2/stvincent> to see and purchase images taken by Lucien Capehart Photography.









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Named and Memorial Gifts Made to "Seedlings"

The seminary is grateful to the 200 plus donors who contributed over \$63,000 to the 2008 Christmas Appeal and "Seedlings for St. Vincent." Many gifts were made in memory or in honor of loved ones, family and friends. The list below includes the name of those honored as of February 22, 2008.

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**St. Vincent de Paul
Official Calendar
2008**

April 6 – Candidacy Mass
April 19 – Diaconate Ordination
Mass
May 8 – Commencement
May 21 – Development Council
Meeting
June 9 to June 13 – Priest Week
June 16 to June 20 – Deacon Week
August 27 – Opening Mass
September 17 – Development
Council Meeting
September 19 – Board of Trustees
Meeting
September 27 – Patronal Feast-
St. Vincent de Paul Day
October 29 – Legacy Society Mass &
Luncheon
December 7 – Donor Mass & Brunch

Please call (561) 732-4424 for more
information on events.
Go to www.svdp.edu for the most up-to-date
calendar.

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TOP LEFT

Msgr. Keith Brennan presents recognition to Mrs. Catherine "Sis" Murphy

TOP RIGHT

Bishop Barbarito and Msgr. Brennan present the *St. Vincent de Paul Award* to Auxiliary Bishop Felipe Estévez during vespers.

BOTTOM LEFT

Stanton Cadow, SVDP Director of Development looks on as Msgr. Keith Brennan recognizes "Friends" Chairman John Herrick.

BOTTOM RIGHT

Mrs. Diane Simowitz, recipient of the *St. Vincent de Paul Award*, exiting the chapel stops for a photo.

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