Young People,
DREAM GREAT THINGS

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Dear Friends,

“Young people, have a great soul. Do not be afraid to dream great things!” With these heartfelt words in April, and similar messages throughout World Youth Day, Pope Francis continues to remind us that young people are the hope and the future of our Church. Today, we invite you, our donors, to witness what we see – young people who hunger for God and who are practicing a vibrant Catholic faith on college campuses and in the mission dioceses nationwide.

Catholic Extension supports 70 campus ministries across the country – and each year this investment yields vocations as well as young adults who choose to remain involved and connected to our faith. It is inspiring to be able to support these ministries.

Catholic Extension also is a major supporter of seminarian education, which is one of the biggest expenses for any diocese, but especially for mission dioceses. Over the past 10 years, the mission dioceses have actually seen an increase in seminarian enrollment by approximately 10 percent. Many of these young men, such as the seminarians from the Diocese of Yakima who are featured on our cover, attribute their vocation to the strong faith they experienced growing up in the mission dioceses. Bishop Joseph Tyson of Yakima shares with you an innovative program he has developed to ensure his seminarians better understand the lives of their future parishioners – he has put them to work in the vineyards, fields and packinghouses in the diocese. Read his impactful message on page 38.

Finally, when we think of people who are “dreaming great things,” we think of our nine Lumen Christi finalists who are working diligently to bring about positive change in their poor Catholic communities. They, too, have embraced God’s call to serve, and you will be awed by their stories.

During World Youth Day, Pope Francis ignited the throngs of young people with his words: “Let us always remember this: Only when we are able to share do we become truly rich; everything that is shared is multiplied.”

As a faithful donor to Catholic Extension, you are sharing your faith and sharing your resources to build our faith. We are extremely grateful for your support because we believe, quite simply, that even a small gift to Catholic Extension can make a major difference in the lives of the Catholics we serve.

Together, we do dream great things.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. John J. Wall

President
On the cover: Seminarians from the Diocese of Yakima, Washington, gathered in front of an apple packinghouse to show the fruits of their labor. In an innovative program developed by Bishop Joseph Tyson of Yakima, the seminarians spent the summer working alongside their future parishioners in fields and orchards throughout the diocese. Read more on page 38.

Coming soon! A perennial favorite, the Christmas issue of Extension magazine will feature the 2013 recipient of the Lumen Christi (“Light of Christ”) Award. Each year, we are privileged to witness the life-changing work of our nominees — and this year is no exception. Also, watch for the 2013 Christmas Wish List, which is coming in the mail.
WITH GRATITUDE

Words of thanks for gifts big and small

DEAR CATHOLIC EXTENSION,
It is with great appreciation and thanks to you and your contributors that our personal lift is completed.

We were given a matching grant in February of this year from Catholic Extension for the installation of a personal lift. The reason for the lift was that our classrooms, our meeting area, our dining area, the kitchen and the bathrooms are all in the basement. Because the stairs to the basement are steep and narrow, our handicapped and senior parishioners were unable to use the stairs. This made a profound effect on our parish because many of those who wanted to attend parish functions could not.

With much sincerity, we pray that God’s grace showers down upon you in abundance.

Deacon Andy Dorrington
Madison County Catholic Community
Diocese of Helena
Sheridan, Montana

Parishioners of St. Patrick Parish in Ennis, Montana, gathered to express their gratitude for the Catholic Extension grant, which provided a “lift” to the parish basement, making it accessible to all for the first time. St. Patrick’s was built in 1962 by volunteer labor, and Bob and Cara Goggins (pictured in the crowd) were instrumental in its construction. Now 90 years old, the Goggins are grateful for the lift.

DEAR FATHER WALL,
I am truly grateful for your support in helping the Diocese of Bismarck afford the education and formation expenses of our seminarians. I started the academic year with 14 seminarians and was able to accept one additional seminarian who started in January.

On June 13th, I ordained six seminarians to the priesthood. This is an exceptional number for a mission diocese. At this time, I have two young men in the process of applying for the seminary and a couple of others who have expressed interest as well.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend
David D. Kagan,
D.D., P.A., J.C.L.
Bishop of Bismarck

DEAR FATHER WALL,
It is with great appreciation that I thank you for your generous gift to help educate our seminarians this coming year. I also thank you for awarding a scholarship to the Cardinal Newman Catholic Campus Ministry Center in Rolla.

Catholic Extension truly serves as the hands and feet of Christ, and on behalf of these ministries, I humbly...
extend the gratitude of our vocation director and the leadership of the Rolla Newman Center.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend John R. Gaydos
Bishop of Jefferson City

DEAR CATHOLIC EXTENSION,
What a blessing for us here on the Navajo Reservation at St. Jude’s Parish in Tuba City, Arizona, to receive your generous gift allowing us to purchase new folding chairs and a sound system for our gymnasium. As many can attest who minister in rural areas, often the Catholic parish is the best, sometimes the only, adequate space available not only to parishioners, but to many groups within the community, most of them non-Catholic. What a great way to evangelize and welcome our neighbors into our “home” for all kinds of worthwhile events. God bless you all for thinking of us and making a difference for us all!

In Sts. Vincent and Louise,
Reverend Jay Jung, C.M.
Pastor, St. Jude Catholic Church
Tuba City, Arizona
Diocese of Gallup

DEAR FATHER WALL,
Thank you for your letter regarding the payment to the Diocese of Richmond for the rebuilding of the Vocations website for the Office of Campus and Young Adult Ministry. Your support and assistance in evangelizing our young people are very much appreciated. You are a valuable partner in the work that we do to bring the faith of Christ to our young adults.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,
Most Reverend Francis X.
DiLorenzo
Bishop of Richmond

“You are a valuable partner in the work that we do to bring the faith of Christ to our young adults.”

Connect with us!
We love to hear from you, our readers, and we want to connect you more closely to the work of Catholic Extension. We hope you will visit our website or one of the social media channels listed below so that you can read and share inspiring stories, watch compelling videos, and join us on our journey to build faith across America.

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Chicago, IL 60606

Catholic Extension may edit letters for clarity and length. Letters also may be shared online. Thank you!
Here are just a few of many tales of inspired giving and grateful recipients in the mission dioceses. We never cease to be amazed by the entrepreneurial spirit and generosity of faithful Catholics in America.

FIRST GRADERS SUPPORT A NEW CHURCH
Archdiocese of Chicago

For the sixth year in a row, first graders at The Frances Xavier Warde School in downtown Chicago decided they wanted to help Catholic Extension with a service project during Lent. Joe Boland, Catholic Extension’s vice president of mission, told the students about Holy Spirit Church in tiny Hamburg, Arkansas, with its dilapidated building that had “wiggly floors” and a classroom in a former chicken coop. He then said the students could help by donating funds for a new church building.

Catholic Extension President Father Jack Wall is surrounded by enthusiastic first graders from Chicago who jumped at the opportunity to help a rural Arkansas parish get a new church building.
These generous young people immediately sprang into action, raising money by doing chores and holding fundraisers. One girl alone raised $600 by holding a violin recital and requesting donations at the door.

In 40 days, these enterprising youngsters collected more than $6,600 for Catholic Extension to give to the Holy Spirit building project. They enthusiastically presented a check to Catholic Extension President Father Jack Wall on May 2. (The story of Holy Spirit’s quest to transform a tire store into a new church building was featured in the Fall 2012 issue of Extension magazine.)

A matching challenge grant from Catholic Extension often inspires people on the local level to give more, knowing their gifts will multiply. For example, parishioners at San Ignacio Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico, dug deep and came up with nearly $37,000 to replace their church roof, which was constantly losing shingles in the strong New Mexico winds. With the money they raised, and a matching grant from Catholic Extension of $18,000, they will install a heavier metal roof that comes with a lifetime warranty and will stand up to battering winds.

A matching challenge grant from Catholic Extension often inspires people on the local level to give more.

These generous young people from the Diocese of Monterey received a matching grant from Catholic Extension so they could attend World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro in July.

Photo credit: Saul Hernandez, Diocese of Monterey
When Father Jack Wall approached Chicago business leader Jim Kenny about joining the Catholic Extension Board of Governors, Jim admittedly was intrigued but hesitant. Between his business and civic responsibilities, as well as having served as U.S. Ambassador to Ireland from 2003–2006, he was hoping to slow down a bit.

Father Wall suggested that before he make a decision, he should join the Catholic Extension team on an upcoming trip to a mission diocese. A trip to the Brownsville, Texas, area would give Jim a good look at what Catholic Extension does and its mission, Father Wall said.

Rearranging his schedule, Jim made the trip, visiting numerous parishes and ministries within this border diocese. Brownsville boasts one million Catholics, and as a diocese faces distinct challenges that include poverty, drug cartels and border patrols.

Jim didn’t just observe. He immersed himself in the lives and ministries of the people he met. And he came away fully committed to joining the Catholic Extension board, exclaiming, “This is what the Catholic Church is all about.”

During the Catholic Extension trip to Texas, Jim said, “I felt the importance of the work. What I’ve seen, what I’ve witnessed, is that a small amount of money to Catholic Extension can make a major difference in someone’s life.”
He continued, “We’re not talking about building a $30 million library. When you see the work that people are doing every day on behalf of the Church with small amounts of money, you realize they are doing miracles. It’s the way things should be.”

**A Confirmation to Remember and More**

On the trip, Jim’s first stop was to attend confirmation at Sacred Heart Church in Escobares, Texas. Escobares is minutes away from the Mexican border. It is a place where many youth face life-or-death decisions because of rampant poverty, violence and pressure from gangs.

Jim and the Catholic Extension team experienced the excitement of these young people being confirmed. “It was wonderful to see young people so engaged in their faith,” Jim said.

Catholic Extension has played a critical role in supporting this small parish. A parish center, funded by Catholic Extension, provides much-needed space for religious education and meetings, as well as a safe environment for more than 200 youth, who turn to the Church as a home away from home.

“It’s so important for them to have this space,” Jim added. “It’s a safe haven, a gathering space. They need the community center to build their Catholic community. These buildings are very important.”

**Why the Church Must Be Physically Present**

As head of a Chicago construction company, Jim was particularly interested in the impact of Catholic Extension’s building projects on these small, poor communities. A visit to Immaculate Conception Mission Church in Lopezville, Texas, underscored how critical it is for the Church to be physically present. While the community is aware of ongoing gang presence, the Church is a visible sign of hope and a reminder that there is a better way.

Catholic Extension recently completed a construction project to shore up the church’s exterior. It’s been a powerful motivator for the community. The little parish is at capacity for its religious education programs and other youth activities. “In rougher areas, these church buildings are so important,” Jim continued. “Whether it’s as a safe haven or a gathering space, it’s important to have places where people can practice their Catholic faith.”

Observing the role of the Church in an area like Brownsville made a dramatic impression on Jim Kenny. Seeing the work of so many dedicated religious and lay people, Jim said, “This is where the tire meets the road.”

In fact, “When I look at the work of Catholic Extension, I can only think that this is what our faith is all about,” he said. “For a very small amount of money, some serious good can be done.”

“What I’ve seen is that a small amount of money to Catholic Extension can make a major difference in someone’s life.”

Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville blesses a young girl being confirmed at Sacred Heart Church in Escobares, Texas. The parish center there, funded by Catholic Extension, provides a safe environment for the parish youth, who turn to the Church as a home away from home.
Tying the Knot

Gift honors a family brought together by Catholic Extension

When people give a gift to Catholic Extension, they often tell us they are thankful for a special “sister” who taught them, or a priest who played a part in their history. When Michael Smith* recently gave a generous gift, he explained how Catholic Extension played an important role in his family’s history.

The story began with Catholic Extension back in the 1930s. A young woman named Mary Regina was living in Lowell, Massachusetts. She was 31 years old and had polio, requiring her to wear braces on her legs and walk with crutches. Wanting very much to create a life for herself, Mary Regina joined Catholic Extension’s Chaperon Club, a “pen pal” society for unmarried Catholics.

She began corresponding regularly with John Charles, a young man in the Pittsburgh area. Taking matters into her own hands, Mary Regina left home, boarded a train to Pittsburgh and met her pen pal.

By all accounts, the two were delighted to meet one another. An engagement and marriage quickly ensued, and within a year their first child was born. “Mary Regina was not a teenager and she wanted, very much, a life of her own,” Michael recalled in telling his family’s history. “She made it happen with the help of Catholic Extension.”

Mary Regina and John Charles had a good marriage, Michael recalled, noting they ultimately had three children, two of whom became college professors. “They both wanted marriage, both wanted children, both were serious Catholics and both made it work,” he said.

Fast forward several years when Michael was home for a college break. At a local party, he met Mary Regina’s firstborn daughter, Edith, who soon would become his wife. “I recognized what I wanted, and I took it from there,” he said.

Michael and Edith married and had six children — three boys and three girls — although the couple lost one as an infant. “Edith was pro-life.” Michael noted, referring to their large family.

All her life, Edith remained close to her mother, Mary Regina. Edith knew Mary Regina always had a fondness for Catholic Extension and was especially grateful for its Chaperon Club. When Mary Regina and Edith were able to donate, they made sure Catholic Extension received their funds.

Mary Regina died years ago. And recently, when Edith died, Michael knew he wanted to make a gift to Catholic Extension in honor of his wife and mother-in-law. Michael decided to transfer an individual retirement account (IRA) to Catholic Extension, which also meant that he did not have to pay tax on these donated funds. “The money became available and you got it,” Michael said. “I wanted it to go to Catholic Extension because of the family tie. Edith loved her mother and her father and was so glad they got together. Without Catholic Extension, that might not have happened.”

Michael’s gift enabled Immaculate Conception Mission Church in Lopezville, Texas, to complete a major exterior and structural renovation.

Michael is happy he has been able to honor his wife, Edith, and her mother and father with his donation. He is recognizing his family’s special past by making a difference for people in the present.

*The donors’ names have been changed at their request.
The beautiful Immaculate Conception Mission in Lopezville, Texas, needed a substantial renovation to preserve its original wood structure. The community diligently raised funds to support its beloved church. These funds were matched by Catholic Extension through a matching challenge grant.

Go to www.catholicextension.org/fall2013 to read a Catholic Extension Chaperon Club column from the 1930s and see an original membership application. Note the cost for the program – $1 per year!

Michael’s gift enabled Immaculate Conception Mission Church in Lopezville, Texas, to complete a major exterior and structural renovation.
It’s easy to be optimistic about the future of the Church when you’re around young Catholics at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. Like Catholics at other state schools across America, they are living their faith publicly and with gusto. They bubble over with excitement when they talk about their Newman Catholic Center.

“Newman has grown into my second home,” said Brogan McGuire, who recently graduated with a degree in biomedical engineering. “It’s definitely a place where I could go and talk to people. If I had questions on the Eucharist, I could talk to Father John or Father Kevin, or I could ask my fellow classmates because they were just as interested and involved in their faith as I was.”
“The goal always was to have a larger worship space...Catholic Extension’s grant was the tipping point that allowed it to happen.”

This campus ministry, which is led by Director Father John Ulrich, Associate Director Father Kevin Duggan of the Marist Fathers and Brothers, and Director of Administration Linda Garcia-Inchausti, now will be able to reach even more young Catholics like Brogan because of the new 200-seat chapel it is building—with help from Catholic Extension.

The new chapel is part of an overhaul of the current Newman Center and will replace the old chapel, which was a converted one-car garage that was so small it was used only for daily Mass.

For Sunday Mass, which is attended by as many as 180 from the campus, the students currently carpool to a church 15 minutes away. This can be challenging. It requires them to plan ahead and show up early, and those with cars must make multiple trips. It’s especially difficult for new students.

“When I was a freshman, I remember thinking, ‘Mass is like right now, and I have to be in the pick-up spot at 5:50 and it’s 5:55 and I’m still in my dorm,’” said Brogan.

“I would run to the pick-up spot and sometimes no one was there.”

The fact that so many students here attend the “off-site” Mass is a testament to their love for the Church. They’re confident that this love can multiply when the chapel is completed.

“Having a chapel on campus, besides being a physical presence, will be huge for students to become even more involved,” said Matthew Susank, who is studying civil engineering. “With the new chapel, you’ll be able to walk from the nearest dorm in five minutes, and by bike in one minute.”

Added Brogan, “We have quite a bit of foot traffic that goes right by where the chapel will be. People will see it. It’s important to have a symbol on campus that’s visible to people—even to closet Catholics or non-Catholics—saying that morals are important, saying there’s a Catholic church here. It will be a constant reminder.”

Construction of the new chapel was designed so it wouldn’t interfere with the daily hum of the Newman Center. The new structure actually is a shell that is being built over the existing building, with the new chapel as an addition.
Right: An artist’s rendering of the new Newman Center, which includes a 200-seat chapel. The previous chapel was a converted one-car garage. Below: Construction fences surround the Newman Center. Once the renovation is complete, students will no longer have to carpool to a distant church for Sunday Mass.

“The bigger chapel is a dream come true.”

“The architect came up with a great concept,” said Father Kevin. “Father John and I told him it would be pretty devastating to the community if the Newman Center had to close down for a year. We’ve really been able to operate the whole year while construction has gone on around us.”

The students also have been grateful that the Newman Center they know and love is unchanged on the inside. “It is the same space so there is this sense of familiarity. Then you walk out and there’s this glorious new space where the chapel’s going to be. I’ve never seen construction done like this before,” said Matt Kovacevich, who recently graduated with a degree in landscape architecture.

Catholic Extension has long been committed to supporting campus ministries, which are the root of deep, lasting relationships between young people and the Church, and often lead to vocations. In addition to providing a matching grant of $75,000 to help build the chapel, Catholic Extension has provided operational support to Cal Poly’s Newman Center for more than 25 years.

He noted that the bigger chapel is a “dream come true.”

“The goal always was to have a larger worship space and more visual presence here,” said Riordan. “Catholic Extension’s grant was the tipping point that allowed it to happen.”

The students themselves also were a tipping point of sorts. “The exposure of people in the congregations here to our students is what has led them to support this chapel,” said Father John, referencing the diocese’s capital campaign for the chapel. “They’re really touched by our young people, their deep faith, their love for Christ and their pride in being Catholic.”

The new chapel will be dedicated this fall.

To see more photos of this exciting project, go to www.catholicextension.org/fall2013
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Please cut along dotted line and mail to: Catholic Extension, 150 South Wacker Drive, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606.
Catholic Extension: Keeping Young People Connected

by Tim Muldoon, Ph.D.

At a recent gathering hosted by Catholic Extension at the Boston College Club, Devon Kemp, a young woman studying at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, shared a photo that sticks with me. It was just a few weeks after the Boston Marathon bombing, and she was remarking how she and her friends were deeply shaken by the events, which had unfolded just down the road from our campus.

Devon is from the Diocese of Amarillo, and had come to Boston College under the auspices of Catholic Extension’s outreach to young adults preparing for ministry in their local dioceses. Her home is not too far from West, Texas, where a fertilizer plant explosion had killed many residents just two days after the marathon blast. She showed a photo of Theology and Ministry students gathered before the altar at St. Ignatius Church, holding a large sign expressing solidarity with the people of West. Holding back tears, she expressed how powerful this expression of love was, and commented on how it touched something deep in her that had led her into ministry in the first place.

I’ve spent much of my professional life in faith formation of young people, both at the parish and the university. It is clear to me that the Holy Spirit is alive among the young, touching their hearts and stretching them to service of others. Devon put her finger on something deep and true in our world today: the coexistence of fear and hope among the young, and the desire to bring forth love as the path toward a better world.

In recent decades, though, our Church has struggled to find ways to minister to young people. There are several new factors to consider. First, culture has changed. The demographic category “young adults”
did not really exist as its own category a couple of generations ago; there were “young married” people, or “adolescents” still living at home, or “young professionals” living in a city other than where they grew up. But in the intervening years, several things have changed: a rise in the college population; mobility due to economic security; the rise in the age of first marriage; the divorce rate; and many others.

All these things have carved out a demographic group that traditional parish structures have a hard time reaching. So a second factor is that parishes are less and less the places where people between the ages of 18 and 35 grow in their faith. More often, campus ministries, virtual communities formed through social networks, and various friendship groups impact the ways young people practice — or stop practicing — their faith.

A third factor is the host of ways that attitudes toward religion have changed today. Pew Forum studies (www.pewforum.org) in recent years have shown a great deal of religious migration among young people, including significant drop-off in any religious practice. One sound bite that has received a good deal of attention is the fact that “former Catholics” would be the second largest religious group in the United States behind current Catholics, if they constituted a homogeneous group.

All these changes have unfolded in an era that has seen declining diocesan budgets and limited resources for those who minister to young people, so in many places there is no strategy to do it well.

Catholic Extension is, in my view, the single most hopeful resource for strategizing about ministry to young adults in the Church today. Efforts such as the Semester of Faith, support for seminarians and lay ministers like Devon, grants to support various campus ministries, and the social media efforts (see more about these efforts in the current magazine) are offering a real way forward for our Church. To use a metaphor, they are planting trees in an age that has seen much deforestation.

In the summer of 2013, I was part of a summit on vocations to the priesthood, sponsored by the U.S. Jesuit Conference and Boston College. At that summit, researchers from the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate identified the factors that encourage vocations to the priesthood. Among them, they found that if three different people encourage a young man to think seriously about a vocation, he is much more likely to discern this call seriously. The study was one indication of the way that faith can be ignited by people who are ready to be mentors to the young, and one clue as to why Catholic Extension efforts are so welcome.

Catholic Extension wants to help young people themselves to take on roles of “encouragers” — and it is clear to me, in seeing examples like the young woman from Texas — that their efforts are bearing great fruit.

Tim Muldoon is the author of several books including Seeds of Hope: Young Adults and the Catholic Church in the United States (Paulist Press, 2008) and the forthcoming book (with Sue Muldoon) Six Sacred Rules for Families (Ave Maria Press, Fall 2013). He serves on the Mission Committee of Catholic Extension.
Too often we hear that young adults are turning away from the Church.

But that’s not Catholic Extension’s experience in visiting college campuses nationwide. In fact, the 70 campus ministries funded by Catholic Extension report record numbers of young adults turning to the faith, fellowship and fun that come from getting involved, especially at larger public universities where there seems to be a vibrant resurgence in faith.

Hundreds of students are showing up at Catholic chapels each week for Mass. In addition, students are engaged in a host of activities in these thriving Catholic communities and finding spiritual sustenance and growth.

And, they are having a blast, as only fully energized college students can. To get a glimpse of how these young adults are celebrating their faith and to help connect these ministries to one another, Catholic Extension recently held a Semester of Faith video campaign. The campaign invited campus ministries to submit a short video highlighting their own “good news.” The good news poured in as Catholic Extension received 20 get-your-feet-stomping, inspiring videos that showcased young people coast to coast embracing and celebrating their Catholic faith.

The students from New Mexico State University created “Catholic Cardio: Get Your Heart Racing for...
“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.”
—Saint Catherine of Siena

Students from the University of Nebraska at Kearney gather in front of the home where they host meals and meetings. The chapel is next door.

God, a fast-paced, short film that shows students working up a sweat as part of their praise and worship.

Students from Mississippi State University captured the viewer with fast-moving songs, service and dance, as well as a game of “ding-dong ditch” with their priest, Father John Bohn. It’s hard not to smile when watching these videos, which can be found on the Catholic Extension website at www.catholicextension.org/ fall2013.

On Fire with Faith — University of Nebraska at Kearney
While all the videos deserve praise, the top prize went to the Catholic Newman Center at the University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK).

It’s hard to imagine that any team could have worked harder than the students from UNK. They were “all in” from the moment that Sister Rosemarie Maly, director of their Newman Center, announced the campaign. They immediately set out to create the video, using the theme “Setting the World on Fire,” which was inspired by the words of Saint Catherine of Siena:

“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.”

The team then combined hundreds of photos taken from student Masses, meals and other ministry events with UNK’s own Newman Center songs.

“We can blow the roof off singing,” Clayton Pfiefer, a senior, said.

Across the board, the student videos demonstrated a dynamic faith and a group of young adults ready and
willing to shout it out across the Internet. The students reveled in the joy of creating the videos — and wanted to spread the “good news” of their own ministries far and wide. Through the campaign, the students embraced a whole new spirit of evangelization.

As the winner of the campaign, UNK received a $1,000 grant for their ministry and a sponsored trip to the Catholic Ministry Leadership Institute over the summer for four members of their team.

Moreover, for this devoted team of young Catholics, who worked so hard to share their faith and “good news,” the rewards have been far greater. The video has been so well received that the UNK admissions office is using it in recruitment efforts, and stories have been written in diocesan and statewide papers, garnering even greater attention for the team’s good work.

As Sister Rosemarie noted, the campaign created a tremendous energy among the students, giving them “an overwhelming sense of gratitude for the community they have.” The students also found it enlightening to view videos and learn from other campus ministries. For example, they got to see how some students worship on the beach, while others hold Mass in the mountains.

By participating in the Semester of Faith campaign, campus ministries nationwide not only strengthened their own communities, but they also connected more deeply with other faith communities like their own. They were invigorated in spreading the “good news.”

CATHOLIC EXTENSION CALENDARS

GIVE THE COLLECTION BASKET A POLITE SUGGESTION.

DROP THIS COMPLETED FORM IN YOUR WEEKLY COLLECTION BASKET.

Dear Father ______________________,

By ordering Catholic Extension calendars for our parish, we can support the Church in poor Catholic communities across America. As the official wall calendars of the Catholic Church, these are the only calendars that give 100% of proceeds back to poor Catholic communities across America. Together, we can help faithful communities grow.

In faith,

(Please print)

Order Catholic Extension calendars for our parish at 1.800.282.5055 and use the code “GROWFAITH” to get the parish discount.
As part of the **Semester of Faith** campaign, Catholic Extension created a special Facebook page, enabling hundreds to post their thoughts on their vibrant campus ministries. We also asked people to comment on why they believe campus ministry is important today. Read on to see a sampling from students—and parents, too!

**Shout-Outs to Campus Ministry**

**Frank-Mary Sosa** It is good to know that when you raise your children Catholic they have a place like CCM (Catholic Campus Ministry) to share their faith with others and stay involved in the Church. Especially while in school.

**Danielle Milliken** Campus ministry helped nourish my spiritual hunger throughout college. While I was lucky enough to attend a Catholic university, campus ministry played a vital role in providing students with the “extra” opportunities to grow and strengthen their faith. Some of my favorite memories from college include praise and worship, attending and leading retreats, and participating in various service opportunities. None of these unforgettable moments could have been possible without campus ministry.

**Lizabeth Maria Moore Meier** So comforting to know my son has such a wonderful Catholic community while he is away at school.

**Troy University — Newman Ministry** We are very excited at Troy University to have faith-based dorms to open for the fall semester! Christians will come united together to pray, worship and grow together in Jesus. We will have a perpetual Adoration chapel (at our public university!), daily prayer, along with Bible study and several other amazing events! We are located in the “buckle” of the Bible Belt, and unfortunately, Catholicism is still frowned upon by some of our other brothers and sisters in Christ. We show students that we love Jesus through our words and actions. Like Blessed Teresa of Calcutta (who we are named after), we just try to show love to everyone we come in contact with. This goes a long way to revealing to them the Father’s love for us.

**Alejandro Rivera** It has actually put my faith into action and has also given me serious conviction about it. And I was given something very valuable: friends who want to grow deeper in Christ. I sorely needed these things.
A Road Trip to Remember

With faith at the forefront, young adult leaders put in a summer of learning

Brought together by the Catholic Extension Young Adult Leadership Initiative, good friends Julie La Belle and Maria O’Halloran recently spent 12 hours on the road together en route to their second summer at the University of Notre Dame.

Julie is an intern in campus ministry at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia; Maria is a campus minister at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas.

Rather than meeting at Notre Dame, the young women decided they would “road trip” so they could catch up on their eventful first year in campus ministry. Julie flew to Kansas and off they went. Their car ride gave them a great opportunity to talk about all they had experienced in their Notre Dame studies as well as how much they had deepened their faith and grown in their ministries.

Read on to hear from these two energetic young leaders, who reflected on how their new learning enabled them to give so much more to the students they minister to on campus.

It all started in a little town called Manhattan, Kansas, where my dear friend Maria and I began an epic road trip to the University of Notre Dame. After a full, vibrant year of ministry, Maria and I reunited for another “Irish” summer of studying theology through Catholic Extension’s Young Adult Leadership Initiative.

Yet this trip was about more than just landscape. Those 12 hours gave us an opportunity to share how our lives have changed since we started just one year ago. We shared stories about the hope we encountered in our ministries. We talked about how the past year of study — hours of reading, listening to enlightening lectures, ministry with late night socials and experiences of God’s love — have enriched us so much that we can now give more fully of ourselves as “gifts” to the campuses we serve.

From Julie LaBelle, intern at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia:
A little over a year ago, I never dreamed I would be given the opportunity to study at the University of Notre Dame or that I would be stretched by a year’s worth of intense study and theological formation. I never dreamed that I would study Therese of Lisieux and experience community in the truest sense of the word. Ultimately, that experience of community has been one of the overarching takeaways from my first year with Catholic Extension’s Young Adult Leadership Initiative. In Catholic Extension, I found a support system, new friends, and lessons on what it really means to serve and to share Christ’s light and love. I found students and professors who are passionate about living the Gospel call to share the Christian message.

All of these experiences have culminated in a richer understanding of what it really means to be part of the Catholic Church, and a stronger drive to help others share in this experience.

“ln Catholic Extension, I found what it really means to serve and to share Christ’s light and love.”
“If I met another mother whose son was considering the priesthood, I would give her a big hug and say, ‘How blessed you are!’”

Maria-Cruz Gray receives a blessing from “the beautiful hands” of her newly ordained son, Christopher, who will go on to bless many more.
To get a sense of the emotions that mothers of seminarians experience when their sons are ordained to the priesthood, Extension magazine spoke with two mothers in the mission dioceses whose sons were ordained this summer — one to the priesthood and one a transitional deacon (the step before priestly ordination). These young men were supported by Catholic Extension throughout their studies, for which their mothers were grateful. Both also were humble about their roles in their sons’ holy journeys — and immensely proud and overjoyed at the blessing of having a priest in the family.

**Maria-Cruz Gray**

**AND HER SON, CHRISTOPHER GRAY**

Maria-Cruz Gray, who serves as director of Hispanic ministry in the Diocese of Salt Lake City, Utah, spoke to us just weeks before her son, Christopher, was ordained. It might seem inevitable that Christopher felt a calling, given not only Maria’s position, but also her husband Forrest’s position as a deacon and director of the diocese’s permanent diaconate program. Maria, however, took no credit. “I’m very grateful, but we didn’t encourage it,” she said. “It has to come from the Lord. We are normal people. We would be proud of anything our children did. But Christopher is following the Lord. What Catholic mother wouldn’t want that?”

Christopher is the youngest of the Gray children, born many years after his two older siblings — an “oops” baby, according to Maria. “I had him when I was an old lady,” she said with a chuckle. “He was a very happy, normal kid, but he always told me, ‘When I grow up, I want to be a priest.’”

Perhaps the surprise of Christopher’s birth was an illustration of the mystery of how God works because his dream of the priesthood was still strong when he graduated from high school.

Taking the long view, Maria said she wanted him to be sure. “I told him to first go to college, meet girls and then think about it. I thought he needed time.”

But then Christopher graduated from college and said he was ready. His commitment never wavered.

So what is Maria feeling now, as she awaits his special day? “I am so numb and excited, and my husband is just beside himself. We are so happy for Christopher. On that day (ordination), I probably won’t even recognize my own name.”

She added, “If I met another mother whose son was considering the priesthood, I would give her a big hug and say, ‘How blessed you are!’”

**Reverend Christopher Gray is flanked by his parents following his priestly ordination, which was held June 29 at the Cathedral of the Madeleine in Salt Lake City.**
Margarita Barragan shared the story of her son Eduardo, or “Lalo,” in the weeks before his ordination as a transitional deacon. One of nine children of Margarita and her husband, Rafael, Lalo started out as a fieldworker. “He worked harvesting apples,” said Margarita. “At 16 years of age, he would harvest 10 to 12 bins every day. He also worked in an apple packinghouse from seven in the morning until 10 at night.” Lalo ultimately got his GED, went to college, and worked at various jobs for 10 years while also serving as a youth leader at his parish. But unbeknownst to anyone, his heart was not part of his plan. “I am a mother who is proud, happy and thankful for all of her children, but right now, especially for Lalo.”

Margarita Barragan
AND HER SON, LA LO BARRAGAN

In Cowiche, Washington, in the Diocese of Yakima, Margarita Barragan shared the story of her son Eduardo, or “Lalo,” in the weeks before his ordination as a transitional deacon. One of nine children of Margarita and her husband, Rafael, Lalo started out as a fieldworker. Going to seminary...
Lalo, shown here with his parents, dreamed of attending seminary, but he knew his family couldn’t afford it.

was being pulled toward seminary.

“Before he told any of us that he wanted to go to seminary, one of my nieces had a dream that my son Jesús (Lalo’s brother) who died in an accident, came to her and said to congratulate Lalo on the step he’s taking. We didn’t know what step that was,” said Margarita. “Then Lalo came to us and said, ‘I’m thinking about going to seminary.’”

According to Margarita, Lalo’s vocation came from deep within him and was a “gift from God.” And while she and Rafael were overjoyed, they knew they could not afford seminary tuition. “We said, ‘By all means do it, but sadly, we can’t help you economically. But you have our support in prayer and in all other ways.’”

Because Catholic Extension provided a scholarship for Lalo to attend seminary, his dream has been realized. His mother was overcome with emotion. “Imagine it,” she said. “Put yourself in the position I am in. I am a mother who is proud, happy and thankful for all of her children, but right now, especially for Lalo. Anywhere he goes, he will be a faithful servant of God.”

To watch a moving video of Lalo Barragan discussing his gratitude for his family, go to www.catholicextension.org/fall2013

IT'S A CALLING – AND A MAJOR INVESTMENT FOR ANY DIOCESE.

YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT WILL HELP HIM ALONG THE WAY.

One of the biggest expenses for mission dioceses is funding seminarian education. Your support can make a major difference. Please give today.
give.catholicextension.org/seminarians
or 1.800.842.7804

Catholic Extension
Building Faith | Inspiring Hope | Igniting Change
When it comes to seminarian education, a mission diocese is like a large family putting its children through college. It must come up with funds to pay tuition, which can total $30,000 per seminarian annually.

To help mission dioceses become better equipped to handle increasing numbers of seminarians — and increasing costs — Catholic Extension launched the Seminarian Endowment Challenge. The challenge, introduced last year, asks mission dioceses to build capacity for the future by garnering donations earmarked for seminarian education. Catholic Extension then provides a matching grant.

In 2012, 13 mission dioceses participated and one diocese in particular, the Diocese of Dodge City, Kansas, embraced it wholeheartedly. This small, rural diocese of approximately 47,000 Catholics raised an astounding $367,078 in nine months. Catholic Extension then provided a $50,000 match, giving the diocese more than $417,000 in new endowment funds for seminarian education — enough to fund one seminarian annually in perpetuity.

As a further enhancement, the diocese’s seminarian fund will be managed through Catholic Extension’s Mission Diocese Fund, which is a pooled investment fund.

It was created to help dioceses achieve economies of scale and more efficiently invest and manage their long-term financial assets.

The gifts are still coming in, and the diocese believes that the devotion of its people, coupled with the partnership with Catholic Extension and the promise of matching funds, really worked.

“We had one man who gave a gift of stock because he knew his giving would be enhanced by Catholic Extension,” said Eric Haselhorst, director of stewardship for the Diocese of Dodge City.

The diocese’s development team also asked potential donors to reflect on the importance of priests. “Most people have been affected by a priest. When I spoke at parishes, I would ask them to think about the priest who baptized their children or gave them the sacraments,” Haselhorst said.

“Then I would say, ‘If you have a fond memory of a priest and want to honor that relationship, make a gift to the endowment.’”

Haselhorst and the diocese’s finance director, Dan Stremel, agreed that the success of the endowment challenge demonstrated the diocese’s potential for development in other areas and provided a boost of confidence about fundraising.

They also said that the role of Catholic Extension, today and in the past, can’t be overstated.

“The Seminarian Endowment Challenge was a unique opportunity to draw new donors in, but we wouldn’t have been in the position to do something like this without grants from Catholic Extension over the last 50 years,” said Stremel. “I have such gratitude for these people (Catholic Extension donors) who I don’t know and will never know. They have played a pivotal role in the ministries of the Diocese of Dodge City.”
I came from the very southwestern part of the Diocese of Dodge City, a small town called Sublette. My parish is St. Alphonsus in Satanta. I grew up as the oldest in a family of six boys. My parents took the promises they made in my baptism very strongly — the promises to raise us in the faith. They enrolled me in a private Christian school. Soon after, I started manifesting a strong desire to become a priest, and so they began to homeschool me. Being in that environment, I was able to grow in my faith, and I'm sure that it protected my commitment to my vocation.

But the Lord knew that I would need to grow, and so when I graduated from high school, I went to Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas. Being there was great, but by my sophomore year, I got the feeling that I was wasting time at the university. Just two weeks later, I was thrown in confusion about what God wanted of me when I saw someone at Mass who was holding a baby. I felt deep down that I wanted to be a husband and father. For the next three years, I wavered between married life and the priesthood, and every time I would pray, something new would be on my heart. When I went home for Easter break, I realized that instead of my plans to teach the faith or be a youth minister, the Lord was looking for another seminarian for the diocese to serve the people of God. I signed up and was at St. John Vianney Theological Seminary that next fall, 2010.

Being at the seminary, I’ve watched myself grow deeper and deeper in love with Jesus Christ. My vocation has matured over these few years, and my relationship with Jesus Christ has flowered anew every day.

With the support of Catholic Extension and the generosity of the people of the Diocese of Dodge City, I don’t feel so much as I’ve helped others, but that the other seminarians of Dodge City and I have been helped by those who deeply and very sincerely care for us. I am truly grateful for the support from both the wonderful people of our diocese and the wonderful people of Catholic Extension.

“With the support of Catholic Extension, the other seminarians of Dodge City and I have been helped by those who deeply and very sincerely care for us.”
Catholic Extension started the Lumen Christi (“Light of Christ”) Award in 1978 as a way to honor those who have demonstrated how the power of faith can transform lives and communities. Over the years, the recipients — and nominees — have served as wonderful examples of Catholic Extension’s mission. They have selflessly served the poor and built faith across America in extraordinary ways.

Today, the Lumen Christi Award continues to provide an exciting opportunity for us to recognize outstanding examples of the Church in action. The award is accompanied by a $50,000 grant ($25,000 for the recipient and $25,000 for the nominating diocese), which provides financial support for the recipient’s ministry. The finalists receive grants as well.

Like all Lumen Christi Award nominees and recipients, this year’s nine finalists, which include one married couple, are making an impact across America. With courage, determination and overflowing hope, they are changing the lives and hearts of those they serve.

This year’s Lumen Christi finalists were nominated from dioceses across the U.S. The map above indicates the mission dioceses in which they serve.

José and Digna R. López, shown here with a church youth group, serve as important role models and mentors in the Diocese of Stockton, California.
Meet the 2013 Lumen Christi Award finalists, read their inspiring stories, and discover how they are proclaiming the love of Christ with their lives.

Sister Bernadette Barrett, SHSP
DIOCESE OF SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

Sister Bernadette Barrett, or “Sister Bernie” as she is called, has been the light of Christ for the people of Lake Providence, Louisiana, for more than 10 years.

Her mission in this small, isolated town, which is largely Baptist and African-American, is to serve the poor and share the message of the Gospel. In an area where many racial, religious and socioeconomic barriers exist, she is known as a bridge builder and someone who “gets things done.”

Said Reverend Mark Watson, the local parish priest, “While changing entrenched poverty is difficult, Sister Bernie has truly made a difference for the poorest in Lake Providence.”

Sister Mary Dostal, OSU
DIOCESE OF GREAT FALLS-BILLINGS, MONTANA

Native Americans in Billings, Montana, find refuge and the love of Christ in the form of Sister Mary Dostal.

She particularly reaches out to Native American women in need. She co-founded Angela’s Piazza, which provides support for victims of domestic violence and those who have experienced problems related to alcoholism and drug abuse. She also oversees an active ministry at the Montana Women’s Prison.

With little financial support, Sister Mary finds ways to give people a sense of belonging in the Church, and she empowers those on the edges of society to grow in their faith, internalize hope and recognize their own self-worth.

Monsignor J. Terrence Fitzgerald
DIOCESE OF SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Monsignor J. Terrence Fitzgerald, who was born and raised in Salt Lake City, has a native son’s understanding of the challenges facing Catholics in Utah.

For the past five decades, he has worked with vigor and optimism to address these challenges, creating vital Catholic communities and building churches in a state where Catholics are scattered across vast areas.

Monsignor Fitzgerald’s tireless efforts laid the groundwork for growth in the Diocese of Salt Lake City. Although he is now retired, he continues to be a guiding light on how to bring the Church to life for all, no matter where they live.
LUMEN CHRISTI AWARD

LOURDES GARZA  
DIOCESE OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

The Diocese of Knoxville includes the third-fastest growing Hispanic population in the U.S. For this burgeoning group, Lourdes Garza is a mother figure who serves as a builder and defender of faith.

In her role as director of Hispanic ministry, she has been an active, visible embodiment of the Church in eastern Tennessee.

Said Most Reverend Richard F. Stika, Bishop of Knoxville, “Whether helping with catechetical needs, coordinating field Masses for farm workers, or meeting with local officials and law enforcement to erase prejudices and create respect and understanding, Lourdes has been the light of Christ to countless.”

MONSIGNOR ROBERT L. GETZ  
DIOCESE OF LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO

Monsignor Robert L. Getz chose to leave the East Coast and go to where the needs were greatest, overcoming health issues to serve the desert Southwest for more than a half century.

When he marked 50 years as a priest, statistics showed that “Father Bob” had celebrated more than 30,000 Masses, married more than 2,000 couples, baptized 3,000 and given First Communion to 7,000. He also personally sent 10 young men to seminary and five young women to religious life.

This gentle man of God also is an educator (he founded two schools), writer, photographer, athlete and civic leader. Today, at 80, he continues in active ministry in the Diocese of Las Cruces.

REVEREND GALE HAMMERSCHMIDT  
DIOCESE OF SALINA, KANSAS

In 2005, when Father Gale Hammerschmidt was still a seminarian, he founded Prayer and Action, a homegrown ministry that weaves together faith, catechesis, Catholic values and hands-on help.

Through Prayer and Action, groups of high school and college-age students spend their days cleaning, painting, and doing yard work and home repair for people in need. In the evenings, they gather to deepen their faith. While the work transforms communities, the young people find their own hearts transformed, too.

Since its inception, Prayer and Action has involved 4,100 youth and has grown into a powerful movement that other dioceses are replicating.

Over the years, the recipients — and nominees — have served as wonderful examples of Catholic Extension’s mission.

Lourdes Garza is a mother figure to Hispanic families, like the one pictured here, in the Diocese of Knoxville.
With courage, determination and overflowing hope, they are changing the lives and hearts of those they serve.

JOSE AND DIGNA R. LÓPEZ
DIOCESE OF STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

For more than 25 years, José and Digna R. López have been role models and mentors in California’s Central Valley, which is home to migrant workers and a growing, youthful Latino population.

They have a special ability to connect with these groups. Both José and Digna came to the U.S. from Mexico — Digna came to attend college, and José arrived as a child with his migrant parents.

The breadth and depth of this couple’s ministry is impressive. They train and support more than 15,000 people annually, and they serve as advocates for workers and Latino youth. By their work and by example, José and Digna have fostered faith and served as beacons of hope.

SISTER SANDRA ANN SILVA, SHF
DIOCESE OF MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

Sister Sandra Ann Silva ministers to Oaxacan migrant families in California’s Pajaro Valley. Although they are from Mexico, Oaxacans speak only their indigenous language, which is nothing like Spanish.

In addition, they are desperately poor, illiterate and subject to harsh discrimination. Although many are baptized Catholic, they have had little or no faith formation, making them less rooted in the Church.

For the last six years, Sister Sandra has knocked on the doors of these marginalized families, bearing beans and a Bible. Gradually, by building trust and speaking the language of Christ’s love, she is reuniting them with their faith — one family at a time.

SISTER ZITA TELKAMP, CDP
DIOCESE OF BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS

Sister Zita Telkamp is the program director of La Posada Providencia, an emergency shelter in the Rio Grande Valley that focuses on a particular segment of the homeless population: men, women and children who have fled to the United States to escape political oppression, or who are victims of natural disasters and other life-threatening situations in their native countries.

Most arrive destitute and have endured severe hardships, including poverty, unjust imprisonment and even torture.

Under Sister Zita’s leadership, La Posada has dramatically expanded its ability to serve this vulnerable group and offer the loving embrace of the Church at a time when it is needed most.

To watch an inspiring video about this year’s Lumen Christi Award finalists, go to www.catholicextension.org/fall2013
Past Lumen Christi Finalists Describe What It Meant for Their Ministries

Being named as a finalist for Catholic Extension’s Lumen Christi Award is an honor that can make a difference in the ministries of those recognized. In addition to receiving a generous donation in support of their work, some recent finalists spoke of the myriad other ways this award affirmed their ministries. Here’s what they said:

David Balch said the financial award for being a Lumen Christi Award finalist helped him expand evangelization efforts to young people in the Diocese of Monterey.

David Balch
Diocese of Monterey, California

David was a finalist in 2012 for his youth ministry in violence-plagued areas of Salinas, California.

“Being a Lumen Christi finalist helped our ministry in so many ways. The most obvious is financial—we were able to expand our evangelization efforts significantly. But the impact has gone deeper than that. The profile of our ministry was raised significantly. God’s message of love, forgiveness and mission is reaching new ears! At a personal level, it was very humbling to be a Lumen Christi finalist, and I must confess a sense of unworthiness when I saw the wonderful ministries of the other finalists. I was able to reach out and make connections with a few of the finalists, and I am planning to invite them out to California in the fall for a special event.”

God’s message of love, forgiveness and mission is reaching new ears!

— David Balch
Betty Chinn used the grant she received from being a Lumen Christi Award finalist to help her open a day center for the homeless in Eureka, California.

Betty Chinn
Diocese of Santa Rosa, California

Betty was a finalist in 2011 for her ministry to the homeless in Eureka, California.

“So many people need help,” and the money I received has gone toward many things, including helping me open a day center for the homeless in the fall. It will be called the Betty Kwan Chinn Day Center. Along with helping people, the center will acknowledge the importance of faith and what we, as Catholics, do for the poor.”

Father John Hatcher, SJ
Diocese of Rapid City, South Dakota

Father Hatcher was a finalist in 2012 for his ministry on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota.

“My selection as a finalist was an opportunity to highlight the Church’s ministry to Native American people. Often this ministry is overlooked because of the relatively small number of Native Catholics who live in remote parts of the United States or are swallowed up in cities with large populations. The ministry is an example of what Pope Francis calls reaching out to the fringe of the Church — those who are hurting, often abandoned and forgotten.”

Sister Sally Neale, SSND, and Sister Maritia Smith, SSND
Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky

The sisters were finalists in 2010 for founding Sarah’s Place, which addresses the needs of poor families in Elliott County, Kentucky.

“The award gave us good publicity within the diocese and especially in eastern Kentucky where Catholics are few and far between. This resulted in increased awareness of and financial support for our ministry. We were able to encourage our supporters to learn more about the mission in their own backyard, and to help us serve the least, the last and the lost of Appalachian Kentucky.”
Reverend Patrick D. O’Leary, who served in the Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio, for decades, was a colorful Irishman who liked to play golf, fish, water ski and tell jokes. “He was a lot of fun,” said his sister, Teresa Kramer of Springboro, Ohio. “He was very outgoing and had a lot of friends.”

While he may have had a reputation as a “jokester,” Father O’Leary also was a man of deep faith. “Every morning, after he offered Mass, he would spend a half hour or more praying or saying the rosary,” said Mrs. Kramer, who speaks with an Irish lilt like her brother did. “He had a great love for the sacraments, and he had great faith in the Blessed Mother.”

Father O’Leary was born in 1925 in Ballyhogue, County Wexford, Ireland. He came to America as a seminarian and completed his studies for the priesthood at Mount St. Mary’s of the West Seminary in Norwood, Ohio. He was ordained in 1951 and went on to serve parishes in Youngstown, Conneaut, Canton and Ashtabula.

In 1966, he was named pastor of St. Therese Parish in Brewster, Ohio. Father O’Leary also served as a religion instructor at St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Louisville, Ohio. He retired from St. Therese in 1991, but he assisted at St. Mary’s Parish in Massillon, Ohio, and at various parishes in Florida, where he spent the winter months.

Catholic Extension is grateful for Father O’Leary’s gift and the good work it can do. “He leaves a wonderful legacy by naming Catholic Extension in his will,” said Melissa Babcock, director of planned giving at Catholic Extension. “He is ensuring that the faith, which was so important to him, will live on.”

Father O’Leary, who died in December 2010 at the age of 85, also was “quite generous.” According to his lawyer, Richard Chapis, he divided his estate among various Catholic causes. One of these was Catholic Extension, which recently received his gift.

“He believed in institutions that propagated the faith,” he said, “so he left a lot of gifts to Catholic organizations in his will.”

Chapis believes that Catholic Extension was important to Father O’Leary because he was a priest in a small parish for many years. “Maybe he understood the needs of small parishes himself, which is why he gave to Catholic Extension,” he said.

For more information on estate planning and how you can leave a gift in your will, contact Melissa Babcock at 800.842.7804.
FOR IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE.

Please include Catholic Extension in your estate plan today.

Your generosity lives on, building faith, inspiring hope and igniting change in poor Catholic communities across America for years to come.

To learn how you can add Catholic Extension to your estate plan, contact Melissa Babcock at 1.800.842.7804 or plannedgiving@catholicextension.org

I have made Catholic Extension a beneficiary of my estate in the following manner:

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Please cut along dotted line and mail to: Catholic Extension, 150 South Wacker Drive, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606
The Smell of Their Sheep
Seminarians spend their summers working alongside the faithful in Washington state
BISHOP JOSEPH J. TYSON OF YAKIMA

In 2012, Bishop Tyson started an innovative program in his mission diocese in which seminarians spend their summers working alongside their future parishioners — picking apples, harvesting asparagus or working in packinghouses. These seminarians are up at 2:30 in the morning, working nine- to 10-hour days, six days a week, just like their fellow workers. They are spread throughout the 17,000-square-mile diocese.

Bishop Tyson recently talked about this unique formation opportunity with Extension magazine. Following is an edited version of his remarks.

The majority of our people in the diocese are Hispanic. If they’re in the city, many of them work in fruit warehouses, and if they’re in rural areas, they are working in fields and vineyards.

I thought it was really important that our seminarians rub elbows with these people, who maybe don’t make it to Mass on Sunday. Pope Francis, in his first homily to the priests of the world, said that we need to let the oil of our ordination run to the margins, to the edges of life, and that a good shepherd should have the smell of his sheep.

I want our seminarians to really know the lives of our people. They need to get the smell of the sheep and the dirt under their fingernails. They need to understand their heartaches, challenges and joys. It’s really important for the seminarians to know how we’re incarnating the Gospel of Jesus Christ in this little part of the Church.

So this summer placement for seminarians is not about picking and packing fruit; it’s about being side by side with the people we’re trying to reach. Some of the workers are at Mass on Sundays and some aren’t. There are so many folks who are picking on Sunday. So we’re saying, ‘If you can’t always come to Mass, then we’re here to be with you right on the working line.’ For many of them, working with the seminarians is the first time they have talked to anybody from the Church.

Next summer, we’ll be doing more to bring the Church to the people — we’ll be doing Sunday Masses the following Wednesday in the fields. Our priests are very busy on Sundays, often in multiple sites, so realistically to add field Masses requires an additional day with travel and distance. Certainly we want people to come to church, but if you can’t come to church, we’ll bring the Church to you.

Catholicism is the leading incarnational Christian faith because of the Eucharist — Jesus Christ and all of His divinity and His humanity in the elements of bread and wine. These people have very hard lives, and if we’re really going to be Christ to them, we have to know what is on the plate with the bread and the wine. I believe the more we know our people and their lives, then we can celebrate reverently, and with greater integrity, the offering of bread and wine and the sacrifice of the Mass.

I can’t say the offertory prayers — the fruit of the earth, the work of human hands — without thinking about our workers. It’s very graphic out here when we elevate the bread and wine because this truly is the labor of our people.

“A good shepherd should have the smell of his sheep.”
Campus ministries play an important part in keeping young adult Catholics connected to the Church. They also are a source of vocations and a wellspring of future Church leaders. Catholic Extension supports 70 campus ministries across the U.S. in areas of need and in regions where Catholics are in the minority.

According to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University, 92 percent of Catholic college students attend non-Catholic universities, which is why Newman Centers at these universities are so critical.

CAMPUS MINISTRIES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The needs of campus ministries across America continue to increase.

Of the campus ministries supported by Catholic Extension:

- 24% report graduates entering religious life
- 38% report graduates pursuing seminary
- 56% report graduates becoming full-time lay leaders

“DEAR YOUNG PEOPLE, HAVE A GREAT SOUL! DON’T BE AFRAID TO DREAM GREAT THINGS!”

Pope Francis, April 24, 2013
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