



PARENTS OF PRIESTS NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio
42 Years of Prayerful Support

May, 2016

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SPRING / SUMMER - 2016

Greetings again to our Parents of Priests and our faithful '25 Club Members'. I don't know how another 25 club year has gone by. Some of us have been winners (see the attached list), and ALL of us have helped the cause. As you know, the 'cause' is to help and encourage Borromeo and St. Mary Seminarians in their discernment toward priesthood. This year we sold a total of 740 tickets in this raffle, so keep in mind that the odds of winning are always in your favor...

POP this year donated a combined total of \$12,500.00 to the Rectors Fund; St. Mary's Bookshelf Fund (memorials); St. Mary Seminary Activities Fund; and the seminarian remembrance and encouragement notes.

The Parents of Priest organization wants to sincerely THANK everyone who participates in this project. Our founders from the ordination class of 1974 had a vision for our group 42 years ago, and as time passes, we try to the best of our ability to keep this vision alive.

In this newsletter you will see a copy of a vocation article from the National Catholic Register, November of 2015, written about our organization and others who do similar work thru our encouragement. We are so pleased to share this wonderful article with all of our parents and 25 club members.....

Enjoy the summer months and the warm weather, and Gods blessing to you, one and all.

Don Trask, president

Note: Parents - Mark your calendars for the summer picnic. Sunday, July 31st, beginning with Mass at St. Anselm. You will receive a post card the beginning of July with directions to Mass and picnic.....Always a good time, good food, laughter and fun....

The Bookshelf Fund at St. Mary Seminary was established by the Parents of Priests several years ago. Funds donated to the bookshelf fund are good memorials for a deceased loved one or perhaps a good tax deductible donation. Any contributions or memorials to this fund may be sent to:
St. Mary Bookshelf Fund. Attn: Mary Avenoso. 28700 Euclid Avenue. Wickliffe, Ohio 44094
Please keep this in mind throughout the year.....

Note: We would really like to have your email address. Please send an email to the address on the front of this newsletter. It makes it much easier to contact you. All emails we send out are sent 'blind copy' so only you will see the address. Thanks



With great joy, we welcome our new priests to the Diocese of Cleveland. Five men were ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, May 21, 2016 at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist here in Cleveland, by Bishop Richard Lennon.

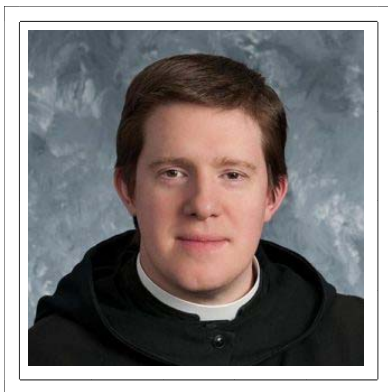
✠ Rev. Andrew John Hoover is from Our Lady Help of Christians Parish in Litchfield. His parents are Joseph and Joan Hoover. Father will be assigned to St. Peter Parish in North Ridgeville.

✠ Rev. Kevin Joseph Klonowski is from St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Parma. His parents are Scott and Vicki Klonowski. Father will be assigned to Holy Family Parish in Stow.

✠ Rev. John Steven Mulhollan is from Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Wadsworth. His parents are Paul and Bonita Mulhollan. Father will be assigned to St. Basil the Great in Brecksville.

✠ Rev. Patrick Richard Schultz is from St. Mary Parish in Hudson. His parents are Richard and Michelle Schultz. Father will be assigned to Communion of Saints in Cleveland Heights.

✠ Rev. James Joseph Kulway is from St. Joseph Parish in Strongsville. His parents are James and Sherry Kulway. Father will be assigned to Mary Queen of Apostles in Brook Park.



One Man Ordained for the Benedictine Order

Father Thomas (Walter) Sanders, OSB, was ordained by Bishop Roger Gries, OSB on Saturday May 14th at St. Andrew Abbey Church, Cleveland. He is the 17th ordained monk in the monastery.

✠ Fr. Sanders is from St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Sheffield Lake. His parents are Gary and Joanne Sanders. Father will pursue graduate studies and assist with priestly ministry in the Diocese of Cleveland, as assigned by the prior.

Each one of you must be a microphone of God....

Each one of you must be a messenger....a prophet

Blessed Oscar Romero



Affirming Vocations

Parents of Priests Groups Support Sons, Seminarians and One Another *National Catholic Register, November 29, 2015*

BY JERRI DONOHUE

Don Trask was browsing at a home and garden show when a stranger initiated a conversation about religious vocations.

“So, your son is a priest,” the man said, after spotting the Parents of Priests pin on Trask’s lapel.

Designed by Trask’s wife, Mary Ann, the pin features the words “Parents of Priests” and a chalice and a Host beside two linked wedding rings. All parents of priests in the Diocese of Cleveland receive this pin when their sons are ordained.

Upon the 1986 ordination of Father David Trask, Don and Mary Ann Trask automatically became members of Parents of Priest (POP) of the Diocese of Cleveland. Mothers and fathers of men ordained in 1974 founded the organization that year, pledging continued support of their sons and one another.

During their children’s time in the seminary, the parents attended Mass together, shared numerous spaghetti dinners and forged friendships.

More than four decades later, all of the original members have died, and priestly vocations have dwindled. But POP still thrives.

“There must be something good in it,” mused Don Trask, who now serves as its president. “It wouldn’t be alive otherwise.

Parents Working Together

Parents in the Dioceses of Toledo, Ohio, and of Gaylord, Mich., undertook similar missions. Parents of Priests of Toledo (also known as POP) organized in 2002, after seeking information from the Cleveland group and requesting its distinctive Parents of Priests pins.

Philip Hertzfeld, president of the Toledo organization, said his friends Patricia and Bernard Gallagher admired his POP pin and then carried the idea to the Diocese of Gaylord. The Gallaghers now give pins to parents of newly ordained priests there.

Hertzfeld said the pin signals that its wearer is approachable on the subject of vocations. Patricia Gallagher thinks it invites strangers to ask questions. She feels comfortable discussing the vocation of her son. Ordained in 1995, Msgr. Daniel Gallagher currently works at the Vatican.

“We gave him freely to the Church, as God gave him to us at birth,” Gallagher tells other parents. She urges them to pray that all their children recognize God’s will for them.

Although their pin offers a common emblem, the three parents’ groups are unrelated. Gallagher described the parents of priests in her diocese as a “loose association” of volunteers who meet monthly with the diocesan vocation office. Like the other two groups, it also welcomes mothers and fathers of men in religious orders. In Toledo, a team helps Hertzfeld plan two annual meetings that include vespers, dinner and a speaker or an outing to a historic church or shrine. With about 100 members, the older, more formal Cleveland group maintains a website and prints a newsletter.

Spiritual Support

Parents in the three dioceses prayerfully support one another, their sons, others priests and seminarians. In Cleveland, POP distributes a calendar devised by the contemplate Sisters, Adorers of the Precious Blood in Portland, Maine, that asks the faithful to pray for individual priests on specific days. Four times a year, parents gather for memorial Masses for deceased priests and members.

In the Gaylord Diocese, mothers and fathers follow a diocesan prayer calendar for their priests. Many parents also commit to weekly Holy Hours dedicated to their priests and to vocations, in a program proposed by *Opus Sanctorum Angelorum* (Work of the Holy Angels), a movement faithful to the magisterium.

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The Toledo Diocese posts on its website prayer calendars for priests planned, copied and distributed by Philip and Jackie Hertzfeld. For the first Friday of each month, the vicar for clergy provides POP with priests' prayer requests and Pope Francis' intention for the month. So that all 120 members keep current with their clergy's needs 15 volunteers call any parents who do not use computers. Jackie Hertzfeld emails petitions to the rest.

Promoting Vocations

Currently pastor of two parishes in the Toledo Diocese, Father Adam Hertzfeld sometimes addresses church groups about the priesthood. Philip Hertzfeld accompanies his son and describes their family's support of his vocation. Other parents and priest-sons make similar presentations.

In Michigan, priests mothers use greeting cards and care packages to keep in touch with seminarians in training at Sacred Heart Seminary in Hales Corners, Wis., or at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio.

A yearly raffle run by Cleveland's POP assists men studying at that diocese's Borromeo and St. Mary Seminaries. Last year, the fundraiser netted more than \$14,000. Used at the discretion of the seminary rector, the money covers pressing needs, such as health insurance and medical emergencies. Parents of Priest also established the St. Mary Bookshelf (Fund) to help seminarians buy expensive books essential to their ministry.

Their individual dioceses express appreciation for priests' parents in various ways. The Diocese of Gaylord hosts an annual dinner for mothers and fathers of priests and seminarians. Most years, parents of priests in Cleveland gather for Palm Sunday Mass at the cathedral, followed by a social in the rectory. Bishop Daniel Thomas of Toledo attended POP's summer meeting to mingle with parents and advise them about future activities.

The passage of time challenges all three groups. As priests age, so do their parents. Almost half of POP members in Toledo no longer attend meetings because of health or mobility problems.

In addition, many men discern their vocations later in life.

"If you have a priest who is ordained at 48 or 54 (years old), it's not likely his parents are around or active" Gallagher said.

The Cleveland and Toledo organizations acknowledge this situation by including a priest's siblings in the place of deceased parents.

Hertzfeld and Trask see promise in an increase of younger men entering the seminary (one of whom is the Trasks' grandson); In her diocese, Gallagher finds hope for the future in recent ordinations of several men age 35 or younger.

Meanwhile, the parents continue to pray for their sons and all clergy.

As Gallagher said, "our priests need to be constantly supported in prayer, because they are certainly going against the world."

*Jerri Donohue writes from
Brecksville, Ohio*

Prayer for Military Chaplains

Heavenly Father, bless and protect our Military Chaplains and fill them with the joy and courage of their vocation of Christ in preaching Your Word and nourishing us with the Sacraments. Grant this through Christ our Lord.



Prayer for Priest Sons

Lord, bless our sons whom You have called to Your Priesthood. In Your Spirit we are with them, as they do Your work. May our prayers and sacrifices help them. Keep them close to You, Lord. When they make mistakes, or when human frailty brings them criticism, have mercy on them. Lord, we love our sons, and we thank You for using us, to share in Your plan of creation and redemption. May each of us grow in Your Love, and may Mary and Joseph, intercede for us until we rejoice in Your heavenly kingdom. Amen

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE 'Parents of Priests 25 Club'
WE LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER YEAR BEGINNING MONDAY, NOV. 7. 2016

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Seller</u>
November 2, 2015	
MaryLou Burton	POP
Jack Scott	Barb Budzinski
Mary Ott	MaryAnn Trask
November 9, 2015	
Marie Hrisko	Fr. Frank Godic
Ben Schweigert	POP/Borromeo
James Jaros	Don Trask
November 16, 2015	
Harry Shimko	Frank O'Connor
Helen Kozlevchar	Don Trask
Charlotte Wehner	Fr. James Beatty
November 23, 2015	
James Vairretta	Otto Divis
Helene Franko	Fr. Tom Johns
Christian Torres-Esparza	POP/St. Mary
November 29, 2015	
Mary Kolesar	Don Trask
Rose Cubera	Mike Cubera
Sue Bogo	M/M Retar
December 7, 2015	
James Jaros	Don Trask
John Fretter	Don Trask
John InwooJeong	POP/St. Mary
December 14, 2015	
Anthony Kacenjar	Anna O'Connor
William Mayer	POP
Maryann Benic	Ann Previte
December 21, 2015	
Kathleen Cornick	Kathy Cubera
Fr. Mike Stalla	Rose Stalla
Rose Strebler	MaryAnn Trask
December 28, 2015	
Barbara Kahoun	MaryAnn Trask
Eugene Chodzin	Otto Divis
Lynn Sapanaro	MaryAnn Trask
January 4, 2016	
Mary Jo Duffy	Kathy Cubera
Richard Mott	Fr. Scott Goodfellow
Joann Coleman	Rose Stalla
January 11, 2016	
Beverly Beischlag	Don Trask
Alice Jane Olszewski	Don Trask
Clara Selepena	Fr. Gerald Bednar
January 18, 2016	
Bob Denk	Dee Denk
Fr. Bob Kraig	Don Trask
Randy Meidl	Bob Flynn
January 25, 2016	
Ed Tateman	POP
Hannah Blumbaugh	Patty Blumbaugh
Agnes Komyanek	Don Trask

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Seller</u>
February 1, 2016	
Elaine Minch	Fr. Frank Godic
Kaathleen Repko	POP
Sophie Mayer	POP
February 8, 2016	
Marilyn Cimperman	Fr. Joe Hilinski
Rita Zak	Fr. Frank Godic
Kathleen Cubera	same
February 15, 2016	
Marie Schweinberg	Don Trask
Randall Walton	Fr. John Retar
Francis O'Connor	POP
February 22, 2016	
Phil & Cathy Guban	MaryAnn Trask
Shirley Jurcak	Fr. Larry Jurcak
Joyce Robertson	Fr. Chris Zerucha
February 29, 2016	
Agnes Komyanek	Don Trask
Lucille Tomasic	Ann Previte
Diane Smyth	Bob Flynn
March 7, 2016	
MaryAnne Russ Kauffman	Al Mullee
Mary Ann Riess	Anne Behrend
James Jaros	Don Trask
March 14, 2016	
Elaine Minch	same
Rita Seuffert	Fr. Frank Godic
Agnes Parsons	Don Trask
March 21, 2016	
Lois Butkowski	same
Jim Kondik	MaryAnn Trask
Fr. Tim Kalista	same
March 28, 2016	
Mary Jo Duffy	Kathy Cubera
James Jaros	Don Trask
Marie Hrisko	Fr. Frank Godic
April 4, 2016	
Norbert Ozimek	Fr. Joe Hilinski
Susan Chlysta	Don Trask
Joe Zerucha	Fr. Chris Zerucha
April 11, 2016	
Jacci Bednar	Fr. Gerald Bednar
Walter Churchill	MaryAnn Trask
Mona Bensky	same
April 18, 2016	
Thomas Serf	POP
Art Guhde	POP
Victoria Kachenko	same

