

JOYFUL LIGHT

*Joyful Light is a semi-annual publication of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius,
3605 Perrysville Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15214. (412) 321-8383*

Introducing Professor J. Michael Thompson

*Singing, as we are told in the Scriptures and in the
Fathers of the Church, glorifies God and lifts the human heart.*

The liturgical services of the Byzantine Catholic Church are sung services, and the beloved plainchant of the Carpathian Mountains is a distinguishing characteristic of our church and people. Even the public reading of the Scriptures is chanted in the Byzantine tradition.

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary recognizes the necessity of solid formation in the principles and the practicalities of liturgical chant. This involves professional example and modeling in chapel, academic classes, group rehearsals, and one-on-one instruction. In this regard, the Byzantine Catholic Seminary engaged renowned musicologist, J. Michael Thompson, to teach music and direct the liturgical singing in the seminary.

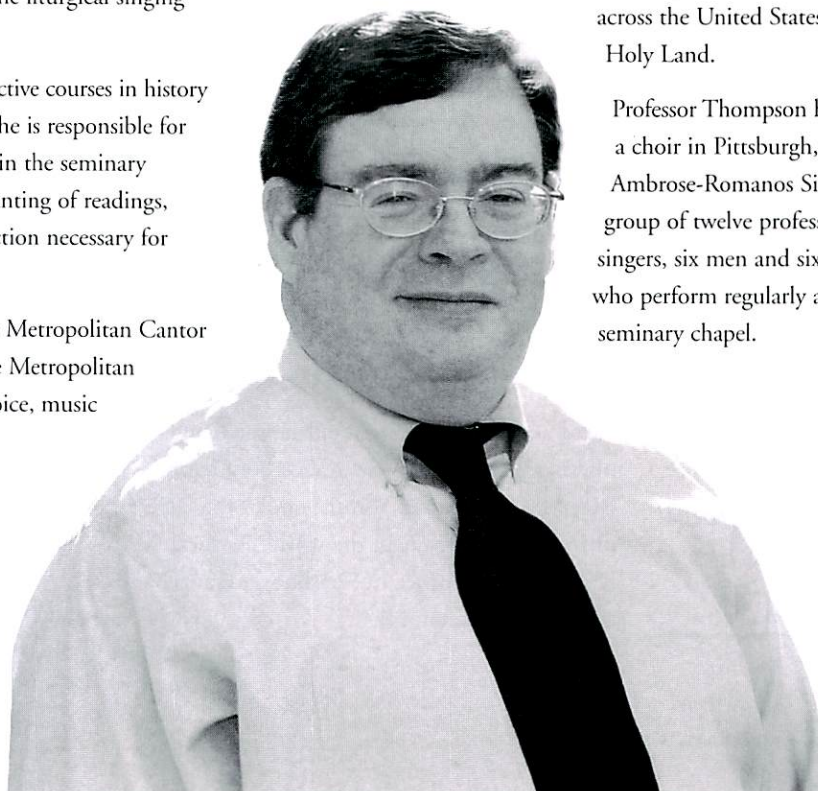
Thompson teaches the Chant courses, as well as elective courses in history and performance of Eastern Christian music, and he is responsible for providing musical leadership for the daily services in the seminary chapel. He works with each seminarian on the chanting of readings, on vocal production, and on the elocution and diction necessary for the correct proclamation of the Word of God.

In addition, Thompson is the administrator of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute, founded in 2000, to train cantors for the Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. 60-70 people study voice, music theory, liturgy, and chant in this program.

According to seminary Rector, Very Reverend Archpriest John G. Petro, "Professor Thompson's presence will upgrade the standards of our liturgical music program and will give a new depth to the celebration of our liturgical services. We are very pleased that he agreed to join our faculty."

Professor Thompson comes to the seminary from Chicago where he was Director of Music Ministry at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in St. John, IN. He has also served as director of music ministry at St. Peter's in the Loop, Chicago and taught at Christ the Saviour Seminary in Johnstown, PA, and Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA. An author and a composer of liturgical music, he is perhaps best known as the founder and director of the Schola Cantorum of Saint Peter the Apostle, a professional liturgical ensemble, dedicated to singing the chant and polyphony of the Church, both east and west. With this ensemble, he has completed forty recordings and done extensive touring across the United States and in the Holy Land.

Professor Thompson has assembled a choir in Pittsburgh, the Ambrose-Romanos Singers, a group of twelve professional singers, six men and six women, who perform regularly at the seminary chapel.



Rector's Message



We have been very busy since the end of our *"Campaign of Planting and Harvesting."* Foremost has been our continued activity toward authorization to become a degree-granting institution. We have prepared and submitted the necessary materials to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, a lengthy and intensive process. Also, as you will see in this report, we hosted Bishop Kallistos of Diokleia as the featured speaker at the 2nd Annual SS. Cyril and Methodius Lecture. Our development efforts continue and we have been fortunate to attract the generosity of both individuals and foundations to support our many operational and program needs. We ask God to bless us in this endeavor as He blessed us in our recent campaign. We continue to benefit from the wisdom and talents of our **Advisory Board** members, men like Ken Krenicky. And, most importantly, we continue to prepare the men who will become spiritual leaders of our Church, men such as Terry Farmer whom you will find profiled in this publication. Preparing men for the priesthood, this is our vital calling.

Father John G. Petro, Rector



Ken Krenicky

Ken Krenicky

Advisory Board Member and Man of Accomplishment

Ken Krenicky, Vice-Chair of the Seminary Advisory Board, is not shy about his expectations for the seminary.

"My hope is that our seminary can be a truly enlightening and inspirational national bastion of Byzantine Catholic life to not only men who are called to the priesthood, but also to the Catholic community at large, of all ritual traditions."

Ken knows some things about national and international matters. He is Vice President of Risk Management at Aventis, one of the largest pharmaceutical firms in the world. As such, he has his primary office in Strasbourg, France, and one in Bridgewater, NJ.

His favorite location, however, is the Philadelphia, PA area, where he and his wife, Susan, and children, Karleen (18), Michael (16), and Patrick (16) reside. A Pittsburgh native (he and his wife were married by then-Monsignor Judson Procyk), and University of Pittsburgh graduate, Ken received his law degree at Temple University. He and his family are members of Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church in Philadelphia.

As Chair of the seminary finance and development committee, Ken took an active part in the successful 50th anniversary fundraising campaign. He said, "The seminary is now well on its way to its goal of financial self-sufficiency, but it needs the continuing help and support of the entire Byzantine community. There is no place more important to the future growth of Byzantine Catholic life in the U.S. than our seminary."

"My hope is that our seminary can be a truly enlightening and inspirational national bastion of Byzantine Catholic life..."

Terry Farmer

Future Priest

A native of Crown Point, IN, fourth-year seminarian

Terry Farmer says about his life as a seminarian, "I guess I always thought I had a calling. Some times it was stronger than others, but it was always there."

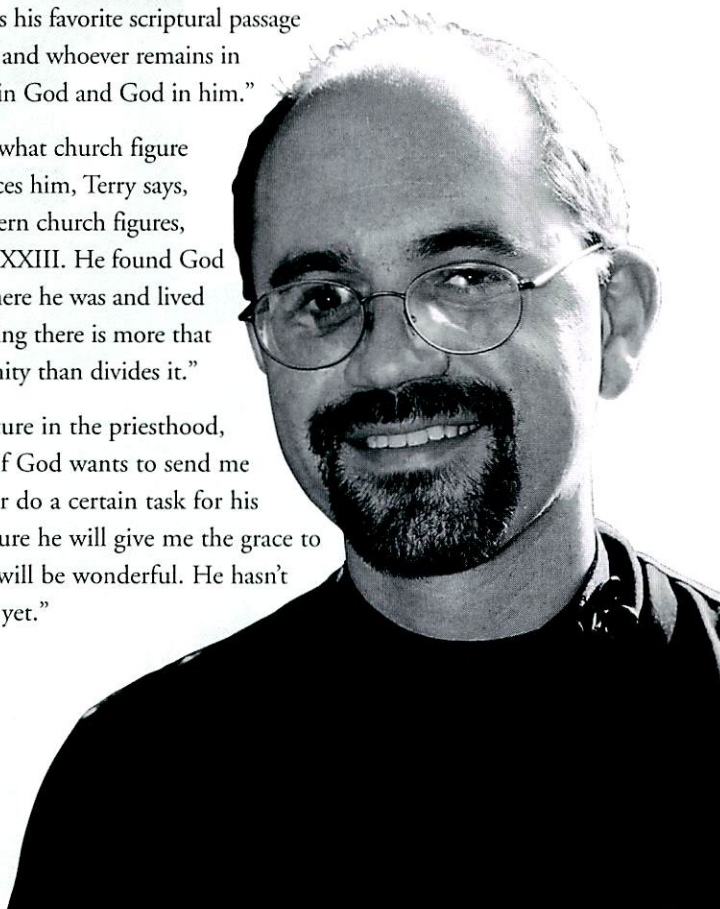
A member of St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church in Merrillville, IN, and a graduate of Merrillville High (1988), Terry finds seminary life rewarding and says, "An unbelievable amount of talents exists in one building. This includes scholars, artists, singers, and dancers! Everyone has extraordinary gifts, and the conversations are never dull. If you have a question on anything in the world, from theology, politics or astronomy to dance, there is an expert here to answer the questions."

Terry has been a model seminarian, according to Fr. John Petro, Rector. "Terry is very much a community person. He has the ability to bring people together and draw the best from them. As a priest, he will be a wonderful asset to our Church."

Terry spends a lot of time in the classroom but can also be found volunteering at a local nursing home and teaching catechetics at a local parish. An iconographer and yoga practitioner, he cites 1 John 4:16 as his favorite scriptural passage "God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him."

When asked what church figure most influences him, Terry says, "Of the modern church figures, Blessed John XXIII. He found God no matter where he was and lived his life knowing there is more that unites humanity than divides it."

As for his future in the priesthood, Terry says, "If God wants to send me somewhere or do a certain task for his people, I'm sure he will give me the grace to do it, and it will be wonderful. He hasn't let me down yet."



Terry Farmer

Foundations Award Grants to the Seminary

Father John Petro, Rector of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary, was notified in this year of the receipt of two grants, one from the Koch Foundation of Florida in the amount of \$15,000 and the other from the Keaney Foundation of Pittsburgh in the amount of \$3,000. The grants will be used for the continuing development of the liturgical music program and for the purchase of a computer and projector for classroom instruction at the seminary. The seminary is grateful to the foundations for their trust and support, as well as to the many donors and entire philanthropic community who help us.

Anonymous Donor Gives Seminary \$100,000

In November 2001 an anonymous donor gave the Byzantine Catholic Seminary a gift of securities worth \$100,000. Father John G. Petro, Rector of the seminary, said, "We are, again, humbled by the generosity of a donor who wishes to have this gift remain anonymous. We have been blessed and humbled by the gifts of all people who have contributed to our 'Campaign of Planting and Harvesting.' All donors can be certain that contributions of any size from the campaign will be made part of the seminary endowment and will help provide for spiritual formation of priests well into the future."

With Deepest Apologies

In publishing our "Donor Report" we neglected to list some donors (or listed them in the wrong category). We apologize and hereby make amends. We thank the following for their generous contributions and patience.

Omitted:

GCU Lodge #151
Seminarians' Circle (0 to \$999)

Mr. and Mrs. John Banyas
Family Circle (\$1000-\$2499)

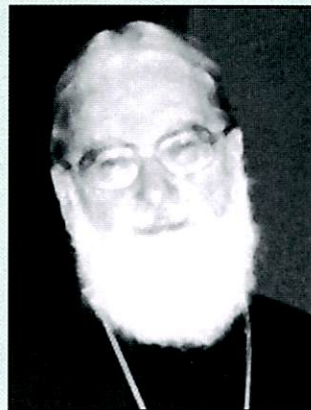
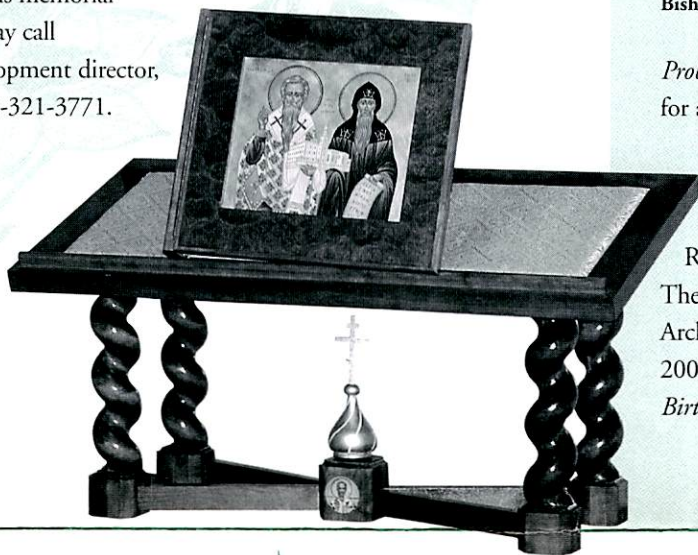
Listed incorrectly:

Frank J and Anne Elsner and Mr. Peter P Bulinsky
Family Circle: \$1000-\$2499

Thank you for your understanding.

Book of Remembrance Has 76 Names

During the "Campaign of Planting and Harvesting," in 2000, the seminary's 50th anniversary, the Byzantine Catholic Seminary inaugurated the "Book of Remembrance" to provide the faithful a way to remember their loved ones who have fallen asleep in the Lord. The handsome "Book of Remembrance," enshrined in the seminary lobby and inscribed in beautiful calligraphy, now contains the names of 76 loved ones from around the country. Anyone interested in this memorial opportunity may call seminary development director, Ed Barr, at 412-321-3771.



Bishop Kallistos

Bishop Kallistos of Diokleia Addresses 300 at Annual Lecture

On the evening of Thursday, April 11, 2002 at St. Paul's Seminary in Pittsburgh, PA, Bishop Kallistos (Ware), Bishop of Diokleia, addressed 300 members of the clerical and academic communities of western Pennsylvania on the topic, "Orthodoxy and the Eastern Catholics:

Problem or Opportunity?" Following the lecture there was a reception for all the participants who came representing nineteen different eparchies, dioceses and jurisdictions. The presentation was the 2nd SS. Cyril and Methodius Lecture, sponsored by the Byzantine Catholic Seminary and underwritten by Father Robert Oravetz, pastor of SS. Peter and Paul Church, Tarentum, PA. The SS. Cyril and Methodius Lecture presented Right Reverend Archimandrite Robert Taft, SJ, who inaugurated the lecture series in 2001 with a presentation entitled, "Eastern Catholic Theology: Slow Birth after a Long and Difficult Gestation."

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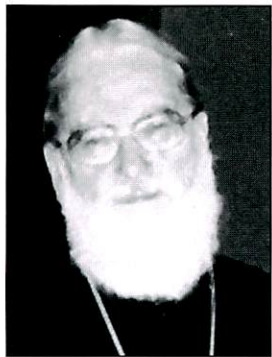
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Address by Bishop Kallistos of Diokleia – April 11, 2002

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