

March 2014 NOVA Chair Notes

As we prepare for Lent 2014, Gloria Mog and her liturgy committee group have created a plan for us to focus on the theme of "Pilgrimage" during our time preparing for Easter. It will be a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our journey both as individuals and as a community.

When I looked at the Sunday planners and celebrants, I was struck with our wonderful "Padre Cadre" of priests who enrich our liturgies and give us insights on our journey. So, I thought I would do a little research just to find out a little more about these guys we all love and admire. I decided to begin with our "priests of Lent" to get us started, but maybe we can continue to find out more about all our celebrants over the coming months. It was amazing to realize the richness of experiences and range of expertise we have within our beloved celebrant group.



So, let's start with Quinn Conners, who celebrates with us on March 9th. Quinn's connection to NOVA actually predates most of us since he was part of NOVA during his time as deacon in the late sixties! Quinn, a Carmelite of the Chicago Province, holds a doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Fuller Theological Seminary. He has served as provincial and director of novices for his community, as principal at Mount Carmel High School and as a psychotherapist, spiritual director and faculty member at Washington Theological Union. He has led workshops nationally, internationally on psychology and spirituality and is currently on staff at St. Luke Institute in Silver Spring – oh, and he skis and jogs in his spare time!!



On March 16th, Gerry Stockhausen will be our celebrant. Gerry found us (or we found him?) through the Cackleys and we are indebted to them for making the connection! Gerry is the Socius/ Executive Secretary to the President and Director of Planning for the Jesuit Conference of the United States and serves as chief of staff. He is a member of the Wisconsin Province of the Society of Jesus and joined the conference in 2010. He was president of the University of Detroit Mercy from 2004 to 2010. Gerry has a PhD in Economics, a Master's Degree in Social Ethics, a Master of Divinity AND a Master's Degree in Mathematics – Wow!



The following week, Dan Madigan will join us for liturgy. Dan is an Australian Jesuit who joined Georgetown's Department of Theology in 2008 where he is a Senior Fellow of the Al-Waleed Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding AND an Honorary Professorial Fellow of the Australian Catholic University. He was also founder and director of the Institute for the Study of Religions and Cultures at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. His fields of research include Qur'anic Studies, Interreligious Dialogue (particularly Muslim-Christian relations) and Comparative Theology. Dan holds a doctorate in Islamic Religion from Columbia University.

Then we come to March 30th where our own Joe Nangle will join us along our journey. Joe was the recipient of the Franciscan Mission's Anselm Moon Award in 2006. He even has his own award named after him – The Joe Nangle Lifelong Mission Award! He is a friar with the Holy Name Province and served as the Franciscan Mission's executive director and co-director for twelve years. Joe spent fifteen years as a missionary in Bolivia and Peru and ministers to the Hispanic community at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish. For many years Joe has been a member of an intentional community, Assisi House, where members share a commitment to live out Jesus' call for peace and justice. A published author and frequent lecturer, Joe is widely respected for his wise and thoughtful approach to living a Christian life.



Well, are you impressed yet?! What a collection of celebrants - and that's just one month's worth!!!

We are so blessed to share our community's life with each of them – maybe in the future we can have the opportunity to learn even more from them!

~Meg Tuccillo