



HEART OF A SHEPHERD

Building for Today. Providing for Tomorrow.

HEART OF A SHEPHERD



“IF THE PRIEST IS AT THE HEART OF OUR PARISHES, THEN THE SEMINARY IS AT THE HEART OF THE CHURCH IN CLEVELAND. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR FAITH THAT WE FOSTER WELLNESS AND FORMATION WITHIN OUR OWN DIOCESE. WE ARE PROUD OF WHERE WE COME FROM. LET US CONTINUE THAT WORK.”

– Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez, Bishop of Cleveland

Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez, D.D., Bishop of Cleveland, with four of the nine newly-ordained priests from the class of 2019: Rev. John Jeong (Daegu, South Korea), Rev. David Stavarz (parochial vicar at St. Gabriel Parish in Concord), Rev. Andrew Gonzalez (parochial vicar at Holy Family Parish, Stow), Rev. Martin Dober (parochial vicar at St. John Vianney Parish, Mentor).

Cover: Seminary Bell Tower, original artwork by Rev. Terrence Grachanin.

A PATH TO PRIESTLY FORMATION TAKES NINE YEARS

When a man hears the call of God to the priesthood, his journey often begins with discovery, a conversation with his parish priest, a family member, or a trusted parishioner. Then, with a full heart and persistent desire, he may enter the seminary to discern God's will for his life.

The path of discernment leading to the priesthood can take **9 years**:

- **4 years at Borromeo Seminary** where students study a curriculum of philosophy, science, and the liberal arts. Each student is assigned an apostolate within the diocese. Many work with older adults or children with disabilities, tutor in local city schools, or volunteer in the city serving the poor. College seminarians receive a Bachelor of Arts degree from John Carroll University.
- **5 years at Saint Mary Seminary** for a graduate theology formation program.
 - Year 1:** Men make a declaration for Candidacy for Holy Orders before the Bishop and are instituted as Acolytes.
 - Year 2:** Seminarians are instituted as Lectors.
 - Year 3:** Seminarians serve in a parish internship.
 - Year 4:** Seminarians are ordained deacons and participate in parish life as an ordained minister throughout their final year of study.
 - Year 5:** Seminarians graduate in early May with a Master of Divinity degree and are ordained priests in mid-May.

As Saint John Paul II wrote in *Pastores Dabo Vobis (I Will Give You Shepherds)*:

“FUTURE PRIESTS SHOULD THEREFORE CULTIVATE A SERIES OF HUMAN QUALITIES, NOT ONLY OUT OF PROPER AND DUE GROWTH AND REALIZATION OF ONE’S SELF, BUT ALSO WITH A VIEW TO THE MINISTRY. THESE QUALITIES ARE NEEDED FOR THEM TO BE BALANCED PEOPLE, STRONG AND FREE, CAPABLE OF BEARING THE WEIGHT OF PASTORAL RESPONSIBILITIES.” (43).

Vocations in the Diocese of Cleveland remain strong, even as national trends show a decline. Currently, there are 81 men in formation at Borromeo Seminary and Saint Mary Seminary of which 57 of these men will serve as ordained priests for service in the Diocese of Cleveland. The remaining 24 seminarians are discerning a priestly vocation for service to other religious orders as well as the Dioceses of Youngstown, Daegu South Korea, and Vietnam. Three-thousand men before them have been formed for the priesthood at our seminaries.

HEART OF A SHEPHERD

WE STAND OUT AMONG THE FEW

Of the 179 dioceses in the United States, only 30 have their own free-standing seminary. Borromeo Seminary and Saint Mary Seminary President-Rector, Rev. Mark A. Latcovich, sees this as a key advantage for the Diocese of Cleveland: "What keeps a man a priest? Studies show that if a diocese has its own seminary, a man develops critical support systems not only with his family, but also with priests and lay people they come to know."

As a nod to the strong culture of vocations in the Diocese of Cleveland, the Georgetown University-based Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), recently recognized Borromeo Seminary and Saint Mary Seminary as having one of the highest percentages of home-grown seminarians in the country.



The Center for Pastoral Leadership (CPL) in Wickliffe houses Borromeo and Saint Mary Seminaries.

HISTORY OF BORROMEO AND SAINT MARY SEMINARIES

1848 | SAINT MARY SEMINARY FOUNDED

The founding of Saint Mary Seminary coincides with the founding of the Diocese of Cleveland. In 1848, our first Bishop, Amadeus Rappe, purchased property near his residence on East 6th Street and St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland to house eight students studying for the priesthood. The following year, 18 students enrolled and another building was purchased.

1954 | BORROMEO SEMINARY ESTABLISHED

Archbishop Edward Hoban founded Borromeo Seminary. He purchased a 56-acre campus in Wickliffe, which formerly served as Marycrest School for Girls, and he appointed Msgr. John Whealon as the first rector.

1989 | CENTER FOR PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

Bishop Anthony M. Pilla established what is now known as the Center for Pastoral Leadership (hereafter referred to as CPL), which not only prepares candidates for the priesthood, but also prepares permanent deacons and lay ecclesial ministers.

1991 | SAINT MARY JOINS THE CPL

Saint Mary Seminary moved to the site of Borromeo Seminary in Wickliffe to join the new center. The CPL now houses Saint Mary Seminary and Graduate School of Theology and Borromeo Seminary, which is the formation program for college students. In addition, the CPL houses the Diaconate Formation Program, the Lay Ecclesial Ministry Office, and the Office of Ongoing Formation for Clergy. These five entities network and support each other while maintaining their distinct programs.

2015 | REACCREDITATION

Saint Mary Seminary is fully accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (since 1969) and the Commission on Institutions of Higher Learning of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (since 1981). In 2015, Saint Mary Seminary successfully completed a reaccreditation process as well as the Quality Initiative to integrate mobile technology into the academic program. The next reaccreditation and affirmation visit is scheduled for 2025-2026.

HEART OF A SHEPHERD

OUR CHALLENGE

PART I: FOR OUR SEMINARIES

“NO VOCATION IS BORN OF ITSELF OR LIVES FOR ITSELF. A VOCATION FLOWS FROM THE HEART OF GOD AND BLOSSOMS IN THE GOOD SOIL OF FAITHFUL PEOPLE. DID NOT JESUS SAY: “BY THIS ALL MEN WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU HAVE LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER.” (JN 13:35)

- Pope Francis

Today’s seminarians live in community and take part in many of the social, recreational, and liturgical events of the seminaries while discerning God’s call.

The holistic formation of priests in our Diocese requires suitable physical space for:

- Liturgical worship, prayer, and reflection
- Fostering formation and human development
- Encouraging relational and vocational growth
- Private study
- Inviting community and social interactions

Seminarians, like other students, also require living spaces with simple amenities like:

- Wi-Fi and electrical outlets for the use of laptops and smartphones, and proper lighting
- ADA accessibility that meets current standards
- Air conditioning (not currently installed) and heating from an efficient HVAC system

Proposed renovations will facilitate the encouragement of vocations and the life of seminarians, who live, pray, study, learn, and discern on this campus.

PART II: FOR OUR RETIRED PRIESTS

In our Diocese, we are fortunate to have 258 active priests and 97 retired priests who have dedicated their lives to serving our communities. Our priests have comforted us during our suffering, provided counsel, listened when we needed to be heard, and encouraged our personal relationships with God and the Catholic faith. Our preparation and investment today will ensure our ability to provide support for our priests in the future. In their retirement, many

priests continue to serve our community of faith. However, the Retired Clergy Pension Fund is not yet fully funded, raising a concern that future retired priests will not receive adequate pensions.

PART III: FOR OUR NEWLY-ORDAINED CLERGY

Over the past ten years, 47 students have been ordained from Saint Mary Seminary and Graduate School of Theology. Much like secular college students, many graduates accumulate tuition and education-related debt. A seminarian graduating today may have accumulated between \$8,000 and \$112,000 in education debt, an average of \$38,000. We want and need our clergy to be fully dedicated to their ministry without having to be burdened with financial hardship. However, life in the priesthood does not allow for a professional income like their secular counterparts. Many of these men are now ordained and graciously serving our community, but support is needed to ensure that these priests can dedicate their lives to the Lord and serve our communities without the weight of financial hardship.



Seven priests ordained in seven years, all sons of St. Mary Parish in Hudson (current assignments below): Rev. Richard Samide (St. Mary, Wooster), Rev. Anthony Simone (St. Sebastian, Akron), Rev. Patrick Schultz (Communion of Saints, Cleveland Heights), Rev. Daniel Samide (St. Anthony of Padua, Parma), Rev. Jeffrey Barnish (Studies in Rome), Rev. Ryan Mann (St. John Neumann, Strongsville), Fr. Ryan Cubera (St. Mary of the Falls, Olmsted Falls).

HEART OF A SHEPHERD



Rev. Terrence Grachanin, pastor at St. Noel Parish in Willoughby Hills, with Rick Schultz, Heart of a Shepherd Campaign Chair, and Rev. Allan Laubenthal, President-Rector Emeritus, Saint Mary Seminary.

AT THE HEART OF OUR COMMITMENT

TO FOSTER HOLISTIC WELLNESS AND FORMATION IN OUR SEMINARIES

TO CARE FOR OUR PRIESTS IN RETIREMENT

TO SUPPORT OUR NEWLY-ORDAINED CLERGY



HEART OF A SHEPHERD

CAMPAIGN GOAL

\$30 MILLION

PART I: RENOVATE OUR SEMINARIES - THE HEART OF PRIESTLY FORMATION AND HOLISTIC WELLNESS

The interior renovation of Borromeo Seminary and Saint Mary Seminary and Graduate School of Theology is long overdue and has the full support of Bishop Perez. Often there is a moment of excitement when a man discovers what the Lord desires for him and follows that call to the priesthood. Today is also an exciting time for the faithful of the Diocese of Cleveland – a time of opportunity to recommit ourselves to our future priests and leaders of our faith.

PROJECT TOTAL

\$20 MILLION



Seminarians attending daily Mass in Resurrection Chapel.

| SAINT MARY SEMINARY WING

\$10 MILLION

To update this residence wing of the Seminary building, which houses seminarians in the graduate degree program who live and attend classes on the CPL campus. Renovations will include:

OVERALL:

- Renovate 56 student rooms with individual bathrooms and equip 5 rooms with ADA accessibility
- Renovate 7 faculty suites and equip 1 with ADA accessibility • Add one guest suite

IN EACH ROOM:

- Private bath with shower • Wardrobe closet and furniture
- Individually controlled heating and cooling • New windows with built-in shades

SHARED SPACE:

- Upgrade elevator and add new elevator to be ADA compliant, connecting all four floors
- Common lounge area and study space • Update Reconciliation Chapel • Laundry rooms

| BORROMEO SEMINARY WING

\$9 MILLION

To update this residence wing of the Seminary building, which houses undergraduate seminarians who live at the seminary and commute to John Carroll University, where they take most of their classes toward their undergraduate degree. Renovations will include:

OVERALL:

- Renovate 45 student rooms with shared bathrooms and equip 2 rooms with ADA accessibility
- Renovate 4 faculty suites and equip 1 room with ADA accessibility

IN EACH ROOM:

- Individually controlled heating and cooling • New furniture
- New windows with built-in shades

SHARED SPACE:

- Student lounge/study area • Laundry rooms with double the current washer/dryer units
- Upgrade elevator for ADA compliance

| RESURRECTION CHAPEL

\$1 MILLION

To refresh and renovate the Resurrection Chapel.

- New double door entryway • Installation of a Baptismal font • Refurbished pews and kneelers
- Replacement of current pipe organ • New sanctuary lighting

HEART OF A SHEPHERD

PART II: CARE FOR OUR RETIRED PRIESTS

Retired priests of the Diocese of Cleveland have dedicated their lives in service of the Lord and His people. We have a duty to take care of them upon their retirement from active ministry. Many priests continue to serve our community of faith after retirement, and we are called to do what is necessary to provide them with adequate care. However, the Retired Clergy Pension Fund is not yet fully funded. To ensure proper care for our clergy, while reducing annual premiums for parishes, this initiative will allocate \$7 million to meet this important obligation to those who serve our community.

PROJECT TOTAL

\$7 MILLION



Retired priest, Rev. Thomas O'Donnell.

PART III: SUPPORT FOR OUR NEWLY-ORDAINED CLERGY

We are privileged and blessed to have a seminary and a theological graduate school within our Diocese. These men have dedicated their lives to the Lord and serving our communities. After they are ordained, many are burdened with financial hardship. A seminarian graduating today may have accumulated between \$8,000 and \$112,000 in education debt, an average of \$38,000. Our goal is to invest \$3 million in an endowment dedicated to loan repayment assistance for newly-ordained priests.

PROJECT TOTAL

\$3 MILLION



Rev. Matthew Byrne with students at Communion of Saints School in Cleveland Heights.

HEART OF A SHEPHERD



Rev. Eric Garris with his mother, Jenny, at St. Raphael Parish in Bay Village where he serves as Parochial Vicar.

JOIN US

Bishop Perez and the Church of Northeast Ohio embrace this opportunity to strengthen the Church of Northeast Ohio today and for future generations. Your support is essential to encourage vocations, support our priests, and continue the long history of faith built by those who have come before us. The heart of a shepherd makes sacrifices for his flock. Let us pray, encourage and be generous to these holy men who serve the Church. Thank you.

WAYS TO GIVE

PLEDGES

Pledges payable up to three years allow donors to consider more substantial commitments than are possible with one-time cash gifts. Donors who pledge may determine payment schedules to meet their own charitable or tax needs. Payments can be made by check, credit card, electronic fund transfer (EFT), or gifts of stock.

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

Donors age 70-1/2 or older may be able to reduce taxable income and meet the minimum required distribution with a gift made directly from an IRA to the Catholic Community Foundation.

MATCHING GIFTS

If a donor's company has a matching gift program, the donor may request a matching gift form from the company and include it with the donor's pledge card. The company's matching gift will be recognized as a special gift, and not included in the donor's total pledge to the Campaign.

DEFERRED GIFTS

Bequests and gifts by beneficiary designation are examples of options for donors to consider when making a long-term commitment to the Church. These gifts offer donors flexibility and potential tax advantages while allowing for a long-term impact.



Catholic Diocese
of Cleveland



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

Enriching Lives In Northeast Ohio

The Catholic Community Foundation supports the mission of the Diocese of Cleveland by raising funds to provide for the spiritual, educational and charitable needs of the Northeast Ohio community. Established in 2000, the Foundation also makes grants and manages assets on behalf of donors, parishes and Catholic institutions throughout the Diocese.

The Catholic Community Foundation is responsible for the management and administration of the *Heart Of A Shepherd* campaign. All monies from the Campaign will be collected and directed by the Foundation to ensure the funds are distributed according to the Case for Support.

Campaign Office | 1404 East Ninth Street | Cleveland, OH 44114-1722
216-696-6525 | 1-800-869-6525 | www.CatholicCommunity.org