World Youth Day
Midwest Jesuits and students connect with the world in Portugal

Also in This Issue:
- Sisters with Ignatian roots
- Jesuit-educated Ukrainian Lawyers
- A Unique Parish in Kenya
Dear Friends,

One of the things I’ve always enjoyed about being a priest is meeting people and finding that we have something in common. Reveling with someone who has a shared friend or experience immediately lowers a barrier. From the outset, we move forward with a common bond.

The bond of our faith was a centerpiece of the World Youth Day celebration this past August in Lisbon, Portugal (cover story, page 8). Several of our Jesuits attended with students, parents and chaperones from Cincinnati and around the Midwest. It was especially meaningful in light of the four Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society of Jesus, the third of which instructs us to “Accompany young people in the creation of a hope-filled future.” Youth and hope were abundant in Portugal.

Hope is also abundant at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Parish (page 16) in Kangemi, Kenya, where I recently visited. St. Joseph’s changed the way I view parishes, thanks to a wide variety of social and spiritual services offered, beyond just a church and school.

Our connected world of faith is evident elsewhere in the Midwest Province, where graduates of Jesuit schools talk about how their education helped them navigate life and careers in professional sports management (page 22).

On a more serious note, our connections are evident in the work of two women, Ukrainian lawyers and graduates of Loyola University Chicago’s Rule of Law Institute in Rome, who have returned to Ukraine and Poland to fight corruption (page 12). We pray for them and their vital work.

Fierce, faithful women like the Ukrainian lawyers and the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph (page 18) have always been the bedrock of the Church. Founded nearly 375 years ago in France, with the help of a Jesuit priest, the Congregation continues its work across the Midwest and beyond. The Sisters are beacons of faith-filled service.

Finally, this past August we were blessed to celebrate the First Vows of nine of our men (page 3). They were replaced at the novitiate the following week by 10 new novices who joined the four others now in their second year, for a total of 14 now at the novitiate.

May these men, and all who journey in faith, find joyful connections throughout their lives, removing any barriers to common bonds in God’s love with their brothers and sisters.

Yours in Christ,

Very Rev. Karl J. Kiser, SJ
Provincial
USA Midwest Province

For we walk by faith, not by sight.
—2 Corinthians 5:7
Sisters with Ignatian Roots

Sister Marie Hogan of the Congregation of St. Joseph leads a blessing of migrants in Nogales, Mexico in 2021. The congregation, founded in 1650 by Fr. Jean-Pierre Medaille, SJ, continues its work today across the Midwest and beyond.

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Meet the New Novices
0HHWVKHPHQZKRHQWHUHGK
Society of Jesus this year at the Novitiate of St. Alberto Hurtado in St. Paul, Minn.

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World Youth Day
0RUHWKDOVWXGHQWVIURPDYLHU
and other universities traveled with Jesuits and staff to Lisbon, Portugal this summer.

3DJH
Ukrainian Lawyers Fight Corruption
Two graduates of Loyola University Chicago’s Rule of Law Institute in Rome put their training to work.

3DJH
Jesuit-Educated Sports Executives
Owners and executives from Jesuit schools call on their Ignatian values in the business of professional sports.

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Living the Magis.................................
First Vows.........................................
A Heart on Fire.................................
A Jesuit’s Journey...............................
Jesuit’s Hobbies...............................
Grad at Grad” is a unique term developed by Jesuit Fathers Dick McCurdy and Mario Prietto at St. Ignatius College Preparatory school in San Francisco in the 1980s. Alongside faculty there, they hammered out the five key characteristics of a student at graduation from a Jesuit school. Adopted by Jesuit schools across the world, the entire Jesuit school experience is tailored to help students aspire toward these characteristics. They are: open to growth, loving, committed to doing justice, intellectually competent and religious.

Three Chicago Jesuit Academy alumni give back to their alma mater in countless ways

By Kristine Mackey

Prince Brunt is a ray of sunshine. He lost his beloved mother as a young boy, and is currently mentoring his younger siblings, who he says he would be the listener, the one you’d go to if you had a problem.

Jae Rule is a relationship builder. Working for telling the story of CJA to potential donors in a variety of ways. He’s the perfect person for the job, as his deep love for the school and his heartfelt gratitude shows on every inch of his six-foot-five-inch frame. Coming back to work there “completes the circle,” he says. “I am confident this is the work I was meant to do.”

Alzario Palmer is a dedicated CJA instructional aide known for his indefatigable resolve and a thirst to do good in the world. A graduate of Loyola Academy and a young man with an entrepreneurial spirit, his warmth permeates the space he inhabits. Students work there “completes the circle,” he says. “I do.”

“IA have a no one-left-behind mentality, and I try to reach out to anyone teetering on the outside,” he says. How lucky the young souls are.

These three young men work alongside other alums, including Jay Castleberry, a member of the first CJA graduating class. Now a banker, Jay serves as a board of directors. If the formula for these Jesuit schools (sometimes dubbed the Nativity Model) weren’t enough of a notable educational model, add to it the integration of alums like these. Unstoppable!

In the fall of 2022, CJA opened a girls elementary school on the campus alongside the boys school. To learn more about the school, visit www.cjacademy.org.

Kristine Mackey is the VP for advancement and communications for the USA Midwest Province Jesuits.
Nine Novices Pronounce First Vows

Nine Midwest Jesuits pronounced first vows of poverty, chastity and obedience on Saturday, August 12, 2023, at St. Thomas More Catholic Community in St. Paul, Minn. As part of their public statements of commitment to the Society of Jesus, the Jesuits received vow crosses (see above), which they will keep for the rest of their lives. Pronouncing first vows is the culmination of a Jesuit’s two years at the novitiate. There, a man in formation further discerns his vocation, learning more about how to pray and live in community, and about the Society of Jesus. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Jesuit, please visit beajesuit.org.

Photos by Dave Hrbacek except the photo at bottom by Don Doll, SJ
Meet the New Novices

Taylr Bahr
Burlington, Kansas
Taylr attended Creighton University, where he studied economics, social entrepreneurship, and philosophy. While studying at Creighton, he was introduced to the Jesuits and Ignatian spirituality. After graduation, Taylr completed a year of service through the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, working with the aging at a regional nonprofit in Scranton, Pennsylvania. In his free time, Taylr enjoys running, reading, getting to know older adults and spending time with loved ones.

Jonathan Herrington
Davenport, Iowa
Jon grew up throughout the Midwest, primarily in Fargo, North Dakota, and Davenport, Iowa. He first met the Jesuits at Creighton University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in theology, philosophy and classical languages. During his time at Creighton, he was able to work alongside the Society of Jesus at St. John’s Parish. In his free time, Jon likes reading, cooking meals for his friends and discovering new music.

Christopher Kinkor
West Des Moines, Iowa
Chris attended Creighton University, where he studied economics and human resource management. He worked in health care IT for six years in Kansas City, Missouri. Chris became familiar with the Society of Jesus through his relationships with Jesuits at St. John’s Parish in Kansas City. He likes walking, spending time with friends, and listening to music and podcasts.

Timothy Long
Barberton, Ohio
Tim first encountered the Jesuits when he read “The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything” by Fr. James Martin, SJ, in high school, which was very formative for his faith. He earned a bachelor’s degree in humanities from Villanova University and received his master of divinity degree.
from the University of Notre Dame, where he also served as an assistant rector in a residence hall and spent time with the Catholic Worker community of South Bend. Tim likes to run, read and bake.

Robert Nichols
Louisville, Kentucky
Robert first encountered the Jesuits at Xavier University, where he received a bachelor's degree in theology. After graduation, he returned to Louisville and taught theology and was associate director of campus ministry at his high school alma mater for six years. He then pursued a master's degree in ministry and theology from Villanova University and most recently served as the rector of Keenan Hall at the University of Notre Dame. An avid walker, Bobby has walked the Camino de Santiago twice.

Joseph Ripple
Brookfield, Wisconsin
Joe graduated from Marquette University High School and earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Marquette University and a master's in finance from the University of Virginia. He worked in consulting for five years before getting his MBA from the University of Michigan, and then he worked in finance and operations at Tesla in San Francisco. Joe's passion is making a social impact in the developing world, and he founded a social enterprise in 2018 with partners in Rwanda, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

Noah Smith
Des Moines, Iowa
Noah attended Marquette University, where he majored in English literature and theology. He worked as a writing tutor and as a content creator for the Jesuit-run Pope's Worldwide Prayer, the Society of Jesus through his Jesuit professors at Marquette and subsequently through his work and participating in retreats through campus ministry. In his free time, Noah enjoys reading, watching Spanish Netflix series and running.

Aidan Stenson
El Segundo, California
Aidan attended the University of Chicago, where he received a bachelor's degree in fundamentals: issues and texts. He began discerning a vocation with the Jesuits while at the University of Chicago, through the example of the late Fr. Paul Mankowski, SJ. During his time in college, Aidan was active in campus ministry at Calvert House and worked as a teaching assistant in the German department. His interests include baseball, rugby, playing music and reading.

Mark Trombley
Troy, Michigan
Mark is an alumnus of University of Detroit Jesuit High School and earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Michigan and an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He worked in the health care, pharma and health tech industries in California, the Netherlands and London. Mark was an active member of Christian Life Communities for more than 15 years. He has been inspired by incredible Jesuits and is deeply drawn to Ignatian spirituality.

Tijmen van der Maas
Leiden, Netherlands
Tijmen got to know the Jesuits while completing bachelor's degrees in business and in political science and philosophy at Indiana University. He was attracted to religious life by the example of his Dominican pastor and to the Jesuits after reading The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything by Fr. James Martin, SJ. Tijmen worked as a consultant in London and spent a summer working on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. He is a certified bartender and canoe guide.
During my sophomore year at Creighton University I was part of a living-learning community called the “Cortina Community.” It was named for Fr. Jon Cortina, SJ, a priest trained as an engineer, who worked in El Salvador with and for the poor. Our community focused on how to cultivate a life of faith that does justice by integrating academics, spirituality, service and community. Prior to this, my Catholic faith had been very important to me. But as I encountered this whole new world of the Ignatian charism in a more intentional way, my heart caught fire.

At Creighton, I was encouraged by the words of the former Superior General of the Society of Jesus, Fr. Peter Hans Kolvenbach, SJ, to engage the “gritty reality of this world” with my faith. Father Cortina’s challenge to become a liberation “whatever”—to be an agent of freedom and justice with whatever gifts I had—echoed in my heart. And Buechner’s invitation to see how God honors our deep desires to seek happiness, and to serve others in our vocation, helped open my imagination to what I might become in the future. During my time at Creighton, I began to enact all these things alongside others. We engaged in service, we reflected on our unique identities, and we opened our hearts to God.

Years later I found myself talking to a former high school theology student of mine. We talked about his hopes and desires for the future, and his preparing to apply to colleges. He was full of passion as he described outdoor adventures he had gone on. He marveled at the natural world but also felt indignant about its destruction due to pollution and exploitation. The quote above from Frederick Buechner came to mind, and I shared it with him. I watched as his face brightened and he said, “Wow, Mr. Williams, that’s really good!” My heart filled with joy as I recognized in him what I had once felt stir in my own soul at Creighton, the feeling that inspired my widening vision of a meaningful, passionate life with God.

We pass on the gifts we receive. I was introduced to the Jesuit way of proceeding at Creighton, which sparked a desire that eventually led me to the Society of Jesus. I encountered a God beyond my wildest dreams, a God who captured my heart with God’s light shines brightly to invite them to a life where their deep gladness and the world’s deep needs can be brought together in a meaningful and joyful journey with God.

Christopher Williams, SJ

“The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.”

— Frederick Buechner
Author, Presbyterian minister
I WENT FOR ADVENTURE AND STAYED TO SERVE GOD’S PEOPLE

By Fr. T. Mattingly “Matt” Garr, SJ

W hen I was a novice at Milford, Ohio, we were taught that the Jesuits are a missionary order with a vocation to preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth. But the only opportunity we were offered to do so was to continue our college studies at our formation program in Lima, Peru. I signed up out of a sense of adventure. I hardly knew anything about the country or its culture, but I ended up staying for 58 years, and people have come to know me as “Mateo,” which is easier to say in Spanish.

Fortunately, during our traditional humanities studies, I got to spend my summer and inter-semester vacations in little towns in the Andes mountains. After coming back to the then-Chicago Province for the rest of my studies, I had the opportunity to study for a master’s degree in cultural anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis. For my regency, through the Andean Pastoral Institute in Lima, I worked for the Andean Pastoral Institute in the Incan capital of Cuzco, where I did fieldwork in southern Peru and learned about the syncretic religious customs and beliefs of the Quechua Indian peasants.

After theology studies in Berkeley, Calif., the Peruvian provincial asked me to help start a rural parish and social justice program in the central Andes near the city of Huancayo. Unfortunately, the government’s armed response was just as bad. Many of our people were caught between the terrorists and the government’s army, and were killed. All we could do was be present with them since we were not allowed to continue our ministries. The late Fr. Robert Dolan, SJ, replaced me there, and the provincial turned me into a “displaced person.”

In Lima I worked for the Peruvian Bishops’ Conference’s Human Rights Commission, where we defended innocent people who were unjustly accused of being terrorists. We also worked with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. At that time, I also began the “hobby” of writing summaries of the pope’s encyclicals so people could actually begin to learn “the Church’s best kept secret.” Most recently I have been doing that with the documents in preparation for the Synod of Bishops in Rome.

After a sabbatical at the Chicago Theological Union to obtain my doctor of ministry degree, the provincial asked me to be the pastor of the parish church in the Agustino neighborhood in Lima. I followed in the footsteps of many Jesuit Fathers in that ministry with the urban poor: Daniel Hartnett and Kevin Flaherty, and the late Frank Chamberlain and John Sima.

I will be living at a senior living facility in the greater Detroit area. Of course, Jesuits don’t retire! So, in addition to my “popularizing” the Church’s social teaching, thanks to the internet, I am now the Peruvian province chaplain of the Christian Life Movement. But don’t let me forget my beginnings! I am from Louisville, and while I am known as “Mateo” in Peru, Fr. Brad Schaeffer, SJ, reminds me that I come from a very long line of Kentucky Mattinglys!
The Future of Our Church
Midwestern college students connect with humanity at World Youth Day in Portugal

By Patricia McGeever

If there is any doubt about the future of young people in the Catholic Church, one look at the mass of humanity that attended World Youth Day this summer in Portugal will dispel it.

“It was amazing,” says Suzie Lyons, a junior at Loyola University Chicago. “Chaotic at times, definitely. But it was amazing.” Lyons was part of a group that included students from Loyola, Creighton, Marquette and Xavier universities, as well as non-Jesuit schools. Led by Xavier regent Matthew Zurcher, SJ; Midwest Province Vocations Promoter Fr. Eric Immel, SJ; and Fr. Paul Shelton, SJ, the Midwest provincial assistant for vocations and the provincial delegate for World Youth Day Magis, the trip was part pilgrimage, part campout, and, for many, entirely life-changing.

The festival had energy, enthusiasm, and emotion. It also had Pope Francis, who generates the excitement of a rock star and commands the reverence of a saint.

“He was everything I think I could have hoped for him to be,” says Katherine Colburn, one of the chaperones from Xavier University who got a close look at the pope. “I was surprised by how much it touched me. He was such a humble man.”

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“There was a moment where I felt God really strongly, and I was able to recognize God in almost every single person standing there, even though there were hundreds of thousands of people.”

In his welcome speech, the pope emphasized that there is room for everyone in Catholicism. “In the Church, no one is left out, or leftover,” he said, and at one point the crowd chanted “Todos, todos, todos,” which translates to “Everyone, everyone, everyone.”

“That message was so refreshing,” says Maggie Jurek, a senior nursing student at Xavier. “It gave me a lot of hope for the future of our Church.”

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Colorful flags from 190 nations waved, and several languages were spoken, yet there was no communication barrier. One-and-a-half million young people attended the pope’s final Mass, but it was his opening ceremony that touched many, and even brought some to tears.

“It was my favorite part because that was the global Church right there,” says Rocco Giegerich, a Xavier sophomore. “I was able to see it right in front of my eyes. That was a moment where I felt God really strongly, and I was able to recognize God in almost every single person standing there, even though there were hundreds of thousands of people.”

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far, [he’s] the most charismatic human being I’ve ever seen in my life,” Zurcher says. “He’s telling us about Jesus. He’s telling us we are called by name. He’s telling us that God loves us, and people are cheering like crazy. There’s no power like that anywhere.”

That was only one of the Midwest Jesuit delegation’s powerful and endurance-testing experiences. The group arrived in Portugal more than a week before World Youth Day to attend a Magis gathering with other thousand people gathered at a high school in Lisbon that became known as Magis Villa. For they were divided into groups and sent on Magis experiences in either Portugal or Spain. Some worked with the poor. Others, like Noah Bock, walked parts of the Camino de Santiago.

“We hiked for four days,” says Bock, a senior at the University of Michigan. “It was rough. We tried to get up as early as possible to beat the heat. Then we’d have our lunch, we’d swim or take a siesta. In the evening, we’d have Mass and dinner, then go to bed and do again it the next day.”

During those four days, his group covered the Magis Circles, the small spirituality groups that met at the end of each day. “You were able to form intimate and deep relationships with people from other countries very quickly,” she says.

Maggie Jurek took a 10-hour bus ride to Madrid, where she worked with the elderly, immigrants and young children, all as a non-Spanish speaker.

“I kind of realized love and service, and just being with people, can really surpass any language barrier,” she says.

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In addition to co-organizing the trip, Fr. Shelton helped organize the Midwest Jesuit’s Magis event. “Part of our thinking as the province was, this is a great way for people to think about how God wants them to serve the Church,” he says. “This is why we wanted young men and women to come to think about how is God calling you to give your life for the kingdom of God.”

The province also took all pilgrims to Fatima. When the experiences ended, they returned to Magis Villa, where a Mass was celebrated with the provincial of Portugal and Father General Arturo Sosa, SJ. Lyons, the junior at Loyola, was chosen to serve at Mass. “To be a part of that and to be a part of a Mass celebrated by Father General was spectacular,” she says. “Getting to serve with people from Zimbabwe, Spain and Portugal was absolutely amazing.”

“Patricia McGeever is an award-winning freelance writer and television news producer based in Cincinnati. A proud Xavier Musketeer, she is a retired Irish dancer and instructor.”

All saw firsthand that the universal Church has no borders. They also got to see “all Catholicism’s expressions and flavors throughout the world,” Fr. Shelton says.

Beyond that, the youth of the Midwest came home with new international friendships, a part of the experience that profoundly moved Xavier sophomore Giegerich. “I have never felt so connected to, not only God, but also humanity,” he says.

Flags from many nations and schools waved during World Youth Day, and Xavier University students made their presence known.
Once a year, to make the best of a noisy situation, the Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago pauses its retreats and transforms itself into a home for aviation enthusiasts.

By Michael Austin

The skies above Lake Winnebago are quiet once again, and spiritual retreats have long-since resumed. For a week this past July, though, the Jesuit Retreat House (JRH) on Lake Winnebago in Oshkosh, Wis., paused its normal summer schedule and opened its doors, as it has done for decades, to aviation enthusiasts from around the world. This year, JRH guests included four Tuskegee Airmen; private, corporate and commercial pilots; and members of the National Association of Priest Pilots (NAPP).

“I hope to return to this beautiful place for a directed retreat,” says Fr. Joseph McCaffrey of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and past president of the NAPP. “Love it here!” Normally during that week, JRH would be facilitating 5- and 8-day silent retreats. But each year, when Oshkosh’s Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) hosts AirVenture, more than 600,000 visitors descend on the area. The noise and visual distractions from daily air shows at EAA—a mere eight miles away—along with the take-offs and landings of seaplanes directly in front of JRH, make retreats impossible.

Lodging is difficult to find, so to make the best of the situation, and recover lost revenue from canceled retreats, JRH turns itself into a temporary home for travelers. Overnight accommodation includes breakfast and a morning Mass in which a prayer is said for the safety of everyone attending, performing in,
arriving at or departing from AirVenture.

“We get some interesting individuals,” says Fr. Mark Carr, SJ, the House’s executive director.

Jean Bernard Poupart, a private pilot from Grimaud, France, stayed at the House for the second year. Tuskegee Airmen Lt. Col. George Hardy, 98; Lt. Col. James Harvey, 100; Dr. Eugene Richardson, 99; and Lt. Col. Harry Stuart, 99, also stayed at the House.

“There’s a huge lake there, and it sits right on the edge, and the grounds are immaculate,” says Harvey, who travels with his son-in-law Ron Green. “It’s beautiful—you’ve got to go.”

JRH’s tradition of opening its doors to EAA AirVenture visitors began in the 1990s when the late Fr. Richard McCaslin, SJ, then JRH’s director, received a lodging request from Ethel Meyer Finley, a Women’s Air Service Pilot (WASP) in World War II and a JRH retreatant. She would be returning to Oshkosh for the 40-room retreatants’ wing and 15-room annex, but their numbers have declined and this year only staff members from the Texas museum were present.

“W e hauled mattresses from storage and put them in conference rooms, basement areas, on sofa sleepers, doubled-up single rooms. Some people brought sleeping bags and slept on air mattresses or cots. One person actually brought their camper for a few years and parked it on the grounds.”

The perks of staying at the Jesuit Retreat House are many—from the beautiful setting and comfortable facilities to the good food, daily Mass and general camaraderie. But there’s one more thing that makes it hard to imagine why anyone would want to stay anywhere else. Because of the House’s location, just around a peninsula from the AirVenture’s seaplane base, guests get to watch the amphibious aircraft gracefully take off and land all week.

Not all the aircraft are loud and fast. One year, Philipp, who lives close to the airfield, was working in her garden when she looked up and received quite a shock. A Stealth Bomber, silent and nearly motionless, was hovering above her yard.

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Michael Austin is the managing editor of Jesuits magazine and a former nationally syndicated columnist for the Chicago Tribune.
Fighting Corruption in Ukraine and Poland

Two Ukrainian graduates of Loyola University Chicago’s Rule of Law Institute in Rome use their degrees for good

By Barb Fraze

When the air raid alarms go off each day in Kyiv, members of the High Anti-Corruption Court of Ukraine assess the situation.

Sometimes it’s only the alarm and no bombs, or the sirens are warning about attacks in a different district of Kyiv, says Kateryna Shyroka, one of the court’s judges and a 2018 graduate of Loyola University Chicago’s Rule of Law Institute in Rome. After checking the internet for the severity of the situation, people in the courtroom have the option of going to the bomb shelter in the court, which is in central Kyiv, or taking shelter in a nearby metro station. “If it’s not a missile attack, we try to continue,” she says.

Shyroka and another Ukrainian graduate of the Rule of Law Institute, Iryna Ivankiv (LLM, 2015), give credit to their Jesuit alma mater for helping them manage their current assignments in Ukraine and Poland, respectively.

Shyroka has been a judge at the High Anti-Corruption Court since April 2019. For more than two years, she served as an investigative judge, checking on the legitimacy of the investigative process, and working with detectives and prosecutors during pre-trial hearings.

For instance, one of the new categories of cases for the High Anti-Corruption Court is forfeiture of Russian assets of those who support Russia’s aggression.

“At first, some issues came up when we started hearing these cases,” she says. “That’s why I decided to write about them.”

The CEELI Institute, a nongovernmental organization in Prague, supported her ideas and organized a November 2022 round table with the judges, members of the Ukrainian parliament, Ukraine’s minister of justice, and foreign experts.

As a result, some legislative changes were adopted in July 2023, she says, and in late August, working with another idea of Shyroka’s, the CEELI Institute organized an international conference focused on freezing, management and forfeiture of Russian assets to compensate Ukraine. Representatives from Ukraine, the Czech Republic and the United States participated.

Shyroka says that in discussions with Ukrainian citizens, she learned that many of them would like to seize Russian assets and use the money for war reparations.
I feel more confidence because I can understand what they want, and how to change the legislation for bringing the rule of law to the people,” she says.

Shyroka knew at age 12 that she wanted to become a lawyer. Even before obtaining her law license in 2006, she worked as an investigator in the Luhansk regional office of Ukraine’s Interior Ministry. In 2010, she became a judge in Luhansk’s administrative district court, hearing mostly tax and economic cases. As a judge, she has undergone training focused on asylum-seekers, environmental protection and human rights, and anti-corruption legislation.

Her work as a judge on the High Anti-Corruption Court has involved looking into corruption in the Ukrainian judicial system, which can be dangerous work. Before the Russian invasion in February 2022, someone threatened her on Facebook, and when she alerted the Supreme Council of Justice, she was assigned a bodyguard. She and other judges have various safety measures in place, including alarms in their apartments, to protect against assailants.

One of the most important things she learned at Loyola was the answer to a very big question: “How do you ensure that you do not do any harm to the country that you want to help?”

Ivankiv joined OSCE in November 2022 after working for the U.N. Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine. Most of her family is still in central Ukraine, and she worries constantly, she says. “There is no safe place in Ukraine, but there are places that are safer. We communicate daily, so fortunately, they are accessible.”

Her chosen field of human rights does not divide people based on where they come from, or where they currently live, she says. It inspires people to take power into their own hands and do the right thing even when it is dangerous.

**The Rule of Law Institute continues to offer one-year Master of Laws (LLM) and Master of Jurisprudence (MJ) degrees in Rule of Law for Development. An option for completion over two years is also offered. The LLM program is for those applicants with a first degree in law. The MJ program is for applicants with a first degree in a different subject.**

For more information, visit www.jesuitsmidwest.org/ukrainelawyers

Photos provided by Kateryna Shyroka and Irina Ivankiv.

Barb Fraze spent more than two decades as international editor of Catholic News Service, and enjoys learning about the world. In her spare time, she likes hiking, reading and camping.
Joyful Diversions

Personal hobbies balance the intensity of the Jesuit vocation— and sometimes dovetail into ministries

By Garan Santicola

Father Dan McDonald, SJ, took up cooking out of necessity in 1970. Living in a small Jesuit community in St. Louis, and being on a tight budget, he scoured a local farmer's market for bruised and discarded vegetables. He trimmed and cleaned what he found, and worked meals together from dishes people liked. “As I developed some dishes people liked, I noticed that the food, in fact, created an atmosphere of relaxation and conversation,” he says.

These experiences planted the seed for Fr. McDonald’s love of cooking to be fully realized years later when he lived in Italy for more than a decade. Describing Sunday pranzos in homes of Italian laypeople, he says, “Course after course was presented with ingredients mixed from an understanding of thinking outside the recipes. What emerged was something that came out of a love of what the earth can produce, something that brings a reflection of self-creation and community.”

It was the desire to create better gifts that led Fr. Ken Styles, SJ, to begin making his own greeting cards. At first, he used Adobe Photoshop to pair images and sayings. But his creativity expanded naturally, and now he makes handmade pop-up greeting cards. Known for their personalized art and messaging, they sometimes include humor, and Fr. Styles is always relieved when the humor is well received.

Brother Ken Homan, SJ, first took up woodworking out of a combination of being a cash-strapped novice and still wanting to give gifts to people on special occasions. “One of the great joys of woodworking is how it brings me closer to others, and is often a form of ministry in and of itself,” he says. “I’ve gotten to make diploma frames for friends, college. I’ve made memento boxes for friends’ wedding days.”

Over the years, he has advanced from creations like wine racks and picture frames to dining tables, nightstands and river-style coffee tables. He’s also taken on more high-profile projects, such as building a doghouse on wheels for Georgetown University’s Jack the Bulldog mascot. Recently, he has spent summers overseeing the preservation of the Jesuit-built 1854 cabin at the St. Ignatius Mission on the Flathead Indian Reservation in Montana.

Collecting is another favorite pastime of some Jesuits. The simple hobby can grow from casual personal interest to a body of work that brings together items worthy of study, such as the world-renowned fable...
collection of Fr. Greg Carlson, SJ. Housed in the Reinert-Alumni Memorial Library at Creighton University, the Carlson Fable Collection consists of more than 10,000 unique books and nearly as many objects, including other unique items. The collection features 73 languages, stamps from 28 countries, and perhaps its greatest treasure, 102 etchings of the Fables of La Fontaine by Marc Chagall.

Father Fran Daly, SJ, began collecting military miniatures when he was in high school. Years later, while cleaning out his family’s house after his father passed, he came across his old collection and began adding to it. Featuring painted metal and other items, such as a storm trooper nutcracker, a Darth Vader Pez dispenser, and a R2-D2 bobblehead, Br. Moriconi’s collection began in his youth and coincided with a love of science literary and cinematic form. "Science to think about current social issues in a new or different way," he says. "Current-day situations can be projected into the future or set on another world. Using the imagination, we are able to experience other people’s lives, thoughts, desires and motivations. We can also imagine a possible future, sometimes good and sometimes not so good, that can encourage change in our everyday world."

Father Tillman also enjoys the regular card games that take place every summer while he’s on vacation at Loyola Villa in Wauconda, Wis. “The game is a way to bring people together over a fun activity that also helps you to sharpen your mind in the process,” he says, noting that his bridge leagues have brought him closer to people in ways that have served his ministry.

As a Jesuit Catholic priest, jiu-jitsu has taught me that suffering is a part of life,” Fr. Nguyen says. “But it is not the suffering itself that is important. It is the victory beyond the suffering, that can only be achieved through it, that drives me, and hopefully my students.”

Garan Santicola is a freelance writer who lives in the Catskill Mountains of upstate New York. His Beauty & Truth column on the arts has won multiple National Catholic Press awards, and he is currently working on his first novel.
A Parish and So Much More

St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Parish stands alone in the crowded Kangemi slum near Nairobi, Kenya

By Ann Power Greene

Before 1985, there was no Catholic church in Kangemi, a slum on the outskirts of Nairobi, Kenya. Christians who lived in Kangemi had to travel to nearby parishes for Mass, yet found it hard to worship in a language they could not understand. As an alternative, they formed Small Christian Communities (SCC), and members met regularly to hear the word of God, and pray, in private homes.

Seeing such strong demonstrations of faith, and knowing of the Society of Jesus’ commitment to justice for the poor and marginalized, Cardinal Maurice Otunga of the Archdiocese of Nairobi invited local Jesuits to visit Kangemi, and on May 1, 1985, St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Parish was established. Two years later, the St. Joseph Development Programs (SJDP) was formed to coordinate and manage the various social apostolic works in the parish.

Maintained by Jesuits, St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Parish is now one of the 112 parishes of the Archdiocese of Nairobi but is still the only Catholic parish in Kangemi, home to more than 200,000 residents. Because of this, Small Christian Communities (SCC) continue to exist in Kangemi. Today there are 31, each with 40 members, and Masses are still celebrated in homes. But St. Joseph the Worker is the spiritual center of Kangemi, a place where life is a struggle but the idea of tuko pamoja (”we are together”) offers consolation and hope.

“Visiting St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Parish in Kangemi really expanded how I think of a parish,” says Midwest Provincial Fr. Karl Kiser, SJ, who spent time at various Jesuit works in Eastern Africa this past June. St. Joseph the Worker consists of a church and a school (St. Joseph Nursery and Primary School), as many parishes do, but it also has a

Students work in the electrician’s training course at St. Joseph Technical Secondary School.
medical clinic, psychological support services, sewing and carpentry workshops, and a technical secondary school offering training in dressmaking, tailoring, fashion and design, hairdressing and beauty, electrical and solar installation, and digital screen printing, among other things.

“They are feeding their parishioners spiritually and attending to all their other needs, as well,” Fr. Kiser says. “I was completely inspired and impressed by what the Jesuits have created in Kangemi.”

Father James Mugwe, SJ, serves as director of programs and oversees the SJDP and its three main works in Kangemi: St. Joseph Upendo Orphaned and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Education Program, St. Joseph Technical Secondary School and the Uzima Women Empowerment Program.

Upendo is a Swahili word for “love,” and the program’s main objective is to rehabilitate, educate and integrate orphaned or abandoned children, and low-income families. St. Joseph Technical Secondary School offers a four-year secondary school curriculum which includes instruction on technical and vocational skills to help students become self-reliant. It also provides psychosocial and spiritual care. The Uzima W omen Empowerment Program was to the vulnerable members of the Kangemi community experiencing HIV/AIDS, and to establish networks of HIV/AIDS prevention and care in Kangemi.

Pope Francis made an apostolic journey to Kangemi and St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Parish on November 27, 2015. His visit aligned with his message of service to the poor. “The dreadful injustice of social exclusion leaves the poor with an unfair distribution of land, lack of access to infrastructure and minimal basic services,” he said.

Parishes

FR. PAUL KALENZI, SJ, A JESUIT FROM THE EASTERN AFRICA PROVINCE NOW LIVING IN CHICAGO, GREW UP IN KANGEMI AND SHARES THIS REFLECTION.

“My family lived in Kangemi as refugees in the early 1980s. Many of my childhood memories date to that time: the kind old man named Jimmy who carried me on his shoulders; my first best friend George with whom I was always getting into trouble; the many Ugandan exiles who came to stay with my family in a two-room (not two-bedroom) shack. I had the good fortune of going back there as a Jesuit during regency (the years of work between first studies and theology). I worked with the parish youth, who remain the most vivacious group I have ever encountered. But I have to admit that returning to Kangemi as an adult was something of a shock: the squalor of the slum; the winter cold that seeped through the walls made of nothing more than corrugated iron; the heartbreaking poverty. It is a good thing to be a child; I couldn’t remember any of that.”

Fr. Paul Kalenzi, SJ, is currently involved in fundraising for Hekima University College in Nairobi. He can be reached at 617-860-7805 or pkalenzi@jesuits.org.

Ann Power Greene is the senior director of grants and special projects for the Midwest Province. She visited St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Parish in

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In 1650, when a group of six women in France heard the preaching of Fr. Jean-Pierre Medaille, SJ, it changed their lives forever and led to the founding of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Close to 375 years later, the Sisters live in communities on five continents, including several across the Midwest and beyond. Their work remains rooted in the Ignatian lessons their founders learned in the city of Le Puy-en-Velay in southern France.

“The Sisters would go out and divide the city,” says Sr. Carol Crepeau, CSJ, of the Sisters of St. Joseph in LaGrange Park, Ill. “Some worked with orphans, others with widows, others with the sick. And they would come back from this work and share the state of the heart—basically how God’s spirit worked with them. Then they would say, ‘What does this mean for our house, our small community?’ Share the state of the heart and then share the order of the house. That was the spirituality taught to them by Fr. Medaille, and that remains the heart of our spirituality today.”

The Sisters arrived in St. Louis in 1836 after Bishop Joseph Rosati wrote to Mother St. John Fontbonne about the diocese’s need for educators. They settled in a log cabin in the village of St. Joseph, and five miles south of St. Louis, where they founded the St. Joseph Academy. They later moved to a new location and became known as the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. The sisters work in education, social services, and other ministries across the Midwest and beyond.
Institute for the Deaf, an organization that has expanded to other locations and is still in operation today. The Sisters went on to establish many separate communities throughout the United States for mutual support. Today, Sisters continue to live and work in Cleveland; Wichita; Minneapolis-St. Paul; Kalamazoo, Mich.; Tipton, Ind.; and locations in West Virginia and Louisiana, where congregation member Sr. Helen Prejean, CSJ, author of Dead Man Walking, has carried out the majority of her anti-death penalty work and death-row inmate ministry.

Sister Rose Ann Hefner, CSJ, of the Wheeling Center in West Virginia is another leader in the field of prison ministry. She spent her first decade of religious life ministering to incarcerated women in a federal prison in Alderson, W.V., and served as project director in the state prison system for the Support Services Network of the West Virginia Council of Churches. Most recently, she has immersed herself in a study of restorative justice.

" Victims and offenders sit down with community members and talk about bringing healing for the person who has been harmed, and in hearing each other's stories, both the person harmed and the one who did the harming learn more about one another," she says. "It's about building relationships, which I think is a big piece of the Sisters of St. Joseph's charism."
In 2021, the Sisters made a commitment to the Laudato Si Action Platform. “We involved Sisters, associates, and employees from each of the seven Laudato Si goals,” says Sr. Pat Bergen, CSJ, of LaGrange Park, Ill.

Over the past year, the Sisters have focused on ecological education, ecological spirituality, and community resilience and empowerment, and over the summer they entered a critical phase of an important environmental project that had been set in motion years ago. It began with Hurricane Katrina when their New Orleans Center was decimated by flooding. The building was later struck by lightning, which caused fire damage, and so it was deconstructed, all salvageable material donated to Habitat for Humanity.

The Sisters began “praying to discover some way that this sacred land could minister to the city of New Orleans as our sisters had done for years,” Sr. Pat says. What emerged from that prayer was a plan to turn the land into a park that could also serve as an overflow point during hurricane flooding. The composition of the soil will purify the water and then, after the hurricane, the pipes can be opened, returning the water gently to the canals, leaving playing fields and an oak garden available to people once again.

The project is called the Mirabeau Water Garden Watershed and it consists of a design that can be replicated in any urban area, Sr. Pat says. This past summer, on the 18th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, the city of New Orleans sent a letter of intent to one of the bidders on the project. “We are on our way,” Sr. Pat says.

While focusing their energies on works at home, the Sisters also take pilgrimages to the International Center of the Sisters of St. Joseph nestled at the base of a crater in the walled, medieval city of Le Puy-en-Velay. Sister Carol leads yearly trips to the city built around three volcanic mountains known as *puys*. “If you stand at the door of the International Center and look up, you can follow the edge of the crater, which is a symbol for us in that we’re held there, and our history is honored there, and the experience of the pilgrimage to that place inspires us to rise up just like the *puys*,” she says.

Dramatic sights rest atop the three high points, including a 9th-century chapel, the 12th-century Notre Dame du Puy Cathedral, and a 19th-century Virgin and Child statue that stands 52 feet tall. Sister Marie fondly recalls walking in the footsteps of the first Sisters. “We went to Mass where they went to Mass 350 years ago, and there was a fountain where our sisters would have gone to get their water, and I was splashing my hands in the water,” she says.

Sister Rose sees the Sisters’ work today in continuity with the history of the congregation and points to that history as reason for hope. Having visited Le Puy-en-Velay three times, she says, “The most moving part of it for me was visiting the hearth that’s still where building. J ust to imagine these six women talking about dividing the neighborhood and asking, ‘What are we going to do tomorrow for the dear neighbor?’ From that grew the Sisters of St. Joseph on five continents. When people get concerned about vocations, I remind them of those humble beginnings and that we started with just six women.”
Loyola High School Detroit Raises Funds For Major Campus Improvements

On Sept. 13, Loyola High School Detroit kicked off its 30th anniversary year by announcing a $9 million fundraising initiative called Empower Loyola: A Campaign for Exceptional Sons. Over the past two years, $6.5 million has been raised—all of it from private donors—and the September event marked the public launch of the Empower Loyola campaign.

In that campaign the school hopes to raise an additional $2.5 million to fund the entire project. Improvement projects will include a new Welcome Center, a Student Courtyard, a 200-seat Chapel (the first all-new Catholic place of worship to be built in the City of Detroit since the mid-1960s), a Scholarship Fund and a Faculty Retention Fund to recruit and retain dedicated teachers.

“I’d like to thank the Archdiocese of Detroit, as well as our co-sponsor, the Midwest Jesuits, for their ongoing and unwavering support, along with that of our community and civic leaders,” says Loyola President Dave Smith. Loyola High School Detroit was founded in 1993 and has an enrollment of 145 students.

A Homecoming for the New Provincial Assistant for Justice, Ecology and Reconciliation

James Erler recently returned to the Midwest Province as provincial assistant for justice, ecology and reconciliation.

“Whereas other provincial assistants may be concerned with the health, well-being, or progress of individual Jesuits or Jesuit institutions, I must concern myself with the Jesuit mission and how it becomes incarnate in this province,” he says.

S-HVXLWVFKRUDVWLFIUPWRIUHU (UOHU worked for the Archdiocese of Chicago from WRKHOHYHUVXLWVURDQWKLQ) Ignatian came up at the diocese, people would look directly at me,” he says.

He is clear on what needs to be done in his current role. “With our experiences of the Spiritual Exercises, I think we are uniquely called to rebuild the American Catholic Church in hope and justice,” he says. “I have no agenda other than that, and I hope to be a companion in discernment as our people and institutions seek to respond to the many crises of our time.”

WITH OUR EXPERIENCES OF THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES, I THINK WE ARE UNIQUELY CALLED TO REBUILD THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN HOPE AND JUSTICE.

Erler will work closely with Midwest Provincial Assistant for International Ministries John Sealey, who calls him a steady hand who knows Jesuit apostolic mission and spirituality. “He has a passion for Catholic social teaching and action,” Sealy says. “And he’s a great listener.”

(Left to right): Dave Smith, president of Loyola High School Detroit; Archbishop Allen Vigneron of Detroit; Fr. Tom McClain, SJ; Nori Dabrowski and Jen LaMaster of the Jesuits Midwest province; Loyola High School Detroit Board Chair Mike Bernard.

President Dave Smith.
Loyola High School Detroit was founded in DQKDVHQROOPHQWRIVWXGHQVV

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Jeff Berding had no idea that the one-off project he agreed to take on in the mid-1990s would lead to a career in professional sports team ownership more than two decades later.

The project, spearheading the effort to fund two sports stadiums for his hometown Cincinnati Reds and Bengals with a sales tax initiative, was near to his heart, as he was a lifelong fan of both teams. It led to a job with the Bengals, which he kept for close to 20 years. Toward the end of his time there, he wrote up a business plan to bring a third major league team to town. Now he is co-owner, president and general manager of Cincinnati’s Major League Soccer team, FC Cincinnati.

“Prior to the Reds and Bengals campaign, I had not given pro sports much thought other than as a fan,” says Berding, a 1985 graduate of St. Xavier High School who received his MBA from Xavier University in 1999.

In his work life after college, he acted out of a sense of civic duty—to keep the city’s beloved teams at home and later to possibly bring one. Berding had played a little soccer in his day, along with track and football at St. Xavier, but it was his young children who were the rabid soccer fans, as passionate for the 1975-76 Reds, the legendary Big Red Machine. After securing initial funding, he continued to work on the enterprise build as a civic project, and in 2015 Carl Lindner called to ask if he would like partner with him to bring the plan to life.

“I have had an ongoing intellectual curiosity about the world that the Jesuit education certainly nourished,” Berding says. “I learned a calling to excellence, of my whole person. At St. X, the teachers and staff focus on all aspects of our person and talents—not just intellectual, but our social conscience and convictions, our emotions and relationships.”

The thing about professional sports team owner jobs is, there are only so many.

JESUIT-EDUCATED

Team Managers

Jesuit-educated sports executives draw on their Ignatian values

By Michael Austin

Jesuit-educated sports executives draw on their Ignatian values, balancing business acumen with a sense of civic duty.

Loyola University Chicago alums (from left) Kay Golden Hart, Tom Hart, John Doyle and Brian Mclntyre with Sister. HDOFHQWHULQGDQDVHRIHUHKHSDPDQHUVZLORYHUWKhBQLYHUVLWRI7HQOHV tournament.

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for a year in London. To this day, Jesuit teaching guides his way in business. “Men for others, from my time at Loyola Academy, has always been a guiding principle in my life,” he says. “I’ve tried to help elevate the sport here in the U.S. and make sure that every professional soccer club I’m involved with has a strong community impact initiative—usually around making the sport more accessible in under-served communities.”

Another Loyola Academy alum, Brian McIntyre, worked his way up from freshman basketball team manager to head of PR for the NBA. To be fair, McIntyre did more than just manage the basketball team. Hockey was his game back then. He had played hockey growing up, but Loyola Academy had no team in the 1960s. He volunteered to manage the freshman hoops team and spent the next three years lobbying varsity basketball coach and athletic director Gene Sullivan to start a hockey team. McIntyre got his wish for his senior season, 1965-66, and Loyola has had a successful hockey program ever since.

McIntyre went on to Loyola University Chicago, served as varsity basketball manager and sports editor of the student newspaper there, and then went on to make his mark in the NBA, even though that had never been the plan. “I wanted to be a sportswriter in Chicago,” he says. But one night, while tending bar in college, he shared his dreams with a customer, who replied, “Wouldn’t you rather make news than write about it?”

The idea, which had never occurred to McIntyre, rattled in the back of his head for years as he produced and sold an alternate Chicago Stadium for Bulls and Blackhawks games. McIntyre’s programs had fresh articles and updated rosters, and he ended up out-selling the official programs three-to-one. After four years, the Bulls offered him a job, and less than four years after that, the NBA came calling.

McIntyre ran the league’s public UHODLQVGHDSUWHQWIPRQW and then served as a senior adviser to NBA &RPLVQLQHUV’LYGG6WQUQWQWLO,WZDV responsibility not only to the Cincinnati community, but to every person his organization touches. “We want to maximize revenue like other businesses, but must do so aligned with our values of being a family-friendly, inclusive club,” Berding says. “We are not chasing every last dollar so much as chasing every new fan. And because we represent the city, we are very involved in efforts to make the community better, more than most businesses. As Cincinnati rises, so does FCC. We rise together.”

Kevin Willer after Leyton Orient’s English Football League 2 victory in May 2023.
We give thanks for the following Jesuits who have gone home to God.

Fr. Dennis P. Ahern, SJ
“Dennis loved stories, making connections, and all things Cincinnati. Listening to him, it could sound like he was either related to or knew everyone in the Queen City.”

Latin and French teacher at Saint Ignatius College Prep in Chicago; French and religious education teacher at St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati, where he also helped with the drama club; pastor of Community of Hope, a non-territorial parish in Cincinnati; campus minister at Saint Ignatius College Prep; missioned in 2001 to St. Xavier High School to work as the chaplain to alumni which he did until 2016 when his health necessitated a move to the Colombiere Center in Clarkston, Mich.

Fr. Eduardo J. Pinzón Umana, SJ
Jan. 14, 1931 – Sept. 6, 2023
“Eduardo had a pastor’s sensitivity and was attentive to the students, retreatants, counselees and parishioners entrusted to his care in whatever ministry he labored, whether in the United States or in his Colombian homeland.”

Teacher at Colegio San Francisco Javier in Pasto, Colombia, and Colegio Berchmans in Cali, Colombia; psychology, theology, philosophy and English teacher, and director of psychological counseling, at Colegio M de San Bartolomé in Bogotá; professor of pastoral theology at the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional, in Bogotá; director of Latin American Services at Edgewater Mental Health Center; school psychologist at Loyola Academy in Wilmette, Ill.; associate pastor at St. Fidelis Parish and St. Mary of the Lake Parish, both in Chicago; priest in residence at St. Bartholomew Parish in Chicago; individual and family psychotherapist in Chicago; missioned to Colombiere Center, in Clarkston, Mich., to care for his health and later missioned to Colombia, where he was a pastoral minister and counselor.

Fr. Frank A. Majka, SJ
July 5, 1945 – Sept. 7, 2023
“Frank was a faithful priest and Jesuit. Until the end, he drew strength from his relationship with Jesus.”

English teacher at Creighton Preparatory School in Omaha; campus minister and assistant director of campus ministry at Marquette University High School in Milwaukee; theology teacher, pastoral minister, Ignatian spirituality formation minister and principal at Marquette University High School in Milwaukee; novitiate staff member; Wisconsin provincial assistant for secondary education; missioned to St. Camillus Jesuit Community in Wauwatosa, Wis., to care for his health.
Frank McGann Loved Jesuits Magazine

Francis T. “Frank” McGann Jr. was triple Jesuit-educated in Detroit—Gesu Catholic School, University of Detroit Jesuit High School and the University of Detroit (now University of Detroit Mercy)—and with his wife Margaret Mary, known as “Dolly,” he raised five kids in the area. One of them was his son Mike, who with his wife Jan and his brother Frank III coordinated his father’s health care toward the end of his life.

“We had been taking care of him for three years, and he was in an independent living place, a retirement home,” Mike says. “His eyesight was getting worse, so I quickly took over his bill paying, reading through all his mail and sifting through the junk mail.”

Frank had earned an engineering degree in college and worked a long and fruitful career in the automotive industry. He was also an avid race fan. At age 93, he still wanted to know what was arriving in the mail over the course of a few days, or a week— from his personal investing letters to the regular mail that just about everyone gets. Although he couldn’t read on his own, even with the help of a magnifying glass, he still looked forward to receiving and enjoying his beloved Jesuits magazine.

Mike served as his eyes. “I’d scan through the headlines, and then I’d read the stories to him,” he says. “He was still very aware of things. There wasn’t a lot of discussion. I was just reading the magazine to him. My dad really loved Jesuits magazine.”

After Frank passed, Mike called us to cancel his father’s subscription, and we were touched by their story. Sometimes the simplest things near the end of a life stand out.

“Watching my hero grow very old, I really enjoyed our special time together,” Mike says. “Whether recapping the news, watching a NASCAR race, reading him his Jesuits magazine or listening to him recall stories from his, and my, childhood, it was all magic moments for me as we grew closer. He was a great dad, role model, advisor and cheerleader, and he helped make me into the person I am today. I sure miss him.”

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