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ASSUMPTION SEMINARY

Building Faith. Preparing Leaders.

MAY 2023

Newsletter

VOL.1 ISSUE 1

Did you know?

Bishop Shaw 1912

Most. Rev. John W. Shaw, the fourth Bishop of San Antonio, asked the faithful to provide for establishing a seminary in the diocese to effectively keep up the supply of laborers for the harvest.

Hermanas Josefinas 1915

The Hermanas Josefinas were enlisted by Bishop Shaw, which began the one-hundred-year relationship between the Josefinas and St. John's / Assumption Seminary.

Assumption Seminary 1952

Assumption Seminary was placed under the patronage of Our Blessed Mother.

MACC Established 1972

The Mexican American Cultural Center was established to respond to the religious and social needs of Hispanic communities.

Oblate School of Theology 1975

Seminarians became students at Oblate School of Theology, studying with religious seminarians under the faculty of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

Sulpicians 1996

Assumption Seminary has benefited from the assistance of the U.S. Province of Sulpicians, beginning with Rev. John Kemper, PSS, in 1996.

Welcome

to the inaugural edition of the Assumption Seminary newsletter! And, blessed Easter! The Easter season is a fitting moment for us to begin to make known to you the marvelous work that the Spirit of God is performing within our seminary community.

We begin with very good news: In May 2023, twelve men from Assumption Seminary will be ordained as priests for their dioceses, two for San Antonio, six for San Bernardino, two for Fort Worth, and two for Little Rock. Additional information about the ordinations and the men to be ordained appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

We have good news on the campus as well. In March we opened a new fitness center for our seminarians. Encouraging our men to develop healthy habits of exercise and self-care is a priority in seminary formation.

In the editions of the newsletter to come, we look forward to telling you more about the outstanding men who are preparing for the priesthood at Assumption, as well as our formators and staff, and the important work that we do for the Church. We will also introduce you to benefactors, board members, and partner institutions and organizations. Assumption Seminary has a very important ministry and an uplifting story to tell. We look forward to sharing it with you.

Thank you for your interest in Assumption Seminary, for your prayers for our seminarians and our ministry, and for your generous support of our mission.

Humbly and sincerely yours,

Fr. Jim Myers, P.S.S.

Rector, Assumption Seminary

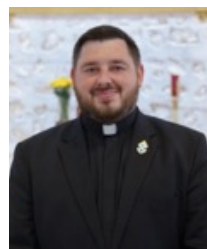


2023 Ordinations

Assumption Seminary is grateful to God for our class of 2023.



Deacon Richard Ahumada
Diocese of San Bernardino, California



Deacon Nathan Ashburn
Diocese of Little Rock, Arkansas



Deacon David Chacko
Archdiocese of San Antonio, Texas



Deacon Carlos Flores Guardado
Diocese of San Bernardino, California



Deacon Rafael Flores
Diocese of San Bernardino, California



Deacon Jonathan Garcia
Diocese of San Bernardino, California



Deacon John Paul Hartnedy
Diocese of Little Rock, Arkansas



Deacon Ed Hopkins Jr.
Diocese of Fort Worth, Texas



Deacon Brandon LeClair
Diocese of Fort Worth, Texas



Deacon Jordan Milligan
Archdiocese of San Antonio, Texas



Deacon Julian Plasencia
Diocese of San Bernardino, California



Deacon Bryant Rivas
Diocese of San Bernardino, California

A story of loving like Jesus.

“The shepherd cannot run at the first sign of danger.”

– Blessed Stanley Rother

Fr. Stanley arrived in Guatemala in 1968 and immediately identified with his parishioners' simple farming lifestyle. He learned their languages, prepared them for the Sacraments, and cared for their needs. Fr. Stanley, or “Padre Francisco” as he was called by his beloved Tz’utujil Indians, had found his heart’s calling.

After nearly a decade, the violence of the Guatemalan civil war found its way into the peaceful village. Disappearances, killings, and danger became daily occurrences, but despite this unrest, Fr. Stanley remained hard at work, building a farmer’s co-op, a school, a hospital, and the first Catholic radio station, used for catechesis.

In early 1981, his name was on a death list, so he returned to Oklahoma and was warned not to return. But he could not abandon his people, so he returned and made the ultimate sacrifice for his faith.

“Pray for us that we may be a sign of the love of Christ for our people,” said Fr. Stanley, *“that our presence among them will fortify them to endure these sufferings in preparation for the coming of the Kingdom.”* Excerpt from <http://stanleyrother.org/product/official-biography/>

On Friday, Feb. 17, 2023, the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine was dedicated in his honor. Fr. Jim Myers, PSS, Assumption Seminary's rector, was blessed to attend the dedication.



Ways to Give

Reoccurring Monthly Donations

A monthly recurring donation allows supporters to spread their financial commitment throughout the year, lessening the impact on their finances. It also allows the Seminary to budget for a steady stream of donations.

Annual Appeal

The Annual Fund is a key component of the overall development program at Assumption Seminary and is a vital source of unrestricted operating funds. The Annual Fund allows the Seminary the flexibility of directing funds where its needs and opportunities are the greatest.

Planned Giving

Planned giving provides donors with creative ways of giving that may also help them meet their other financial objectives. Planned gifts can reduce current income taxes through a charitable deduction, increase retirement income through a retained income stream, and address your financial obligations while assisting the Seminary. Planned gifts include bequests, charitable gift annuities, gifts of stock or real estate, and more.

Tribute Gifts

Tribute or memorial gifts are a special way to support Assumption Seminary while paying tribute to a special person in your life. This giving is an especially thoughtful way to honor or remember loved ones or the fine priests serving your family or parish.

Matching Gifts

Pursuing a matching gift is an easy way to maximize your donation to the Seminary, sometimes doubling or tripling the amount of your gift. Simply submit a matching gift form from your employer and send it to Assumption Seminary with your contribution.

Endowments

An endowment is a fund maintained in perpetuity, and a portion of the annual return on investment is used for the purposes specified by the donor. Such endowments, which typically bear the name of the donor or donors, reflect their interest and serve as an enduring testament to their generosity. There are several types of endowment funds: Undesignated, Designated, and Scholarship.



Donate Here

To discuss possible options for giving to Assumption Seminary, please get in touch with Jennifer Rodriguez, Director of Stewardship and Development, at **210.734.1644** or email her at Jennifer.Rodriguez@archsa.org.

Prayers for Vocations

PLEASE PRAY WITH US

Gracious and loving God, help the men and women of our country to hear the call to serve. Our needs are great, and our people thirst for your presence.

Open the hearts of many, raise up faithful servants of the Gospel, dedicated, holy priests, sisters, brothers, and deacons, who will spend themselves for your people and their needs.

Bless those who are serving now with courage and perseverance. Grant that many will be inspired by their example and faith.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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\$25,000 +

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**This list includes all donors from 1/1/2022 through 12/31/2022. Care has been taken to ensure that it is complete and accurate. We regret any omissions. Please report any errors to Oralia.lichtenberger@archsa.org.*

