

Bellarmino Jesuit Retreat House

n e w s l e t t e r

Volume 42

September 2006

Number 3

A New Retreat Season Begins in September

Summers are always busy at Bellarmine, and this summer was no exception. While the summer months are filled with retreats, and private and directed retreatants, summer is also a time for accomplishing needed repairs, replacements, and in general shining up the building and readying it for the new retreat season. In the midst of all of this activity, lay and Jesuit staff try to find time to steal away for a few days of vacation.

This summer was particularly difficult for the staff at Bellarmine as we said goodbye to long time staff members, Fr. George Steenken, S.J., and Br. Bill Haas, S.J. Although we all wish them the best at Colombiere, on a personal level we will miss them both.

This summer was made challenging by the replacement of the old boilers and conversion of the heating system. Although this work was at times loud and dusty the project has moved forward smoothly according to schedule, and will be completed in August or early September. We anticipate that the new heating system will not only offer considerable energy savings, but will provide retreatants with a higher level of comfort during the winter months.

As we say goodbye to summer, we look forward to September and a new retreat season. Last year we experienced a significant increase in attendance at our weekend retreats, this year we wait in hopeful expectation to welcome back old friends and meet new ones. If you are someone who hasn't been back to Bellarmine for a few years we hope that you will again consider the invitation to "Come to the Quiet." If you are someone who comes every year we look forward to seeing you again, and we hope you will consider inviting someone you know to join you on retreat at Bellarmine this year.



Boiler Demolition Crew



Installation of New Boilers

A Word From the Director



John T. Dillon, S.J.

Retreatants as Today's Prophets

During the lifetime of Jesus, religious leaders provided their followers with a comprehensive listing of moral and spiritual directives as guidelines for their religious life. Ordinary persons, especially the poor or otherwise disadvantaged, often found these directives to be oppressive, unbending, a real burden. Their begrudging observance of the Law by obedience to religious directives too often degenerated into superficial practices of piety and self-righteousness.

Jesus recognized that people needed a spiritual nourishment which went beyond careful observance of directives from religious leaders. His compassion for the oppressed of His day brought Jesus into conflicts with religious leaders and prompted Him sometimes to disregard some rigid religious regulations.

In Jewish history, prophets who were identified with, and spoke on behalf of ordinary persons, had been

silenced in favor of official demands for a strict adherence to the prescribed uniform observance of religious practices and pious customs. Prophets, speaking under the influence of the Holy Spirit, freed people from the bonds of undue rigidity in some religious practices. Prophets spoke with compassionate awareness of what was wrong in their world and how religion could enable them with God's help to deal with their world.

Jesus became the Prophet of His day. He didn't come to undermine legitimate religious practices based on the Law. He wanted to bring spiritual understanding to expressions of religious living. Jesus and later His disciples were to be present as the Light, the Truth, the Way in a world whose cultural values often conflicted with revealed truth. The quality of love and goodness evident in their approach to life and their relationships to others was to constitute an ongoing prophetic influence in the world.

People today eagerly seek religious leaders to help them sort out what is spiritual wheat in our life, what are cultural weeds. We live amid values toxic to the values of Christ. Many persons today resist or ignore some of the Church's moral directives and liturgical ceremonies and practices which seem to them irrelevant, unimportant in their day to day life. People look for a prophetic voice to articulate the path to spiritual growth amid our confusion regarding values to live by. They want to be taught to live by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Retreats at Bellarmine provide the opportunity for prayerful reflection for individuals and for groups of persons to discern how the prophetic role of Jesus is being entrusted to them. Retreatants are looking compassionately at our world torn by strife and bitterness and want to discern under grace how to exercise the love and concern of Christ for today's world. The Holy Spirit's presence in their hearts awakens in them a desire to forgive others and serve them. That desire to love others is prompted by the Spirit they find missing in many of our pious practices and liturgies today which seem mechanical.

The honest reactions of retreatants to religious leadership today, and a desire to act responsibly may well constitute the prophetic presence of Jesus in today's world. Ignatian retreats enable persons to discern God's will for themselves amid the confusing circumstances and relationships in their life. Ignatian retreats occasion a personal commitment to Christ and a desire to do what God wants to accomplish through them in today's troubled world.

Retreatants realize that many persons who are spiritually hungry are attempting to satisfy spiritual hunger with excitement and pleasures. They see that television has conditioned many persons today to be passive participants in our world. They are conditioned to a non-response to high-level emotional stimulation. Christ calls retreatants to be active participants in bringing love into the world. Retreatants are today's voice for the prophetic Christ.

Fr. Patrick McGrath Joins Bellarmine's Board



Patrick McGrath, S.J.

Fr. Patrick McGrath was born and raised in the south suburbs of Chicago. He received a B.A. in American Government from the University of Notre Dame. Upon graduation from Notre Dame, Fr. Pat spent some years in formation with the Holy Cross Fathers before returning to Chicago to begin a career in secondary education. He taught at Chicago's Cathedral High School for a year before joining the faculty at St. Ignatius College Prep. He went on to earn a M.S. in Education and Social Policy from Northwestern University, and a M.Div. from the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley.

In 2000, Fr. Pat entered the Society of Jesus. He professed his perpetual vows in 2002, and was recently ordained a priest in June 2006. His first assignment following ordination this summer is to serve as Provincial Assistant for Secondary Education, which allows him to work with the five Jesuit High Schools in the Chicago Province.

Bellarmino Welcomes New Staff Members



Tony Kreutzjans, S.J.

Br. Tony Kreutzjans, S.J., joined the staff at Bellarmine in July. Br. Tony comes to Bellarmine from St. Ignatius College Prep where he served as house consultor since 2000. He also served as a case manager for HIV patients at Cook County Hospital.

Br. Tony will take over many of Fr. George Steenken's former responsibilities including overseeing the gardens, and welcoming retreatants at the front desk. In addition he will take on some Jesuit community responsibilities previously performed by Br. Bill Haas. Br. Tony's warm outgoing personality and love of gardening make him a welcome addition to the Bellarmine staff.



Rich Jacques

Rich Jacques joined the Bellarmine staff in June, replacing Br. Bill Haas, S.J., as Supervisor of Maintenance. He arrived just in time to oversee the boiler replacement and heating conversion project at Bellarmine.

Rich has 27 years of maintenance experience at Delta Airlines. He has experience in building maintenance, building mechanical systems, HVAC systems, electrical systems, vehicle maintenance as well as other areas of expertise.

Rich lives in Arlington Heights with his wife Renee and their three children.

Bellarmino Hosts the Luis Cuadrado Memorial Retreat

The second annual retreat for Spanish-speaking men will be held on August 25 - 27. Luis Cuadrado, who passed away on February 20, 2006, began this retreat last year. The retreat has been named the Luis Cuadrado Memorial Retreat in memory of his love of Bellarmine, and in recognition of all of his hard work in establishing this retreat for Spanish speaking men.

The retreat master this year is Fr. Elias Basila, S.J., from Mexico. Fr. John Foley, S.J. last year's retreat master, will assist Fr. Basila. The retreat is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, and follows the same format of the English-speaking retreats. All presentations, Masses and Sacraments will be in Spanish.

Friends of Luis Cuadrado have been hard at work recruiting for this retreat. All Spanish-speaking men are welcome to attend.

Remember Bellarmine in Your Will

Remember Bellarmine with a Bequest in Your Will or by Setting up a Trust

Two ways to assure the continuation and growth of Bellarmine's Ministry is to name us in your will or establish a trust.

Please consult your lawyer for details for writing or revising your will or to set up a trust that will meet your present and future needs and at the same time provide for Bellarmine in the future. Please contact Pat Kluzak at (847) 381-1261 for more information of a general nature.

Bellarmino Retreat Schedule - September - December 2006

SEPTEMBER 8 – 10

Men's Silent Retreat

Fr. Douglas J. Leonhardt, S.J.

MATT CARPENTER GROUP

SEPTEMBER 15 - 17

Men's Silent Retreat

Fr. J. Peter Carey, S.J.

BOB GORMAN

EUGENE MACIEJEWSKI

HOLY FAMILY (Decatur, MI)

JERRY JENDRO

JOE BUSSONE

JOHN HOLMES

MARK LESTER

ST ANASTASIA-HNS (Waukegan)

ST HUBERT'S (Hoffman Estates)

ST MARY OF THE WOODS

ST MICHAEL (Wheaton)

ST PETRONILLE (Glen Ellyn)

SEPTEMBER 29 – OCTOBER 1

Men's Silent Retreat

Fr. Steven F. Hurd, S.J.

BERNARD KASH

HOLY FAMILY (Inverness)

JOHN KASTING

KC-MT PROSPECT

OUR LADY OF FATIMA (Chicago)

ST EDNA (Arlington Heights)

ST JOHN NEUMANN

ST PRISCILLA CHURCH HNS
(Chicago)

TOM TULLY

OCTOBER 6 – 8

Women's Silent Retreat

Fr. Mark W. Andrews, S.J.



OCTOBER 10 - 12

Women's Midweek Retreat

Fr. Mark W. Andrews, S.J.

OCTOBER 13 – 15

Men's Silent Retreat

Fr. Steven F. Hurd, S.J.

FIVE HOLY MARTYRS

JACK DUGGAN MEMORIAL

KC-HOLY GHOST (Wood Dale)

KC-ROSELLE

KC-SPRING GROVE

NEWSPAPER

RED MOONEY/JACK CULLEN

ST MONICA (Carpentersville)

ST NORBERT'S (Northbrook)

OCTOBER 20 – 22

Men's Bill W Silent Retreat

Fr. J. Peter Deane, S.J.

OCTOBER 27 – 29

Men's Silent Retreat

Fr. Steven F. Hurd, S.J.

FRANK GILL

HOLY NAME CATHEDRAL

JACK A. DAVIS MEMORIAL

JOHN DWYER

KC-RYAN (Chicago)

KC-SACRED HEART (Lombard)

PIONEER GROUP

ST ANNE (Barrington)

NOVEMBER 3 – 5

Men's Silent Retreat

Fr. Steven E. Kimmons, S.J.

FRANK CONDON

KC-ST THOMAS (Crystal Lake)

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP
(Glenview)

SACRED HEART (Winnetka)

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST (Johnsburg)

ST JOSEPH (Wilmette)

TOM TULLY (2)

NOVEMBER 10 - 12

Women's Bill W Silent Retreat

Fr. Peter J. Fennesy, S.J.



NOVEMBER 17 – 19

Men's Bill W Silent Retreat

Fr. J. Peter Deane, S.J.

DECEMBER 1 – 3

Men's Silent Retreat

Fr. Keith F. Muccino, S.J.

BOB FINUCANE

DON GOODWILLIE

DON KELLY, JR

KC-HARVARD

KC-MARIA COUNCIL (Park Ridge)

RACINE/KENOSHA

ST IGNATIUS FATHERS/ALUMNI

ST MONICA HNS (Chicago)

DECEMBER 8 – 10

Men's Bill W Silent Retreat

Fr. Thomas C. Weston, S.J.

One need not come with a group to attend any of Bellarmine's retreats.

To make a reservation for any of our retreats, please contact the office.

Monday – Friday

9:00 am – 4 :00 pm

Phone: 847-381-1261

Fax: 847-381-4695

bellarmine@bellarminehall.org

Mail: Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat
175 W County Line Rd
Barrington IL, 60010

Bellarmino Retreat Schedule - January - April 2007

JANUARY 5 - 7

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. Steven E. Kimmons, S.J.

FOUR SHEPHERDS

JANUARY 12 - 14

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. John J. O'Callaghan, S.J.

AL RAFFIN
BILL GALLIANI
ST FRANCIS DE SALES (Lake Zurich)
ST MARY'S (Lake Forest)

JANUARY 19 - 21

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. Theodore C. Ross, S.J.

DR. HUGH GRIMES
KC - SCHAUMBURG
KC - ST CHARLES
MIKE DEUTSCH
STS. FAITH, HOPE & CHARITY
(Winnetka)
TOM SCHERER

JANUARY 26 - 28

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. Richard H. McGurn, S.J.

BILL DUNN
KC - CHICAGO / ST CABRINI
KC - DES PLAINES
ST MARY'S OF THE GROVE KC /
ST MARY'S HNS (Buffalo Grove)
ST FRANCIS XAVIER (Chicago)

FEBRUARY 2 - 4

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. Steven E. Kimmons, S.J.

MIKE ROCHE / PHIL ZERA

FEBRUARY 9 - 11

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. Steven F. Hurd, S.J.

CATHEDRAL OF ST RAYMOND
(Joliet)
MARY SEAT OF WISDOM

FEBRUARY 16 - 18

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. Michael E. Dorrier, S.J.

AL RAFFIN
DIVINE SAVIOR (Norridge)
KC - BARRINGTON
KC - ST CATHERINE (Dundee)
OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE
ST ISAAC JOGUES (Hinsdale)
ST JOHN (Winfield)
ST MARGARET MARY (Chicago)

FEBRUARY 23 - 25

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. Richard H. McGurn, S.J.

NAPERVILLE - MM/PP/R/TH
ST ALPHONSUS (Prospect Hts)
YOUNG MEN

MARCH 2 - 4

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. John J. O'Callaghan, S.J.

ST MARY MAGDALENE (Joliet)
ST JOHN NEUMANN (2)

MARCH 9 - 11

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. Steven F. Hurd, S.J.

ED DENTEN
KC - ST BEDE (Ingleside)
LOYOLA DENTAL
ST AGNES (Butler, WI)
ST LIBORIUS (Steger)
ST THOMAS VILLANOVA (Palatine)
ZIGGIE'S GROUP

MARCH 16 - 18

Men's Bill W Silent Retreat
Fr. Richard W. Dunphy, S.J.

MARCH 23 - 25

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. Richard H. McGurn, S.J.

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
DICK BROOKER MEMORIAL
FRANKLIN DUPUIS MEMORIAL
KC-MARIA COUNCIL (Park Ridge)
KC - RYAN (Chicago)
RIVER FOREST

MARCH 30 - APRIL 1

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. Mark W. Andrews, S.J.

ED GESUALDO
KC - GLEN ELLYN
KC - HOLY GHOST (St. Theresa,
Palatine)
MAZZCHELLI'S MEN
OUR LADY OF THE BROOK
(Northbrook)
RICHARD ANTONELLO
ST JAMES (Franklin, WI)

APRIL 5 - 7

Men's Holy Week Silent Retreat
Fr. J. Peter Carey, S.J.

EUGENE HARTRICH MEM.
RON FROST / GELDERMANN
MEMORIAL
KC - COMMODORE BARRY
MCDEVITT CLAN
MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
ST MARTHA - MORTON GROVE

APRIL 13 - 15

Women's Silent Retreat
Fr. Steven F. Hurd, S.J.



APRIL 20 - 22

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. Michael E. Dorrier, S.J.

FOUR SHEPHERDS
FRANK CONDON (2)
HOLY CROSS (Batavia)
KC - ADDISON
LOYOLA ACADEMY FATHERS' CLUB
OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE (2)
ST FRANCIS XAVIER (Wilmette)
ST MARY'S (Elm Grove, WI)
TOM BAK

APRIL 27 - 29

Men's Silent Retreat
Fr. J. Peter Carey, S.J.

CHARLIE MATHEWS
KC - MCHENRY
OUR LADY OF PEACE - HNS
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERS
ST FRANCES OF ROME - HNS
ST JAMES (A.H.)
ST JAMES THE APOSTLE (Glen Ellyn)
ST JOHN (Villa Park)
ST MATTHEW (Oak Creek, WI)
ST STEPHEN DEACON & MARTYR



Mark Andrews, S.J.

It is God Who Gives the Increase...

I have an uncle by marriage, Jim, who was born and raised on a farm in rural Ireland. One day I went over to his home on Chicago's South Side, and found him finishing up the planting of his vegetable garden in the back

yard. At last setting aside his hoe and spade, he sat under the shade of a tree and, looking over the small plot of turned-over earth, said aloud: "Well now, grow, if you will."

We city dwellers so often assume that the harvest follows easily the planting, like putting quarters into a vending machine to buy a candy bar, or taking out the Thanksgiving decorations because it happens to be November. Those who actually till the soil know differently. The bringing forth of a harvest involves weeks of hard work and careful attention, and even then the results are far from assured: so many factors, drought or flood, scorching sun or cloudy days, can conspire to wipe out the hoped-for growth. For all his best efforts, a farmer knows that he is dealing ultimately with a mystery beyond his control. Hence my uncle's simple half-prayer: "Well now, grow, if you will."

In teaching people who knew this mystery first-hand, Jesus speaks about the unfolding of God's purposes:

"This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time: he starts to reap because the harvest has come."

(Mark 4: 26-29)

Americans love "best practices" and guaranteed results. We can become impatient or frustrated when we don't receive the expected return on our investments of time or money or effort. Sometimes these notions of "success" end up coloring the way that we see our spiritual life, as well. We go on retreat, or we try to be faithful to prayer in every-

day life, and we want to receive certain things in return: peace of mind, reassurance, an answer to particular problems or challenges. And yet it can seem that nothing is happening...the problems and challenges are still there, or new ones arise. Is God listening?

Yes, God is listening, but the answer comes on His terms, not on ours. Often His response "sprouts and grows" in our lives gradually, and in hidden ways...and how it happens, we do not know. One of the hardest things to learn in the spiritual life (and one of the most important) is how to do your part, and then to pry our fingers off of things, to wait upon a mystery you cannot control.

The words that we speak in prayer are never fruitless, as seeds are sometimes wiped out in drought or flood. But what "sprouts and grows" may look different from what we had planned, because it is God who gives the increase, and who knows what is for our good.

Consider these words from a man who has "been there":

*I asked God for strength, that I might achieve.
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.*

*I asked for health, that I might do greater things.
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.*

*I asked for riches, that I might be happy.
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.*

*I asked for power, that I might have the praise of people.
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.*

*I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life.
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.*

*I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I hoped for.
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.*

I am, among all people, most richly blessed.

Henry Viscardi, Jr.
born without legs
a self-taught athlete
a life-long advocate for the handicapped
(1912-2004)

Captains' Corner

The annual Captains' Meeting was held on June 23-24 and was attended by 40 captains, as well as several staff and board members.

The Mass on Friday evening was followed by an appreciation dinner, a presentation by Fr. John Dillon, S.J., and an opportunity for captains and staff members to socialize with one another.

Saturday's meeting was held in the conference room. After opening remarks by Fr. Dillon, Operations Director, Pat Kluzak, provided an overview of last year's retreat performance and Bellarmine's financial position. She spoke about recent repairs as well as future needs of the retreat house.

Board member, Melinda Henson, moderated the discussion of captains regarding recruiting strategies, opportunities for one-day retreats, Spiritual enrichment programs, and other areas of interest.

Fr. Mark Andrews, S.J., and Fr. Steve Hurd, S.J., led a discussion on ways of maintaining Jesuit hospitality and Jesuit presence at the retreats in light of the reduction of Jesuit manpower at Bellarmine, and ways of improving our current level of service to retreatants.

Fr. John Dillon, S.J., closed the meeting, noting the importance of Retreat Captains as Disciples of Christ in today's world.

The meeting adjourned at noon and lunch was served in the dining room.



Captains Enjoy Evening Social



Rich Ciccarone and Dario Nomellini

Bellarmino Mission Statement

The mission of the Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House is to cooperate with the Church in Chicago and the Midwest in fostering the spiritual development of Catholics and fellow Christians in the area. As its primary ministry, Bellarmine offers weekend retreats based on Ignatian Spirituality; it also offers other programs tailored to the changing needs in today's Church. Jesuit and non-Jesuit colleagues collaborate in the planning and execution of all of Bellarmine's retreats and other programs. As an expression of its ecumenism and civic fellowship, Bellarmine's facilities at times are open to other religious and civic groups.

Obituaries

Since our last Newsletter, we have been informed of the death of the following retreatants. Please remember them in your prayers. A Mass is offered each month for all our deceased. Kindly inform us of the death of any members of the Bellarmine Family.

Benjamin S. Daniel	July 15, 2006
Walter T. Hackett	July 10, 2006
Alice L. Keenan	June 12, 2006
Jerome A. Martin	June 18, 2006
Robert C. Sommers	April 27, 2006

A Day of Reflection *(for men and women over 55)*

Sunday, September 24, 2006

This Day of Reflection, an exact duplication of the program previously offered, is back by popular request. Fr. Baumhart, S.J., will again speak about the cardinal virtues (faith, hope, love) and prayer. Dr. Durkin will focus on physical and emotional well-being.

The day will begin with check in at 8:45 a.m. and will include 3 talks by Fr. Baumhart, S.J., a talk by Dr. Durkin, and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The day will conclude with Mass and the Sacrament of Anointing at 2:45 p.m.

Pre-registration is required. The suggested donation is \$40.00. For questions or to register by phone, call 847-381-1261 (Mon - Fri 8:30 am - 4:00 pm). If you register but find you cannot attend, please call to cancel your reservation.

A Day of Reflection Sunday, September 24, 2006

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

(Checks payable to BELLARMINE JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE)

Send this form to: Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House • 175 W. County Line Road • Barrington, IL 60010

Jesuit Retreat League of Chicago

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Barrington, IL 60010-4043

847-381-1261 • 847-381-4695 fax
e-mail: bellarmine@bellarminehall.org
www.bellarminhall.org

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