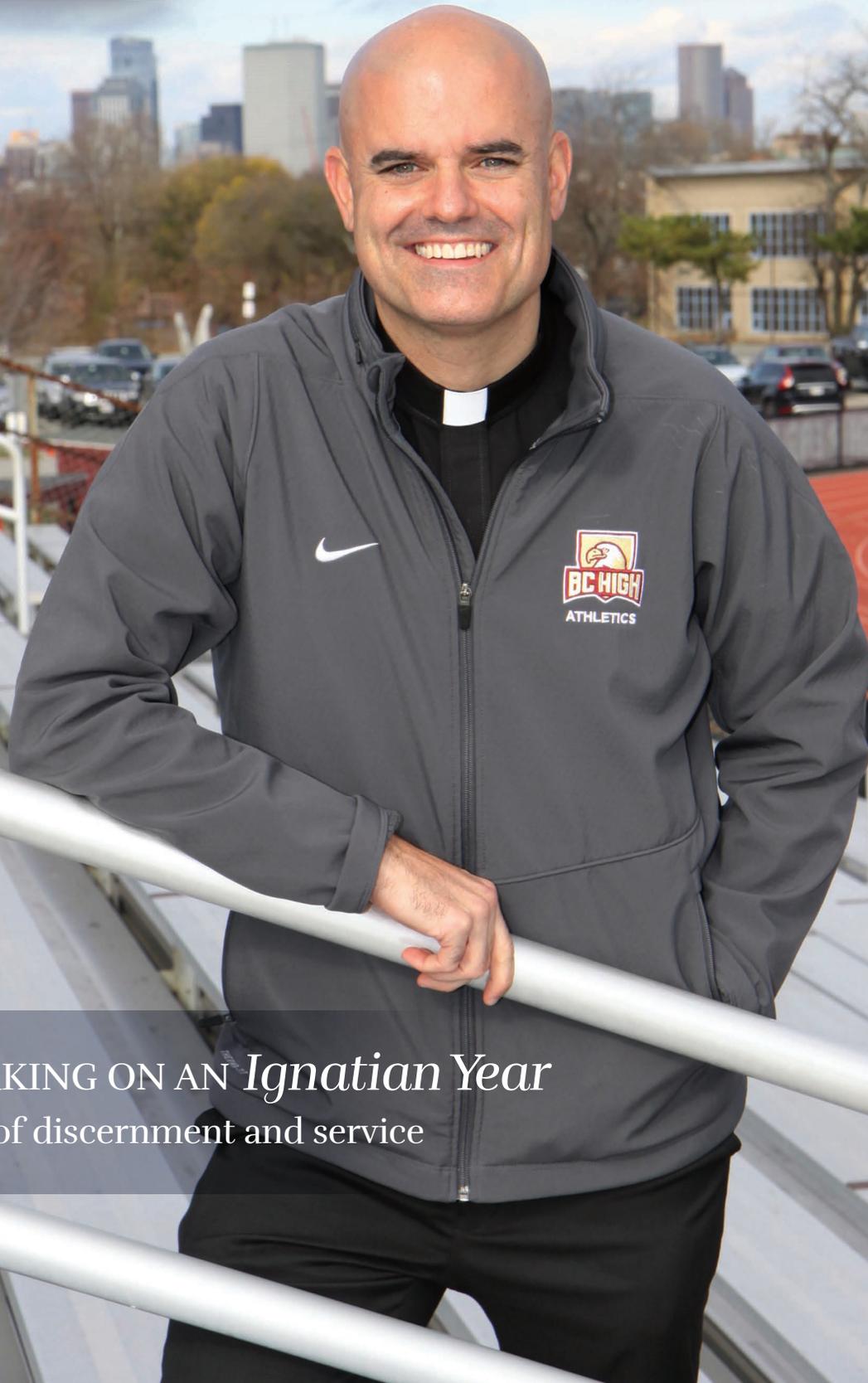


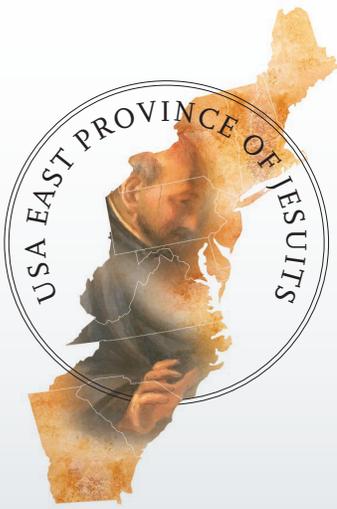


# JESUITS

USA EAST PROVINCE | WINTER 2021



EMBARKING ON AN *Ignatian Year*  
of discernment and service



“Families are the first place where the values of love and fraternity, togetherness and sharing, concern and care for others are lived out and handed on.”

—Pope Francis' encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*



## FROM OUR PROVINCIAL

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Very Rev. Joseph M. O'Keefe, SJ

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our first official issue of the *JESUITS USA East* magazine. Most of you have enjoyed this periodical over the years as a joint effort of the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces, which unified last summer into one province stretching from Maine to Georgia and encompassing 11 universities, 26 secondary and pre-secondary schools, 17 parishes, 5 retreat houses and 2 international schools. This East Coast Province of the Society of Jesus is the largest in the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States, and the second largest in the world. Like those of all Jesuit provinces around the globe, our mission remains rooted in the vision of St. Ignatius Loyola nearly 500 years ago—to work for the greater glory of God and the salvation of souls, being especially attentive to those on the margins of society. In all of our sponsored works, we seek to educate men and women for others.

Our nation and world have experienced so many challenges over the last year—challenges that have often made it difficult to focus on the daily will of God in our lives. To that end, Father General has proclaimed an “Ignatian Year.” Beginning on May 20, 2021 (the anniversary of St. Ignatius’ injury on the battlefield that set his conversion in motion), and ending on July 31, 2022, (the feast of St. Ignatius Loyola), we will embark on a shared experience to deepen our Ignatian roots. The motto for this endeavor will be “To see all things new in Christ.” Our goal will be clear—to seek wholeheartedly opportunities that work toward our four Universal Apostolic Preferences: promoting the Spiritual Exercises, walking with the excluded, journeying with youth, and caring for our common home.

I invite all our alumni, parishioners, benefactors and friends to join us in this Ignatian Year of prayer, discernment and service. Please keep connected to our website [JesuitsEast.org](http://JesuitsEast.org) for updates.

May our Savior, from whom the Society of Jesus takes its name, guide and protect us all in this new year.

Sincerely in Christ,

**Very Rev. Joseph M. O'Keefe, SJ**

*Provincial, USA East Province*





**ABOUT OUR COVER**

Fr. Patrick Nolan, SJ, stands on the bleachers at Boston College High School, where he serves as athletics chaplain and assistant director of enrollment. He also promotes vocations regionally. His own vocations journey had unique family mentors—two Jesuit uncles and an aunt who was a Sister of Charity. See story on page 10.

Photograph by Jane McCarthy

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18

From our story on Jesuit  
Nativity schools and racial  
justice; a Brooklyn Jesuit  
Prep graduate from the class  
of 2020 accepts her diploma  
from Fr. Mario Powell, SJ.

# Features

Walking With Refugees: 40 Years Later.....	4
Jesuit DNA: Fr. Patrick Nolan, SJ.....	10
Jesuits in Formation.....	14
Ordinations and First Vows.....	16
An Ignatian Foundation: Nativity Schools and Racial Justice.....	18
In Memoriam.....	21
In All Things to Love and Serve.....	22
Advancing Our Mission.....	25



Look for this symbol to find more information online [www.JesuitsEast.org](http://www.JesuitsEast.org)

# New Appointments and LEADERSHIP

In the summer 2020 issue of *JESUITS* magazine, we introduced Fr. Joseph O’Keefe, SJ, the first provincial of the newly formed Jesuits USA East Province. As any provincial will tell you, his success in leading a province depends on the strength and dedication of his assistants, superiors and directors of works.

Closest to any provincial, in fact, is a person known as the “socius,” which comes from the Latin word for companion. And rightly so. The socius of a province is a Jesuit companion to the provincial—more than a second-in-command or chief of staff—rather a true brother in the day-to-day administration of the province.

Last year, as the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces prepared to canonically come together into the USA East Province, reality set in. This new province would not only be the largest in the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States, but the second largest in the world—some 650 Jesuits, 11 universities, 26 secondary and pre-secondary schools, 17 parishes, plus retreat centers and international works. Would one Jesuit companion for the provincial be enough?

With the launch of Jesuits USA East, a second position was created to assist Fr. Joseph O’Keefe—a Provincial Assistant for Operations.



**Fr. John (Jack) Hanwell, SJ**  
*Socius of the USA East Province*



**Fr. Vince Conti, SJ**  
*Provincial Assistant for Operations*

Another challenge was how best to select these two Jesuit companions so they could hit the ground running on day one. The solution quickly became obvious—tap the two Jesuits who had each served as socius for their respective former provinces.

**Fr. John (Jack) Hanwell, SJ, was appointed Socius** for USA East after serving in that capacity for the Northeast Jesuits, and **Fr. Vince Conti, SJ, was appointed Provincial Assistant for Operations**, having previously served as Socius for the Maryland Province.

“I was blessed to serve as Socius for the USA Northeast Province from 2015 to 2020,” says Fr. Jack Hanwell. “Now in the same role for the USA East Province, I continue working

with the Jesuits I already know, as well as wonderful new Jesuits from the former Maryland Province. It is indeed a challenge with such a large province, in both numbers and geography, but being able to assist our provincial, Jesuits and staff, who do so much for our institutions and apostolates, is very rewarding.” Before his role as Socius for the USA Northeast Province, Fr. Hanwell served as president at Fairfield Prep in Connecticut.

For Fr. Vince Conti, before his tenure as Socius for the Maryland province, he served as headmaster at Gonzaga College High School in Washington, D.C. “Although my job as Provincial Assistant for Operations is an administrative role, it is much

different than when I worked in one of our schools or other apostolates. I now work with, and for, all areas of the province—all our Jesuits and institutions. And while this carries many challenges and demands, it is immensely rewarding to be at the forefront of this new province and assisting Fr. Joe O’Keefe.”

The USA East Province of the Society of Jesus is blessed to have Frs. Hanwell and Conti in their companion roles to Fr. Joseph O’Keefe. The relationships they have already forged with their fellow Jesuits and their familiarity with the administrative details of running a province will be a great benefit for all things Jesuit, from Maine to Georgia.

## Additional appointments throughout the province:



In August 2020, **Fr. Paul Brian Campbell, SJ**, became the executive director of the Loyola Jesuit Center Retreat House in Morristown, N.J. Fr. Campbell previously served as parochial vicar at Holy Trinity Church in Washington, D.C., and as a regional vocation promoter. Prior to that, he was the publisher at Loyola Press.



**Fr. Joseph Ligan, SJ**, has been appointed the next president of Gonzaga College High School in Washington, D.C., effective summer, 2021. He has been leading retreats at the Ignatius House Retreat Center in Atlanta since 2019 and previously served as rector of the Georgetown Jesuit Community. In the spring of 2011, Fr. Ligan served as the interim president of Gonzaga College High School before the appointment of the current president, Fr. Stephen Planning, SJ.



Effective January 2021, **Fr. Robert Reiser, SJ**, assumed the position of executive director of the Jesuit Schools Network, an organization that works with all U.S. Jesuit secondary and pre-secondary schools to sustain their Ignatian vision and Jesuit mission of educational excellence in the formation of young men and women. He has served for the last six years as president at McQuaid Jesuit in Rochester, N.Y. Prior to that, he was president at St. Peter’s Prep in Jersey City, N.J.



# Walking

Refugee boys who escaped with their families into the African country of Malawi enjoy being boys and having fun.

Jesuit Refugee Service finds new ways to  
serve amid a pandemic and ever-growing  
numbers of forcibly displaced people.

# WITH REFUGEES 40 YEARS LATER

By William Bole and Mike Gabriele

Although it can be extremely challenging to provide an education to refugees—children and adults escaping violence and unrest in their homelands—it is by far the best way to aid them in starting over with hope for a better future. The coronavirus pandemic has made this task all the more difficult, especially in remote areas where many have sought refuge from armed conflicts in their own countries.

Enter the Jesuits.

The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) has found ways to provide education amid lockdowns, often in places without reliable Internet or even stable electricity. In the highlands of Afghanistan,

for example, JRS is broadcasting daily lessons for refugee children. Teachers are managing to make the lessons interactive by carving out time for children to call in with questions on cell phones.

Bringing Jesuit education to forcibly displaced people is one way the Rome-based agency is revitalizing its global mission during the most troubling times since its establishment 40 years ago.

“I don’t think Fr. Arrupe envisioned us being around four decades later,” says Fr. Tom Smolich, SJ, JRS’s international director. He was speaking of Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ, the beloved Jesuit Superior

# 1980

Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ,  
who served as Jesuit  
Superior General from  
1965 to 1983, founded  
the Jesuit Refugee  
Service in 1980.



Fr. Leo O'Donovan, SJ, director of mission for JRS/USA, shares a laugh with children at the Kino Border Initiative in Nogales, Ariz.

(Jesuit Refugee Service)

General who served in that role when refugees began flooding out of Vietnam on rickety boats and rafts in 1979. The plight of the Vietnamese “boat people” led Fr. Arrupe to call for a worldwide humanitarian response by Jesuits and Jesuit organizations. Out of that campaign came the founding of JRS in November 1980.

Soon after, another crisis materialized—the Ethiopian famine, which triggered another humanitarian push by JRS. These were unusual eruptions at the time, and many thought the emergencies would pass (and so would the need for such large-scale campaigns). “But here we are,” says Fr. Smolich, “still showing the face of Jesus at this time when there are more and more forcibly displaced people.”

Indeed, the United Nations reports that there were 79.5 million forcibly displaced people at the end of 2019. Their numbers have swelled in the decades since the boat people, largely due to vicious conflicts in places ranging from Syria to South Sudan. And, just as alarmingly, these people are living through much longer periods of refuge, because the conflicts are not only intense, but also protracted. Fewer can return to their homes or find opportunities to resettle permanently.

Fr. Leo O’Donovan, SJ, former president of Georgetown University, who currently serves as director of mission for JRS/USA, appropriately relates the mission of JRS to welcoming the stranger as a Good Samaritan. “The biblical witness speaks repeatedly of welcoming the stranger,” he says. “In the parable of the Good Samaritan, we see that the stranger in need is our neighbor indeed. Not really ‘a stranger,’ but one of us, part of us, someone without whom we are literally less. As if a member of our very own family were to be lost—and could not be found. These children at the border—at any border—are not ‘someone else’s.’ They are *our* children.”

This mentality Fr. O’Donovan speaks of is why JRS has been leading these efforts for the long-haul. While it does provide short-term aid such as food and money (and the emergency list has lengthened to include soap and hand sanitizer during the coronavirus era), the agency has shaped its outreach knowing that these people are spending years, even decades, uprooted. They need schools, counseling and other help along their journeys. They need what Jesuits call “accompaniment.”

“We walk with them,” says Fr. Smolich.

“We educate them. We help them find their voice so they can tell their own stories. They get what they need to move forward. And that’s what Jesuit ministry does. It helps people fulfill their hopes and what God intends for them.”

The work is further spelled out in the organization’s mission statement: *Inspired by the generous love and example of Jesus Christ, JRS seeks to accompany, serve, and advocate the cause of forcibly displaced people, that they may heal, learn, and determine their own future.*

Fr. Kevin White, SJ, is the Geneva Representative for JRS, working as part of the Advocacy Department, where he represents JRS at the United Nations and other organizations. When faced with the staggering statistics of displaced people today—ten times the number than in 1980—Fr. White emphasizes the all-important mission and vision of Fr. Arrupe. “It’s important to keep in mind that behind each number is a human person with a story—usually traumatic—who wants nothing more

than what we all want: a life consistent with our dignity as children of God. How we respond reflects our own humanity. Is our response commensurate with what Fr. Arrupe did? General Congregation 36 aptly described the Society of Jesus as ‘an apostolic body whose sole consolation is to be placed with the Son in His suffering as well as in His glory.’”

In connection with its 40th anniversary this past November, JRS has articulated four basic priorities and goals:

**Reconciliation.** Diverse teams of JRS workers are teaching children and others from disparate backgrounds how to live together and respect one another. For instance, in regions torn by religious and ethnic violence, Christian and Muslim students have sat alongside each other in JRS classrooms. They’ve learned not only the basics, but also lessons from a peace-studies curriculum that teaches about culture, dialogue and mutual understanding. The aim

Reconciliation.

Mental health and psychosocial support.

Education and livelihood.

Advocacy.

Going where the need is greatest—Fr. Kevin White, SJ, JRS Geneva Representative, shares morning tea with villagers in Ethiopia.



is to foster “right relationships,” not only among the forcibly displaced, but also between them and their host communities. Fr. Robert McChesney, SJ, who taught English to refugees in Amman, Jordan, experienced both joy and heartache in his work. “I learned to praise God with Jesus for a share in the wisdom available only to little children, both Christian and Muslim,” he reflects. “JRS has provided the vehicle Fr. Arrupe desired—to identify Jesuits and the Ignatian family more closely with Christ—poor and powerless. In this sense, JRS is blessed with a privileged and enduring symbiotic relationship with the world’s refugees.”

**Mental health and psychosocial support.** Violence and chaos, along with years of displacement, can take a psychological as well as a physical toll. For that reason, JRS workers offer an assortment of community-based services to improve psychological well-being. “All the relief

aid in the world won’t necessarily help a child with her trauma,” says Joan Rosenhauer, executive director of JRS/USA, explaining why such support has recently emerged as a priority. “And if children are struggling with their mental health, having good scientific facts in their heads is not going to help them much.”

**Education and livelihoods.** JRS is adapting Jesuit education to the world of the displaced. The idea is to nurture hope among both children and adults and help them develop marketable skills (as teachers, healthcare workers, entrepreneurs, and other roles such as coders in the global economy). This past summer, JRS schools in Beirut were the first green-lighted by the government to reopen after lockdowns—a tribute to the high esteem for Jesuit education there and elsewhere. Fr. Dan Corrou, SJ, serves with JRS in Beirut. “There was and is much to

fear about COVID-19 for displaced people,” he says. “They are already vulnerable, and this adds an additional trauma to the pre-existing traumas. It would be easy to run away in fear. Our staff invited them in a different direction, to use this as a time to learn community in new ways. The children we teach and the women in our support groups do not have easy access to computers. So, our shift to remote learning and remote support groups had to occur over the phone, and in limited ‘data bundles.’ Even in these difficult situations, our teachers and social workers were able to keep students engaged, and communities connected.”

**Advocacy.** JRS—notably inspired by Pope Francis’ passion for this cause—advocates policies...“As currently written, it implies the forcibly displaced persons are the ones inspired by the Pope’s passion. “We continue



A representative from JRS looks from a building damaged in the blast that rocked Beirut in August 2020. JRS assisted with food and money.



Children are happy and ready to learn in a primary school sponsored by JRS in South Sudan.

(Paul Jeffrey/Miscan Care)



Patience Mhlanga, who spent five years in a refugee camp and was educated by JRS, went on to receive a degree at Fairfield University and studied Theology at Duke before joining the Peace Corps.

to lift up the importance of rights established under U.S. and international laws, including the rights of asylum seekers,” says Rosenhauer of JRS/USA. “It was more complicated during the pandemic, with borders across the world closed. But even in a pandemic, you need to find a way to help people in desperate situations. They shouldn’t be sent back to situations that threaten their lives.”

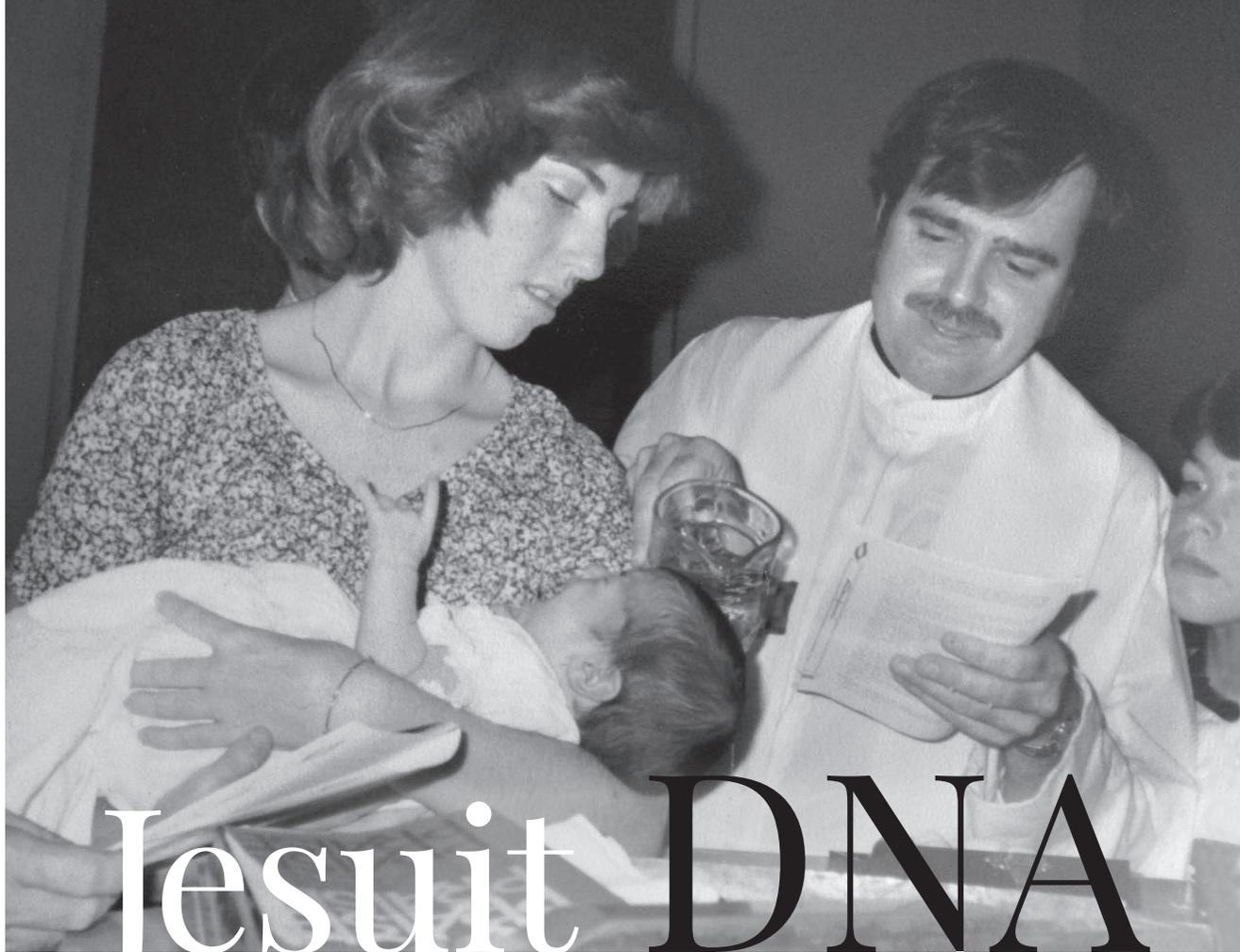
JRS is now at work in 56 countries, serving nearly 800,000 refugees who have fled their countries. As Fr. Smolich emphasizes, “They have stories to tell.”

A wonderful example is Patience Mhlanga, who was 11 years old when her family fled Zimbabwe after her father was reported to authorities because he voted for an opposition political party. They eventually settled in a refugee camp in Zambia, where Patience was able to restart her education in a JRS classroom. After five difficult years, the family resettled in

Bridgeport, Conn. Patience went on to attend Fairfield University, a Jesuit school, and from there pursued a graduate theology degree at Duke University before returning to Zambia as a Peace Corps volunteer.

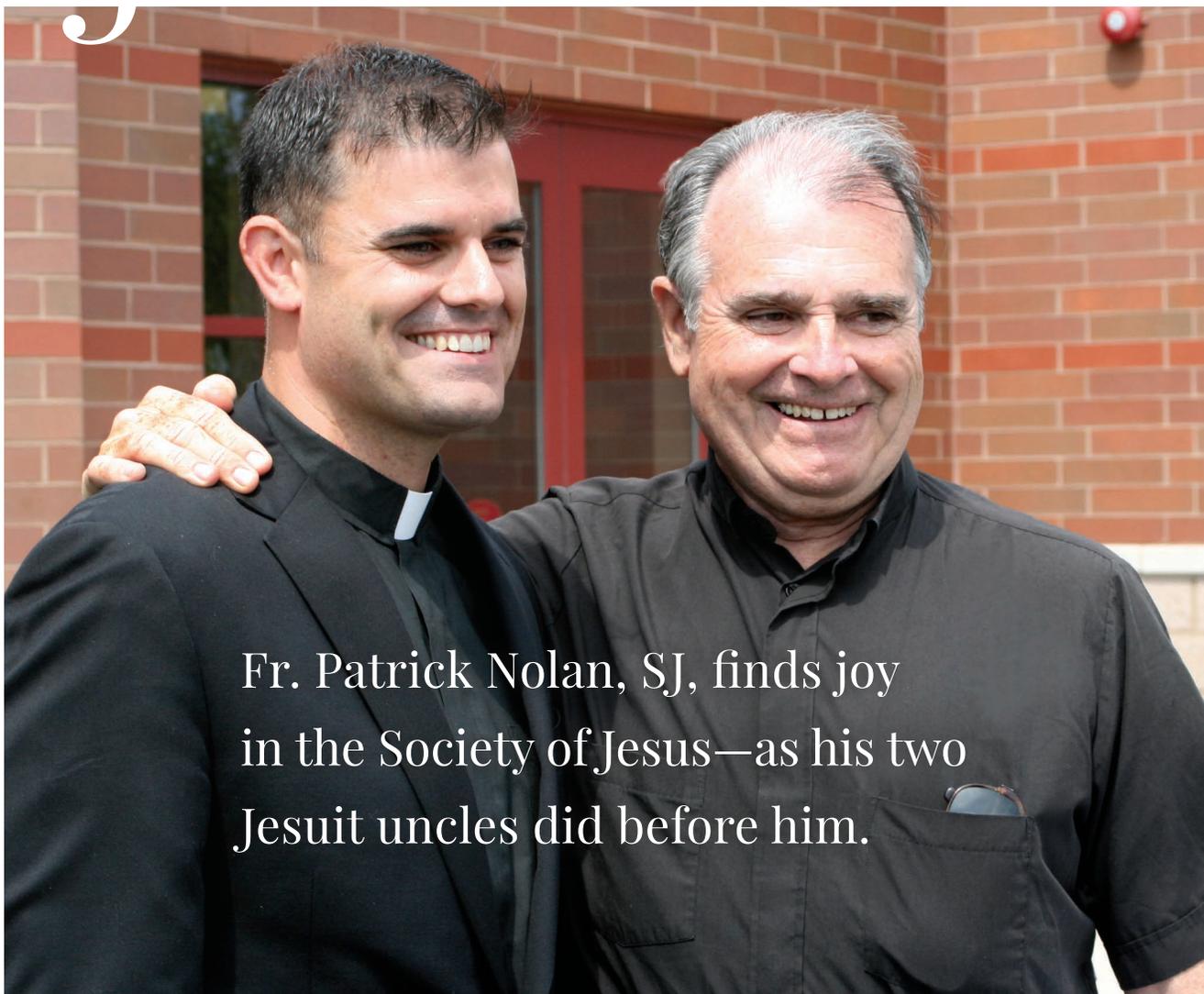
Now she’s getting a master’s in public health at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. “As a Catholic woman and a Jesuit-educated woman, I hope to give back and always remind myself that God has given me a bigger calling in this world,” she says in a testimony circulated by JRS. “I hope to use my education to help others flourish.”

“The earliest Jesuits founded a Society on this: begin with reality; be grounded in love; let your response be defined by creativity,” says Fr. Corrou in Beirut. “The sin of a continued and growing presence of refugees in our world must summon in us a call to action. The lives of these refugees are models of the grace that abounds and gives hope to us in our response.” ■



# Jesuit DNA

Little did Fr. James R. Dolan, SJ, realize as he was baptizing his baby nephew Patrick Nolan in 1979 that nearly 30 years later, that nephew would also enter the Society of Jesus. Patrick and his Uncle Jim are pictured here following Patrick's first vows.



Fr. Patrick Nolan, SJ, finds joy in the Society of Jesus—as his two Jesuit uncles did before him.

Fr. Patrick Nolan, SJ, was ordained to the priesthood on June 9, 2018. On that special day, at least in spirit, he became even closer to his mother's late brother, James R. Dolan (that's Dolan, not Nolan). Why? Because Fr. Nolan's favorite uncle growing up was not simply "Uncle Jimmy"; he was also Fr. Jim Dolan, SJ, a Jesuit priest.

In fact, Fr. Nolan's mother had another close Jesuit relative, Fr. Donald Devine, SJ, a second cousin who was like a second uncle to him later in life, as well as an aunt, Sr. Frances Devine, SC, who was a Sister of Charity.

Two Jesuit uncles and a nun for a great aunt—was Patrick Nolan's future predestined?

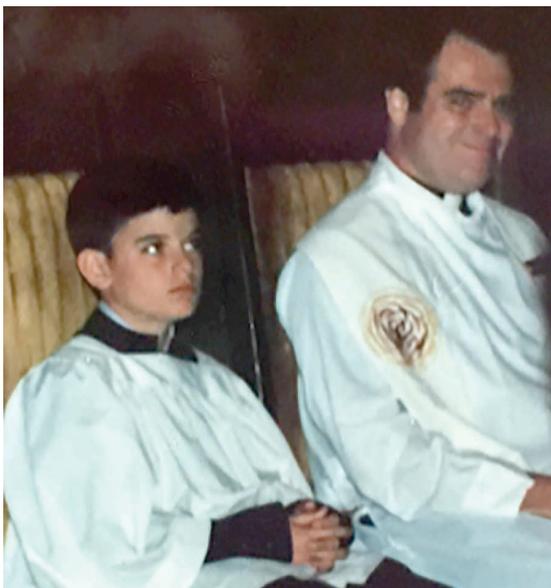
"Our family was very close to my Uncle Jim," recalls Fr. Nolan. "He was everyone's favorite uncle—even kids on the street called him Uncle Jimmy. My nana was very sick when I was young, and Uncle Jimmy would drive down from Christ the King Retreat House in Syracuse once a month, often right before bedtime with pizzas in hand—what was not to love!"

Uncle Jim often celebrated Mass right in the family living room, and although Fr. Nolan later served as an altar server at St. Rose of Lima in Massapequa Park, Long Island, there

was something special about first serving alongside his uncle at home. "I just felt a real closeness to Jesus when I was around him," he says. "He made the Mass so welcoming."

Fr. Nolan is the youngest of seven siblings, and despite having two Jesuit uncles, he was the first to attend a Jesuit university. When he was applying to Loyola University Maryland, his Uncle Jim wrote a note to his own former classmate, then president at Loyola, Fr. Harold Ridley, SJ, beaming that his nephew Patrick was the first in the family to choose a Jesuit college. "He gave me a copy of that letter," Fr. Nolan remembers. "You could just see how proud he was that I was considering a Jesuit school."

Although Fr. Nolan didn't enter the Society of Jesus right after graduation, he admired the Jesuits while at Loyola—Frs. Tim Brown, Hap Ridley, Kevin Gillespie and Frank Nash. "These Jesuits were so authentic and so down to earth, and just really inspiring. They showed up when we lost a classmate. They were present around campus," says Fr. Nolan. "Especially Fr. Tim Brown—after talking with him, I'd have that same good feeling I used to have after visiting with my Uncle Jimmy. And I later realized it was the consolation that St. Ignatius talks about—the warmth and goodness you feel through companionship with someone you admire and who lives their life with real purpose. Later in my twenties, while working in the sports marketing industry, I started imagining about something deeper for my life. My mind naturally went back to Jesuits like Fr. Tim Brown and my Uncle Jim." He then laughs, "I didn't tell either of



A young Patrick Nolan, altar serving at his brother John's wedding, sits next to his uncle, Fr. Jim Dolan, SJ.

A family that was blessed to have three Jesuits and a Sister of Charity: Sr. Frances Devine, SC, Fr. James Dolan, SJ, Fr. Patrick Nolan, SJ, and Fr. Donald Devine, SJ

Photo by Fr. Ricardo Avila, SJ



them I was thinking of joining the Society, because I didn't think the Jesuits would accept me!"

Well, Patrick Nolan was accepted, and he entered the Society of Jesus in August of 2008. "When I first got to the novitiate, I remember asking an older Jesuit if he knew my Uncle Jim. As he asked me in turn where Jim was these days, he candidly recalled often wondering that very question while he was my uncle's superior," Fr. Nolan tells with a grin. "That summed up my Uncle Jimmy so well. He was a free spirit, and he helped so many people experience spiritual freedom."

Fr. Nolan's other Jesuit uncle, Fr. Donald Devine, had served in the Pacific Islands of Micronesia, and Fr. Nolan remembers locating these island groups on a map as a kid to visualize where his uncle was serving. "When I was missioned to Micronesia as a novice, I really grew closer to my Uncle Don," he recalls. "Don had actually spent two years as director of Xavier High School in Chuuk, where I was now teaching. I again found myself asking people if they had known my uncle. A woman named Rufina who had worked there awhile told me that she was a student of Fr. Don's. What she remembered most was that my

uncle was always smiling." Jesuit joy—finding God in all things. It is how both of Fr. Nolan's uncles lived their vocations and what inspired him to choose the call as well.

Within a couple of weeks of returning from the Pacific Islands, Fr. Nolan and his novice classmates were sent to Cochabamba, Bolivia to study Spanish. He recalls, "I remember telling my Spanish teacher one day about the religious in my family: my two Jesuit *tíos* and *mí gran tía* who was a nun. My teacher corrected me—after motioning to me as if my aunt was very big or *grande*—that great aunt translates to *tía abuela* or an aunt who is like a grandmother. There was no better way to describe my relationship with my Aunt Frances, who also taught me the importance of friendship in religious life."

Now that Fr. Nolan has been a Jesuit priest for a couple years, he reflects on all the things his Jesuit uncles did for the family, whether for a wedding, a baptism or a funeral, making sure everyone was involved. He currently works in enrollment and serves as the athletics chaplain at Boston College High School and as a regional vocation promoter. "I love being an ambassador for the Jesuits," he says.

“To be on the ground—walking with or having a cup of coffee with somebody inquiring about the Society of Jesus is so important. I take accompaniment very seriously. The same is true with these young athletes. Simply to be present. I learned the importance of presence from my Aunt Frances who was present at all of our sacraments and graduations. To be present for them on the sidelines, with their families, giving them support, praying with them. I even bless the helmets and gloves and sticks; I think I’ve blessed every piece of athletic equipment imaginable,” he jokes. “I also direct retreats, uniquely crafted for each team.”

When asked what it’s like to have looked up to two Jesuit uncles for so long and to now actually be a Jesuit uncle for his own nieces and nephews, Fr. Nolan smiles. “You know, regarding my two Jesuit uncles, some of the best advice I received was from my Aunt Frances. She said, ‘Uncle Jimmy is Uncle Jimmy, and Donald is Donald. But you be yourself...Be your own Jesuit, and, more importantly, don’t let it go to your head!’ Pretty good advice, huh?”

Fr. Nolan’s Aunt Frances was 90 when he entered the Jesuits to embark on a 10-year formation. “She told me back then, ‘Now I have a reason to live to 100, so we can celebrate your ordination and my birthday, but the deal is we are having two parties!’” Sr. Frances Devine, SC, died this past October at 102, succeeding in her wish to watch her grandnephew become his “own” Jesuit priest. ■

A priest who was able to walk with his nephew—no longer a nephew but a brother—a brother and a companion in the Society of Jesus. AMDG.



Photo by Jim Rapp

A newly ordained Fr. Patrick Nolan, SJ, poses with Maria Zelaya (his nana’s nurse) and his great aunt, Sr. Frances Devine, SC, following his first Mass.



2020~2021

# Jesuits in *F*ormation

*in the USA East Province*

## FIRST-YEAR NOVICES



Angelo Canta



Alec Hufford



Justin Reyes

## SECOND-YEAR NOVICES



RJ Jacobs



Luke Lapean



Nicholas Leeper



Robert Lorenz



Mario Verde



Christian Zombek

## FIRST STUDIES



Matthew Briand



Brian Engelhart



Bryan Galligan



Andrew Milewski



Christopher Holownia



Trevor Kelly



Michael Petro



Paul Phillipino



David Said

## *The Path of Formation*

Jesuit novices from the USA East Province enter Saint Andrew Hall in Syracuse, N.Y., for the two-year **Novitiate** program, culminating in the profession of perpetual vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

In **First Studies** after the novitiate, most Jesuits study philosophy and theology for three years at Loyola University Chicago, Saint Louis University or Fordham University.

In **Regency**, Jesuits work full time for two or three years at a Jesuit worksite or apostolate, such as an educational institution, or in pastoral ministry.

In **Theology**, Jesuits continue advanced studies for three years at one of three locations in North



[www.BeAJesuit.org](http://www.BeAJesuit.org)

## REGENCY



Jake Braithwaite



Brendan Coffey



Thomas Elitz



Brendan Gottschall



Kieran Halloran



Douglas Jones



C-Y Kao



Joseph Lorenz



Jonathan Pennacchia



John Pignone



Melvin Rayappa



Christopher Smith



Nathan Sparks



Christian Verghese

## THEOLOGY



Matthew Cortese



Justin Grosnick



Daniel Gustafson



Sean Hagerty



Michael Lamanna



Dayne Malcolm



Stephen Nicholson



Ricardo Perkins



Zachariah Presutti



Dickson Tiwelfil



William Woody

## RECENTLY ORDAINED PRIESTS



Jason Downer



James Ferus



Kevin Hughes



Douglas Ray



Marco Rodriguez



Jonathan Stott

## BROTHERS

America (the School of Theology and Ministry at Boston College, the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, located in Berkeley, Calif., or Regis University in Toronto) or at the Gregorian University in Rome.

**Recently Ordained** men are those who completed theology studies and were ordained as priests.

**Jesuit Brothers** undergo a slightly different but equally rigorous formation process of studies and apostolic work.

**Tertianship** is the final step in the formation process, and the period of preparation before making final vows in the Society of Jesus.

# *Celebrating* New Jesuit Priests



*A*

s it did with nearly every gathering and celebration in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic forced many schedule changes and adjustments to our ordinations this past year. Although these are usually celebrated in June at Fordham University, the spring of 2020 saw all our churches and institutions completely shut down due to the pandemic. As things gradually opened with limited capacity throughout the summer, our four Jesuits deacons, who had prepared so diligently to become priests in the Society of Jesus, went forward with their ordinations amidst various caveats.

Due to travel concerns, Fr. James Ferus, SJ, (pictured with Sean Cardinal O'Malley, OFM Cap) was ordained near his family in Boston on Aug. 1, joining the diocesan seminarians at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. A week later on Aug. 8, Frs. Kevin Hughes, SJ; Jason Downer, SJ; and Douglas Ray, SJ, (pictured on previous page) were



ordained at the Saint Joseph's University Chapel in Philadelphia. Both Masses were livestreamed so that extended friends and family could celebrate virtually with our new Jesuit priests. It was heartwarming indeed to see these men overcome the restrictions and uncertainties of the pandemic to follow their call and complete this significant milestone in their formation in spite of so many challenges.

\* \* \* \* \*

In the same way that 2020 failed to put the brakes on our Jesuit ordinations, neither could the pandemic keep our four East Coast novices from professing their first vows. On Aug. 7, at the cathedral in Syracuse, NY., the men pictured below, Andrew Milewski, SJ; Trevor Kelly, SJ; David Said, SJ; and Michael Petro, SJ, officially completed their two years in the novitiate by pronouncing their vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. They each received their Vow crucifixes as a sign of this special day.

# First Vows for Four Jesuit Novices





Nativity Boston Principal Gadisa Goso welcoming a student in fall 2020

# **a**n Ignatian Foundation: How Nativity Schools are Working for Racial Justice

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By PJ Williams

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Students from Nativity Prep Boston

“We’re a school that actually doesn’t want the children of our students to come here; we want them to not qualify to come here; that means that they’re moving up the ranks of the socioeconomic ladder,” said Gadisa Goso, principal of Nativity Preparatory School of Boston, a Jesuit school serving low income students from the 4th through 8th grade in the Boston area. “The hope is that they become successful professionals in whatever the field may be, medicine, law, politics, education; we need them to go from being underrep-

resented to represented,” said Goso, who himself is a member of Nativity Boston’s class of 1997.

Nativity Preparatory School of Boston was founded thirty years ago with a model based off the Nativity Mission School, which served poor boys on the lower east side of Manhattan. While no longer in service, Nativity Mission School inspired dozens of Jesuit and non-Jesuit nativity schools throughout North America to serve middle school students on the margins. The Nativity school model features a free or low-cost

tuition, a longer school day, an extended school year and a summer camp component. Students usually need to qualify for federal free or reduced-price lunch to qualify for Nativity schools.

In addition to 2020 being Nativity Boston's 30th anniversary, it is also Goso's first year as principal—a year which has already been a trying time for the country. The coronavirus pandemic is still a real threat that makes in-person learning difficult. "It's been a challenge; I wasn't able to meet all the teachers and students until the start of the school year," said Goso of virtual learning. Additionally, this past summer has seen cries for racial justice in response to the killings of unarmed black men and women. "I want them to see their racial identity as a strength, an asset," explains Goso, who leads a school comprised of predominantly black students, "I want them to be able to identify and address issues of inequity in high school and beyond." Goso believes that this starts with a strong foundation. "If they can obtain a quality education starting here at Nativity and onwards, they can navigate society and help to transform it and go out there to create sustained change."

The issue of racial injustice is by no

means unique to Nativity Boston, and other Nativity Schools in the USA East Province are working to combat this larger issue.

Located in East Flatbush, N.Y., Brooklyn Jesuit Prep (BJP) is another Nativity school serving predominantly black students. BJP's president Fr. Mario Powell, SJ, has been looking to the past to help inform the present. Earlier this year, in an interview on Catholic Television, Fr. Powell challenged Catholic schools—including his own—to better teach students about Black Catholic history. "It's a story of pain, but it's also a story of hope and triumph," said Fr. Powell during the interview.

Brooklyn Jesuit Prep has worked to incorporate these stories into their social media and throughout the halls of the school. "When a kid is daydreaming and not paying attention in class and staring at a painting or staring up at a poster, that should still be didactic in some way," explains Giancarlo Milea, BJP's director of development.

Despite a focus on Catholic history, most students at Nativity schools are not Catholic. This may seem like a contradiction at first, but Milea explains how it is a fundamental part of the school. "We are called to serve



*"I want them to see their racial identity as a strength, an asset...I want them to be able to identify and address issues of inequity in high school and beyond."*

— Gadisa Goso, Nativity Boston Principal

This page clockwise from left: Brooklyn Jesuit Prep students learning in fall 2020 with covid precautions; Fr. Ralph Rivera, SJ, distributes communion during BJP's Mass of the Holy Spirit; Fr. Mario Powell, SJ, president of BJP with students before the coronavirus pandemic





Saint Ignatius Loyola Academy President John Ciccone helps a student tie his signature bow tie prior to the 8th grade tie ceremony.

folks regardless of their faith; it's our faith that's guiding our mission; without our faith, our mission is a lot weaker. Being that we are a Catholic institution, we feel it's important for kids to learn about the tradition of the education they're receiving."

James Scott, the director of admissions and the dean of students at St. Ignatius Loyola Academy in Baltimore, has another

perspective on the Catholic mission of Nativity schools. "When our kids come in, they don't know much about Jesuits or Catholic doctrine at all, but they do understand the concept of 'hey let's be committed to doing the right thing in the world,'" he explains. "We're all on this planet together; let's love

adults in the building. Now, thanks to intentional efforts by the administration, 12 of the 18 teachers in the school are black men and women. This, he feels, is an important part of having organic conversations on race.

"When those kids can walk in a classroom and they can talk to a teacher who not only looks like them but is them—the same teacher who went to the school they did—the conversations are much more candid and direct," explains Scott who also teaches 8th grade math. "There is no middle-school class that you are having that is more important than people. If there is a big social justice issue that comes up, there is nothing that I'm going to teach you in algebra that is more important than you getting the feelings you're having off your chest."

*"We're all on this planet together; let's love and look out for each other. Our kids can relate to that even though it doesn't sound as macho to them."*

— James Scott, dean of students at St. Ignatius Loyola Academy

James Scott at a socially distanced 5th Grade Class Day.



and look out for each other. Our kids can relate to that even though it doesn't sound as macho to them."

Scott first came to teach at St. Ignatius in 2004 and was drawn to the fact that it was an all-boy's school with all black students. "These kids are just like me, poor black boys from Baltimore City that get to go to a private school. Most are raised by a single mom, probably first-generation college kids—this is right up my alley," thought Scott when he first learned about the school. However, this ethnic makeup was not reflected in the school's faculty. When Scott started teaching at St. Ignatius Loyola Academy, he was one of only three black

While not all alums of Nativity schools will continue their educations at Jesuit schools, they will graduate better prepared to take on the challenges of being a minority in America. Especially when it comes to advocating for themselves and others. "I think that schools like St. Ignatius, really all the Nativity Schools, when they work at their best, students leave with a confidence in themselves, with such a love of themselves, that they can go into other independent schools that have more of a socioeconomic gap and still be comfortable in their own skin and be confident enough to say 'Hey, if I see something wrong, I'll say something,'" says Scott. ■



**ST. IGNATIUS  
LOYOLA ACADEMY**

# IN MEMORIAM

Deceased Jesuits of the USA East Province ~ July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

**Br. Sebastian A. Boccabella, SJ**

September 4, 1931 – August 4, 2019

**Rev. Robert M. Hanlon, SJ**

July 25, 1932 – September 4, 2019

**Rev. James F.X. Pratt, SJ**

July 20, 1954 – September 5, 2019

**Rev. James W. Moore, SJ**

June 14, 1927 – September 13, 2019

**Rev. Robert S. Curry, SJ**

August 31, 1931 – October 1, 2019

**Rev. Anthony R. Picariello, SJ**

May 30, 1930 – October 17, 2019

**Rev. Francis A. Sullivan, SJ**

May 21, 1922 – October 23, 2019

**Rev. William L. Mulligan, SJ**

April 17, 1933 – October 29, 2019

**Rev. G. Simon Harak, SJ**

April 15, 1948 - November 3, 2019

**Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan, SJ**

April 22, 1928 - November 22, 2019

**Rev. John C. Haughey, SJ**

September 27, 1930 - December 5, 2019

**Rev. Daniel J. Lusch, SJ**

December 16, 1933 - December 23, 2019

**Rev. Thomas V. O'Connor, SJ**

May 6, 1932 - December 23, 2019

**Rev. Jeffrey P. Baerwald, SJ**

May 7, 1957 - January 3, 2020

**Rev. John W. McDaniel, SJ**

January 28, 1941 - February 1, 2020

**Rev. George V. Coyne, SJ**

January 19, 1933 - February 11, 2020

**Rev. Thomas L. Sheridan, SJ**

December 17, 1926 - February 13, 2020

**Rev. Richard J. Regan, SJ**

October 26, 1930 - February 21, 2020

**Rev. John P. Langan, SJ**

August 10, 1940 - March 20, 2020

**Rev. Joseph A. O'Hare, SJ**

February 12, 1931 - March 29, 2020

**Rev. John S. Hagileiram, SJ**

January 14, 1952 - April 10, 2020

**Rev. G. Richard Dimler, SJ**

October 21, 1931 - April 14, 2020

**Rev. John W. Lange, SJ**

August 2, 1926 - April 17, 2020

**Rev. Francis X. Moan, SJ**

February 19, 1927 - April 17, 2020

**Rev. John T. Kelly, SJ**

June 10, 1942 - April 18, 2020

**Rev. Michael A. Hricko, SJ**

August 21, 1942 - April 24, 2020

**Rev. Edward C. Dougherty, SJ**

February 28, 1941 - April 28, 2020

**Rev. Dennis E. McNally, SJ**

March 3, 1944 - May 6, 2020

**Rev. Donald J. Moore, SJ**

May 11, 1929 - May 27, 2020

**Rev. James J. Fedigan, SJ**

June 3, 1932 - May 31, 2020

**Most Rev. George V. Murry, SJ**

December 28, 1948 - June 5, 2020

**Rev. David O. Travers, SJ**

June 27, 1934 - June 14, 2020

**Rev. John J. Mandile, SJ**

April 6, 1926 - June 22, 2020

**Rev. David A. Skelskey, SJ**

January 26, 1938 - June 24, 2020

NONE OF US  
LIVES AS HIS OWN  
MASTER AND  
NONE OF US DIES  
AS HIS OWN  
MASTER. WHILE  
WE LIVE, WE ARE  
RESPONSIBLE TO  
THE LORD, AND  
WHEN WE DIE,  
WE DIE AS HIS  
SERVANTS.

—Romans 14, 1-9, 11-12

# en todo amar y servir

{ in all things to love and serve }



By Henry Frank



Study after study in the past decade has documented demographic trends in the American Catholic church that confirm what many already know — people are leaving. Wherever the church goes from here, two things seem clear: first, parish life could use some help, and second, Hispanics will play a major role.

More than one-third of US Catholics identify as Hispanic. Among millennials, it is more than half. While church participation among Hispanics is also declining, it is generally not declining as steeply as among non-Hispanics, and Hispanic youth are more likely than their non-Hispanic peers to remain Catholic as adults.

How exactly the institutional Church can or should respond is a huge question. A more digestible one is “How are the Jesuits on the East Coast responding?”

One new initiative is the Office of Ignatian Spirituality’s *Comunidades Hispanas Ignacianas* (Ignatian Hispanic Communities), which was launched in the fall of 2019. The *comunidades* are groups of about a dozen people who gather to deepen their faith, accompany one another on their spiritual journeys, and put their faith into

action. Each *comunidad* is led by a trained guide, who facilitates the group in Spanish. Currently, there are *comunidades* at four Jesuit sites: the Parish of St. Ignatius of Loyola in Chestnut Hill, Mass.; the Loyola Jesuit Center in Morristown, N.J.; the Parish of St. Francis Xavier in N.Y.C.; and St. Mary of the Assumption-Our Lady of Mount Carmel-St. Benedicta Parish in Staten Island, N.Y.

Two elements of the *Comunidades Hispanas Ignacianas* make them particularly remarkable. The first is their community approach to Ignatian spirituality ministry. The second is their proximity to those on the margins of society.

Participants meet monthly for prayer and discussion on topics such as the promotion of justice and the role of laity in the church. Prior to the pandemic, these meetings frequently involved a pot-luck meal. They now continue to meet online. Between

meetings, members are given resources to help them deepen their practice of Ignatian spirituality.

One year in, the ministry is already bearing fruit. “Through the *comunidades* we are promoting what the Society of Jesus wants us to do: working and walking with the poor,” said Fr. Hernan Paredes, SJ, pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption-Our Lady of Mount Carmel-St. Benedicta Parish. Fr. Paredes oversees two *comunidades* at the parish, one facilitated



Ignatian Hispanic Communities focused on serving others.

"We are promoting what the Society of Jesus wants us to do:  
working and walking with the poor." —Fr. Hernan Paredes, SJ



in Spanish and the other in Mixtec, an indigenous language from Oaxaca, a state in southern Mexico.

The pandemic has brought the two *comunidades* in Staten Island together. Many members of the Mixtec *comunidad* speak neither Spanish nor English, and, already struggling, have been hit particularly hard by the pandemic economy. So, the members of the Spanish *comunidad*, alongside other parishioners and Catholic Charities New York, have rallied to provide food and financial support to the Mixtec *comunidad*. "This parish is where we touch the heels of the poor," Fr. Paredes explained. "We are closer to the poor here than in any other place. We are working with the poor and the immigrants, the people on the margins."

The Parish of St. Ignatius of Loyola in Chestnut Hill has seen a growing number of Hispanic parishioners for more than a decade. Establishing a *comunidad* has created a deeper sense

of community. Members come from different countries—Guatemala, Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico—and from diverse backgrounds, according to Rita Rodriguez, who is the coordinator for the *comunidad* at St. Ignatius. "It is also quite diverse in terms of socioeconomic class."

Despite being forced to move their meetings online, the *comunidad* at St. Ignatius decided to take action as a group. Through a Jesuit at Boston College, they connected via Zoom with Fr. Francisco Javier Calvillo Salazar, director of the *Casa del Migrante* in Juárez, Mexico, which houses about 250 people who have been deported from the US or are seeking asylum. Fr. Calvillo informed the *comunidad* of the pressing need to pay for medical staff hours—about two hundred dollars a month.

The *comunidad* decided they could meet this need if each member offered \$20 monthly. "For most of them, that

was a real stretch," said Ms. Rodriguez. "Someone called to tell me their check was good, which means that most of the time they don't have \$20 in the bank." A shared spirituality and a common cause have enlivened the *comunidad*.

The mission of the *Comunidades Hispanas Ignacianas* is summarized in the program's mantra, *en todo amar y servir* (to love and to serve in all things). Service inspired by the love of God and rooted in a relationship with Jesus, that is what the *comunidades* aim to achieve—in other words, a faith that does justice.

A dozen people at a time, the *Comunidades Hispanas Ignacianas* are helping Hispanic Catholics deepen their faith and stay connected with the church. It is still a new and growing initiative for the Jesuits on the East Coast. But then again, St. Ignatius himself started out with only a few companions.



From mid September through mid October, the USA East Province held its first Virtual *Friends of the Jesuits Golf Outing* Auction and Raffle. While golfers were unable to compete against each other on the green, they were able to bid against golfers from across the country on exciting auction packages. The virtual outing also featured a 50/50 raffle. The winner, Mr. David Joyce, a Xavier High School alumnus, graciously gave his winnings to the province.

Thanks to our generous donors, the total raised for the 2020 Virtual *Friends of the Jesuits Golf Outing* was more than \$172,000. Since its inception eleven years ago, these outings have raised nearly \$2.9 million to help those in the greatest need.

This year's effort was yet another resounding success. We are grateful to our friends who supported us through their participation, sponsorships, and donations. We hope that you and your loved ones stay well, and we look forward to seeing you next year in person on September 21, 2021 at Quaker Ridge in Scarsdale, N.Y., for the 12th Annual *Friends of the Jesuits Golf Outing*.



The *Jesuit Friends and Alumni Masses* have traditionally been an opportunity for Jesuit-educated graduates, as well as friends of the Society, to gather and celebrate their shared Ignatian heritage. Started six years ago, these Masses have been celebrated at our parishes, retreat houses and school chapels along the East Coast.

This year's *Alumni Sunday* came in the form of a pre-recorded video, which was released on Oct. 25. Fr. Joseph O'Keefe, SJ, provincial of the USA East Province, and Fr. Adam Rosinski, SJ, assistant director of vocations, concelebrated the Mass. Members of the province staff and Jesuit alumni volunteered with the readings and musical arrangements, including a guest reading by Dr. Anthony Fauci, a graduate of Regis High School and the College of the Holy Cross. As always, our Alumni Sunday Mass offered us a special time to pray together, and we are most grateful for those who helped with the new format this year.



# PLANNING YOUR LEGACY

The Jesuits of the USA East Province are pleased to offer you an updated version of **Planning Your Legacy**—an estate planning guide. If you would like a copy of this booklet to assist you in organizing your estate plans, please contact us at:

## USA East Province of the Society of Jesus

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PLANNING YOUR LEGACY A Guide To Providing For Your Family and Supporting The Causes You Care About.



peace | protection | provision

## Estate Planning Video

Last October, the province hosted a virtual estate planning program. With changing tax laws, this was an opportunity for donors and friends of the province to learn strategic ways to plan their estates.

Mr. Winthrop Rutherford, a longtime parishioner of the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in New York City, was the event's presenter. As Partner of Counsel at White & Case, LLP, Mr. Rutherford has offered his expertise for more than 35 years, counseling individuals and families on all aspects of estate planning.



You can also access planned giving information, including a recording of our recent planned giving seminar, by visiting our website:

[www.JesuitsEastLegacy.org](http://www.JesuitsEastLegacy.org)

# STAY CONNECTED

with the USA East Province Jesuits

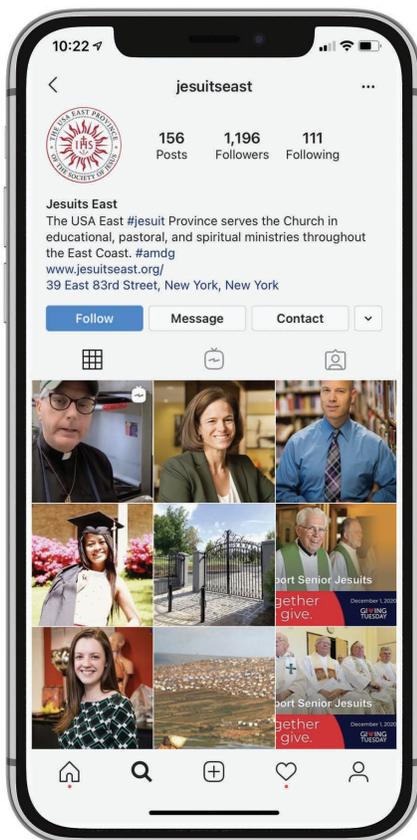


## The Monthly Jesuit E-News

Whether you are a graduate of a Jesuit school, a parishioner at a Jesuit parish, or have come to know the Jesuits through an Ignatian spirituality program, our monthly e-newsletter will inform and inspire you, offering spiritual opportunities and ways to expand your experience of our Ignatian mission to serve others—especially those on the margins.

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## Find us on Social Media

Last year, Jesuits East launched an Instagram page to bolster our social media efforts. Jesuits East can already be found on the popular social networks Facebook and Twitter. Instagram is a photo and video-sharing social network that is best viewed on smartphones. We look forward to using this new platform to highlight the good work of our Jesuit apostolates throughout the East Coast.



Please follow us on [www.instagram.com/JesuitsEast](http://www.instagram.com/JesuitsEast)



Please follow us on [www.facebook.com/JesuitsEast](http://www.facebook.com/JesuitsEast)



Please follow us on [www.twitter.com/JesuitsEast](http://www.twitter.com/JesuitsEast)

**Fr. Thomas Benz, SJ**

Provincial Assistant for Pastoral and International Ministries

*On September 1, 2020, Fr. Thomas Benz, SJ, started his new role as Provincial Assistant for Pastoral and International Ministries for the USA East Province. Fr. Benz previously served as superior of the Jesuit Community of Micronesia.*

**How has your experience in Micronesia prepared you to oversee pastoral and international ministries?**

One of the apostolic priorities of the Society of Jesus in Micronesia and

Fiji is the support of the local clergy. Jesuits serve in parishes, assist in the formation of priests and deacons, and work in diocesan administration. We're called upon to offer retreats and spiritual direction for clergy, religious, and laypeople. Having regular contact with bishops and priests in four dioceses across four time zones taught me a lot about the pastoral and canonical realities of Jesuit collaboration with each local church.



**What has inspired you in the way our parishes have responded to the pandemic?**

So many parishes in the USA East Province have shown persistence and creativity in dealing with the shifting protocols and restrictions we're facing. In addition to livestreaming liturgies and other opportunities for prayer, they're using online technology to keep parish programs active. The percentage of parishioners making their financial contributions online is growing too. In some cases, ministries to the hungry and homeless have only gained momentum as the needs have grown. Some pastors and music directors have worked hard to preserve music in their liturgies even when congregational singing isn't possible. What moves me most is the number of parishes who have made what can be hundreds of phone calls to elderly and homebound parishioners, who are particularly susceptible to isolation during these long weeks and months.

**What do you hope to bring to this role going forward?**

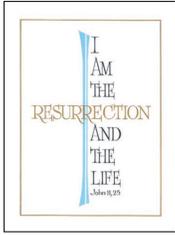
The two-year process of formulating the Society's Universal Apostolic Preferences taught me a lot about "discernment in common." Pacific cultures have reminded me that relationships are at least as vital as competence in our ministries. The slow pace of island life challenged me to determine when it was time to take the initiative and push ahead and when it was time to surrender and accept the reality at hand. I'm hoping to bring what I've learned to my new role, not waiting for some "return to normalcy" but recognizing that we're called to live out the *missio Dei* (mission of God) now, in the circumstances in which we find ourselves today.

# Mass Cards from the USA East Province



Mass cards are an expression of your faith as a Christian, as well as a token of your love for a particular person. When you send a Mass card to a family member or friend, you are initiating a process which will culminate in the prayerful remembrance of your intentions in the Masses and prayers of the Jesuits of the USA East Province. Below is a selection of the variety of Mass cards available through the province.

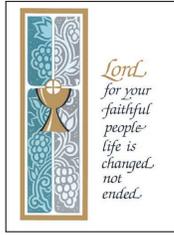
## Mass Cards for the Deceased



I am the Resurrection



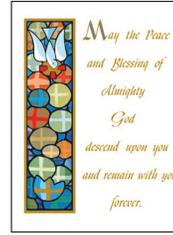
Golden Chalice



Cup of Salvation



Special Occasion

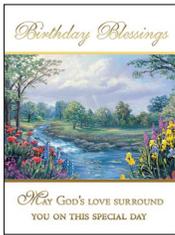


Blessing of Almighty God

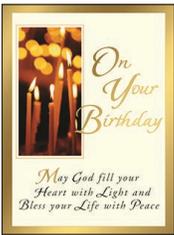


## One Year Enrollments

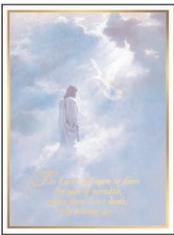
Those enrolled in the Jesuit Association will share in the special Masses and all other prayers offered for members.



Birthday Blessings



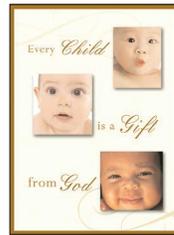
Birthday Greetings



No Eye Has Seen



Light of Life (Deceased)



New Baby



A Healing Prayer



Thinking of You (Living)

## Perpetual Enrollments

Those perpetually enrolled share forever in the prayers and good works of the Jesuits. Perpetual Enrollments are available for the living and deceased.

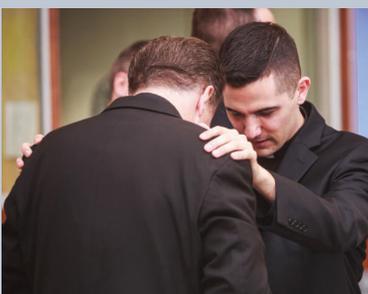


Perpetual Enrollment for the Deceased



Perpetual Enrollment for the Living

If you wish to order cards, please contact us at [UEAAdvancement@Jesuits.org](mailto:UEAAdvancement@Jesuits.org) or 212-774-5500. Card orders can also be made online at [JesuitsEast.org](http://JesuitsEast.org). Your card(s) will be shipped to you for your personalization.



## Will you consider a gift to the Jesuits?

To make a gift that supports the Jesuits and their apostolates, please contact:

**USA East Province of the Society of Jesus**

39 East 83rd Street | New York, NY 10028-0810

James Skurka | [jskurka@Jesuits.org](mailto:jskurka@Jesuits.org) | 212-774-5500

[www.JesuitsEast.org](http://www.JesuitsEast.org)



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*(l. to r.) Fr. Edward Penton, SJ, at a peaceful rally; Fr. Daniel Gatti, SJ, celebrating the Eucharist;  
and Mr. Christian Verghese, SJ, providing spiritual direction.*