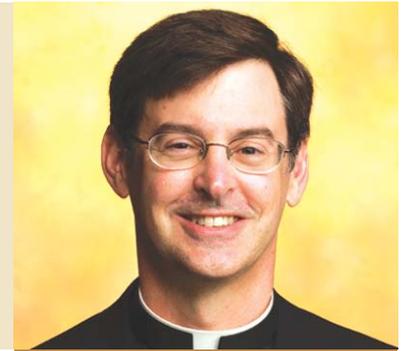




St. Ignatius College Prep PRESIDENT'S REPORT

February-March 2005 • St. Ignatius College Prep • Chicago, Illinois • www.ignatius.org



Fr. Brian G. Paulson, S.J.

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Dear Friends,

We are halfway through our Lenten journey. As I write on the last day of February, it occurs to me that Chicago weather in February and March is well suited to the introspective part of the Lenten journey. Some of this is captured well for me in a simple meditation which I read in the "missalette" **Magnificat** for February 16, 2005 entitled "God's Signs" by Monsignor Massimo Camisasca. I would like to share this passage with you, even if some of the language could be more inclusive to our American ears.

Monsignor writes: "In ancient peoples, even in the most cultured of them, the changing seasons aroused special awe and reflection, as if every year the world was born and died to then return to life once more. All this, in fact, is reproduced in the very reality of the day, when the light fades and the darkness follows, and then with the dawn, the light comes back to life. But this process of birth and death is even more vivid in the changing seasons. The Church had no difficulty in thinking of her own liturgical year, in which the events of Christ's life occur, and in them the life of man, following the rhythm of the seasons..."

God the Creator is the same God who saves us. He left traces, signs of that which he would fully realize with his Son already in the act with which he unfurled the universe.

In these days of Lent, I think of the fact that everything that is born in nature needs preparation, even if it is fundamentally hidden. Thus it is for the seed in the earth, so it is for the fetus in the mother's womb, so it is for the known and unknown stars and planets that have lived for infinite generations, and of which we have received news, particularly in the last century.

When we speak of Lent, we speak of preparation so that the life in us can be recovered – or much more – so that the life in us can be welcomed. **The life of Christ risen, his Spirit which is given to us at Easter, needs to find hospitality in us.**

This is the meaning of the silence and the prayer that is recommended by the Church in this time. This is the meaning of fasting, which is closely related to prayer and silence. That our eyes may not be closed, that our senses may not be dulled. This is the meaning of the alms that are asked of us. That our life may not be built on what is secondary and fleeting, but that it may find in Jesus the only richness that does not end, the richness that gives light and weight to every tiny thing. In this way, in our hands, instead of the sad object that will be destroyed, everything becomes an icon of the beauty of the Savior." (pp. 243-44, emphasis mine)

May the life of Christ risen indeed find hospitality in our hearts this Lent so that we become, more and more, men and women for others in imitation of Jesus, for the greater honor and glory of God.

Sincerely,


Rev. Brian G. Paulson, S.J., President

New Parish Center to Become a Reality

Holy Family Church, next door to St. Ignatius College Prep, provides as many memories for some alumni as the school itself. Like the school, the church was founded and built by Fr. Arnold Damen, S.J., and has towered over students and the city of Chicago for more than 135 years.

St. Ignatius graduates fondly remember weekly school masses and the church packed with students. Jesuit scholastics roamed the aisles to keep them quiet and the priest at the altar prayed in the same Latin students had been struggling with earlier that day in class. During wartime, it was a place to say a prayer for an older brother, a father, or a friend overseas. And, for many, many years, parents came to proudly watch their children graduate from St. Ignatius in the church.

Through the years, the surrounding community has seen many changes. In the early to mid-19th Century, the land where the church and school now stand was on the outskirts of town and served as a settlement for Irish immigrants who were escaping the potato famine in their country. Eventually, toward the end of the 1800s, Italians arrived as they escaped war in their country. The neighborhood surrounding the church became known as "Little Italy" and many of their descendants are alumni of St. Ignatius or currently attend the school. In the 1950s, as families were making a better life themselves and moving to new areas of the city, the community began to diversify once again. African-American families from the south became the new wave of immigrants. Many without job opportunities, they moved into neighborhood public housing projects. While these new parishioners raised a mighty sound in song on Sundays at Holy Family, there was often no money to fix the church and eventually it became dilapidated.

During the last 15 years, under the leadership of Fr. George Lane, S.J., people who appreciated Holy Family's rich history and the service it offered to so many newcomers over so many years came to the rescue of Holy Family Church. The church has been restored and looks beautiful. The parish family has been small for many years, however, anyone can see that the neighborhood is in the midst of a great transition and foresees that it will soon have a full church of people once again.

St. Ignatius Helps Holy Family; Holy Family Helps St. Ignatius

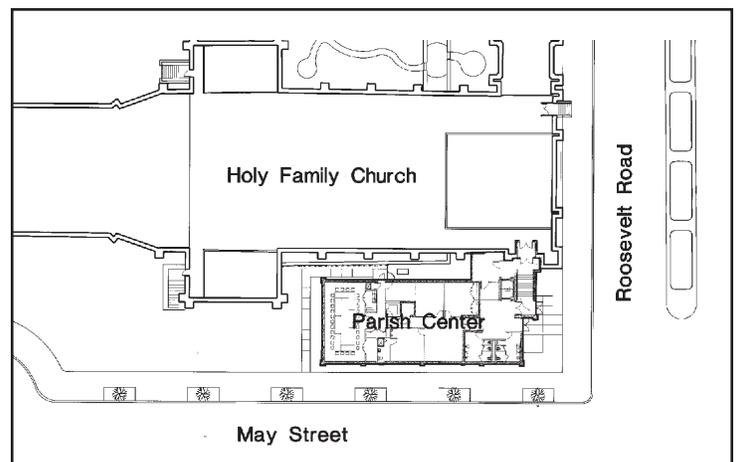
The former Sisters' convent, about a half-block north of the church on May Street, has served as the parish center for many years but the structure is in bad shape. Estimates show that about \$1.5 million would be needed to repair it adequately. It is too large and even fixing it would not take care of the handicapped access and wash-room problems related to the church.

To attempt to "fix" the situation, the parish has given St. Ignatius College Prep the convent building and its land as well as four city lots to extend the school's campus. In return, St. Ignatius will ask friends and graduates who remember the church fondly, members of the neighborhood who have seen its recent renaissance, and others who appreciate its importance in the history of Chicago to help renew Holy Family by building a parish center.

It is of interest that this new structure will be erected on the site of the old parish center, which was built in the 1880s and torn down because of its dilapidated condition in the 1950s. There will be a west-side entry into the church, complete with a lift and benches where people can sit down. There will be easily-accessible wash-rooms, three meeting rooms and two offices.

St. Ignatius wants this new building to be attractive, but not to take attention away from the historic church. Therefore, it will be built to look like it was always there... only one story, built of cast stone in the texture

Rendering of the new parish center from architects Solomon Cordwell & Buenz.





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Annual Benefit Honors Fr. Mark Link, S.J.

St. Ignatius College Prep's annual benefit was hosted this year at a Sunday performance of Broadway in Chicago's *All Shook Up*. Alumni, parents, donors and friends joined in music and friendship to raise money for the school.

Honored was Fr. Mark Link, S.J., an outstanding educator and retreat director who has spent twenty-five years of his life in the classroom. He taught at St. Ignatius College Prep for 16 years (1964-1980) followed by six other schools (at both the high school and university level). In addition, from 1970-2003, he conducted retreats for students and adults of various religious denominations in five different English-speaking nations.

Fr. Link has also enjoyed a prolific career in writing and has authored over 60 books which have helped instill the ideas of service and moral leadership to his readers. Fr. Link continues to write and is currently Author in Residence at the Bellarmine Retreat house in Barrington, Illinois.

We thank Fr. Link as well as all those who came out to support the annual benefit. Once again, we are reminded how much lucky we are to have such a wonderful school community!



Fr. Mark Link, S.J. talks to guests at a pre-show party after receiving the 2004-05 Dei Gloriam Award from Fr. Paulson.

OUR THANKS

We are grateful to the following donors for their generous gifts to St. Ignatius College Prep from January 25 - February 20, 2005.

NEW PRESIDENT'S CLUB MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Fox
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Kegaly '52
Mr. Gregory J. O'Leary '80
Mr. Timothy C. Zaug '95

ANNUAL GIVING - \$5,000 and more

Pritzker Traubert Family Foundation
(tuition assistance program)

GREATER GLORY CAMPAIGN

Gifts and Pledges

Anonymous
Mr. David G. Callaghan '47
Ms. Mary J. Curran
Mr. and Mrs. David S. Fox '69
Mr. and Mrs. Ferdynand Hebal
Mr. and Mrs. James J. Hill '55
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Jiganti '58
Mr. and Mrs. Martin J. Perry

CAMPAIGN UPDATE:

WE HAVE RAISED
26% OF OUR
GREATER GLORY
CAMPAIGN GOAL!
HELP US MAKE OUR
\$30 MILLION GOAL
A REALITY



WITH YOUR GIFT
TO THE GREATER GLORY
CAMPAIGN!

THE GREATER
GLORY
Ignatian Excellence for the 21st Century

Joseph Kearney '82 to Receive Award of Excellence at Alumni Law Luncheon on March 11, 2005



Joseph D. Kearney '82 will be honored at the annual Ignatius law luncheon.

Joseph D. Kearney '82, recipient of the Award of Excellence in the Field of Law: Joseph Kearney '82 is Dean and Professor of Law at Marquette University Law School in Milwaukee. He has been a member of the Marquette faculty since 1997 and became dean on July 1, 2003. Prior to joining Marquette Law School, Kearney practiced for six years at Sidley & Austin, Chicago's largest law firm. He also served as a law clerk to the Honorable Antonin Scalia, Justice of the United States Supreme Court, as well as to the Honorable Diarmuid F. O'Scannlain of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Kearney's teaching and writing focus on civil litigation and the regulation of industry. His background as a practitioner concentrates in appellate and telecommunications litigation, and he has argued cases before the Wisconsin and Illinois Supreme Courts and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. He has been the primary draftsman of winning briefs on the merits in the U.S. Supreme Court. He received a B.A. (summa cum laude) in Classics from Yale College and a J.D. (cum laude) from Harvard Law School. He is a native of the South Side of Chicago and was valedictorian of St. Ignatius College Prep when he graduated.

Patti Bobb, recipient of an Honorary Diploma: Currently a Board of Trustee for St. Ignatius, Patti graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.A. from St. Michael's College in Santa Fe. She went on to a summer program at Brunel University in Uxbridge, England, then to the University of Notre Dame, where she graduated with a J.D. in 1972. She started her law career that year as an Assistant State's Attorney in Cook County. From 1972-85, Patti practiced law as a trial attorney, specializing in plaintiff's personal injury and medical malpractice litigation. From that time on, she has been president of Patricia C. Bobb & Associates and is Of Counsel, Propes & Kaveny. Patti continues as a trial attorney focusing on civil litigation with emphasis in medical malpractice. Patti and her daughter will both be alums from the class of 2005!

