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Birthday Corner:

MARCH

20	Larry Udry
20	Fr. Kien Nguyen
21	Andrew Nguyen
21	Sr. Nhung Hong Tran, LHC
24	Sr. Lien Hong Dang, FMM



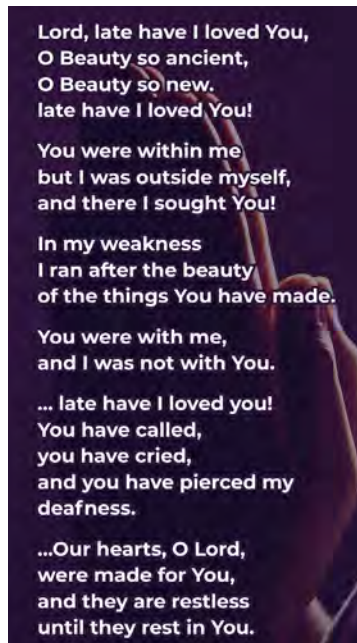
THE PRESIDENT

Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD

Lent — A Season for Faith-Seekers

During Lent, adult candidates for baptism are called forward for special blessings and encouragement. In recent years, many dioceses in the USA and around the world have reported a significant increase in the number of adult baptisms. This year it is estimated that 50,000 adults will be baptized into the Catholic Church in the United States. The Easter Vigil will be a busy and joyful time for many pastors and parishioners as they welcome the newly found faith of so many seekers. This is also a great time for missionaries like us who delight in our ongoing dialogue with faith-seekers.

How do so many find their way to the baptismal font? Most come through a process of Christian Initiation extending over many months, and even years. Someone reaches out to them with an invitation, a sign of friendship or a message of hope. The Spirit moves within them and they find themselves seeking a larger life.



That is what happened for St. Augustine, one of the most famous faith-seekers in the history of Christianity. He was taken aback by the kindness of St. Ambrose, even though he did not yet understand the substance of Ambrose's teachings.

Of course, we know that the love and prayers of St. Monica, the mother of Augustine, also influenced him to come to faith. And the Spirit moved profoundly in Augustine when he heard the famous words, "tolle, lege – take and read." He took up the Scriptures and his life changed. Later, Augustine wrote some extraordinary lines regarding his conversion.



Divine Word Missionaries emphasize reaching out in prophetic dialogue to faith-seekers. We recall the wisdom of St. Arnold when he insisted that *“to proclaim the Good News is the greatest act of love for our neighbors.”* So, what can we do today to help seekers open themselves to the gift of faith?

Prayer and Fasting. Our ministry with seekers can certainly be inspired by St. Monica as we take the opportunity to pray for faith-seekers. Perhaps St. Augustine’s words can serve as inspiration for our own prayers for the catechumens to be baptized this Easter and for the many others who are being called to faith. This is the best time of year to pray for faith-seekers, and not only on Sundays! We also can put some extra “flesh” in our prayers by accompanying them with fasting.

Goodness and Kindness. St. Ambrose’s kindness toward Augustine reminds us to live the words of the prologue to our constitution: *“We propose to make the goodness and kindness of God visible in our life and service.”* Let our invitations, our words of hope, be wrapped in goodness and kindness.

Bible. Let us be diligent in offering faith seekers opportunities to hear the scriptural message of the resurrection of Jesus and the coming transformation of all things.



150 Years....

Last Sunday, the Second Sunday of Lent, we recalled the story of Jesus’ transfiguration. There are moments in life when we may experience holiness shining through our friends and companions. Sr. Eucharria and Br. Ludgerus remembered such experiences with Fr. Arnold. **Br. Ludgerus (Henry Mollemeier) SVD** worked for many years in the kitchens at Steyl, Rome, St. Augustine’s and many other SVD houses in Europe. He was much impressed by some of the conferences that St. Arnold had given to the Brothers. Br. Ludgerus would have known St. Arnold in the last 20 years of the founder’s life. In 1935, sixteen years after the Founder’s death, Ludgerus gave testimony about Janssen’s life and virtues during the diocesan process at Steyl:



“Of supreme importance to him was the veneration of the Most Blessed Trinity. He often repeated the words of St. Francis Xavier: “O Most Blessed Trinity!” He recommended that when we arose in the morning we should make at least one genuflection and adore the Most Blessed Trinity on its throne of glory. He frequently quoted these words of Sacred Scripture: “O the depths of the wisdom and the knowledge of God!” When he began to speak about the Most Blessed Trinity he was so transfigured as to be almost unrecognizable.”

Sr. Eucharria (Klara Kaudewitz), SSpSAP, entered the Holy Spirit Sisters of Perpetual Adoration at Steyl in 1901 at 45 years of age. She remained there until her death in 1936. She wrote about her experience of Fr. Arnold’s last visit to the Pink Sisters in 1908, just three months before the Founder’s death.

“During the Founder’s farewell visit in October 1908 we all knelt in a circle in front of the chapel. He spoke to us in a kindly, fatherly and lovable manner, and even gave a formal farewell speech. He was, as it were, transfigured. He went from Sister to Sister and gave each a small picture with his autograph. After he had blessed us, he exhorted us to remain firm in our vocation and not leave the convent.”



VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Joshua Young

Scripture to Sustain Teachers

One of my Lenten practices for myself is a return to Scripture. Catholics are often criticized for not knowing Scripture, and those that don't know Scripture are unable to fully engage in interreligious dialogue with those that do. This Lent, I'm focusing on Deuteronomy 32:1-3. The passage is one of the last admonitions Moses delivers to the Hebrews before his death, but the opening is a prayer of hope that can inspire our teaching.



Deuteronomy 32:1-3 (NASB)

“Listen, you heavens, and I will speak;
And let the earth hear the words of my mouth!
May my teaching drip as the rain,
My speech trickle as the dew,
As droplets on the fresh grass,
And as the showers on the vegetation.
For I proclaim the name of the LORD;
Ascribe greatness to our God!”

Lent is a time of learning what keeps us from God, learning to overcome those obstacles, and learning to do better. Our institutional learning outcomes articulate skills to learn how to do better; think critically, communicate effectively, be intercultural, social justice driven, and mission focused. I offer this Scripture as a prayer for all teachers; may our words contribute to an eternal spring of hope in the Gospel.

Higher Learning Commission

Appointment to HLC Council

Dr. Mathew Kanjirathinkal, Professor of Sociology, has been appointed for an additional four-year term to the Higher Learning Commission's Institutional Actions Council (IAC). The IAC is responsible for reaffirmation of institutional accreditation and for making recommendations for those requiring monitoring reports. Dr. Kanjirathinkal has played a key role in promoting educational quality and accessibility across the United States as a member of the IAC. Congratulations, Dr. Kanjirathinkal, and thank you for your service to DWC and HLC.



*Dr. Mathew
Kanjirathinkal*

HLC Assurance Argument Progressing

The DWC Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Assurance Argument is undergoing the next steps in the review process. Faculty completed the latest draft in early March. The draft will now be reviewed by the Steering

Committee and the Board of Administration before being presented to the Faculty Senate. After a final review by the Senate, the Assurance Argument will be presented to the Board of Trustees in May. Thank you to Dr. Mathew Kanjirathinkal, DWC Accreditation Liaison Officer, for his leadership as Steering Committee Chair and for his work moving the report and supporting evidence into the HLC system.

 Dr. Yasmin Rioux

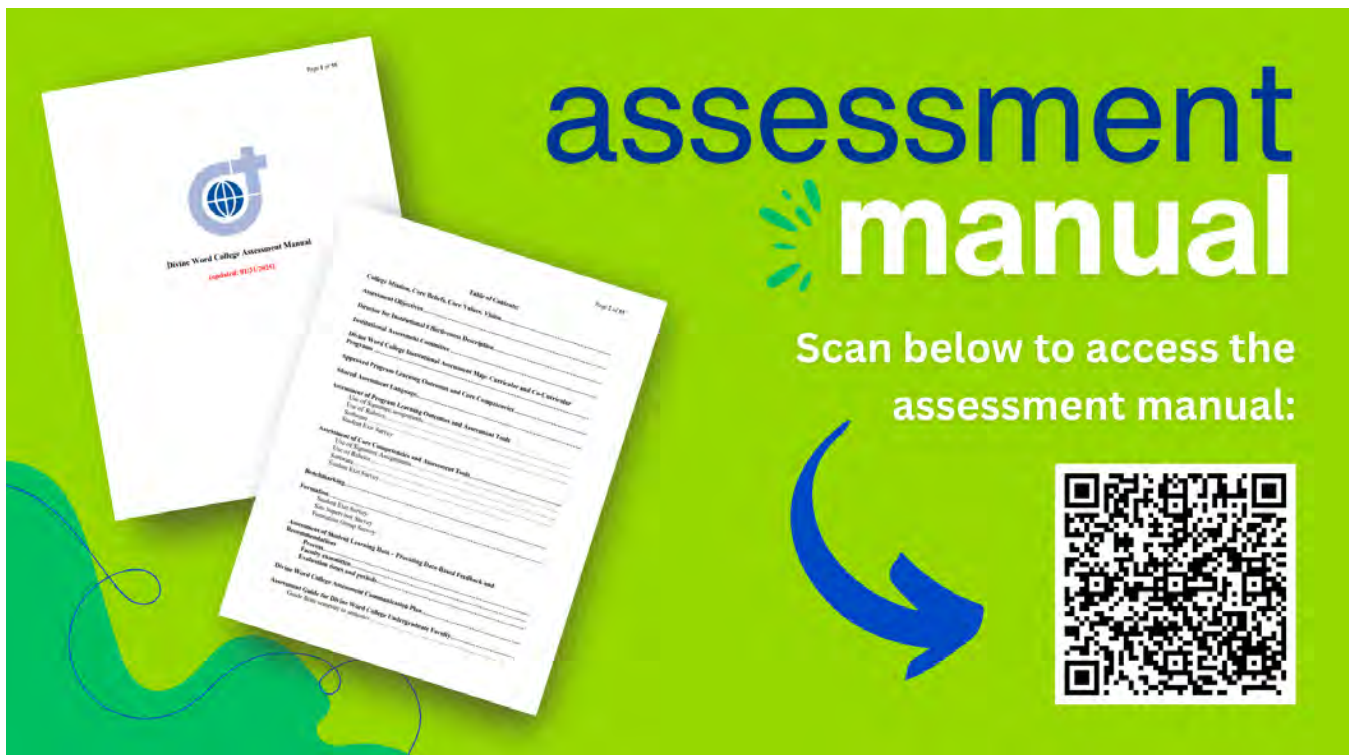
Assessment Bites

Accessing the Assessment Manual

Our HLC Campus visit will take place in September 2025. As institutional assessment is an important component of this visit, I wanted to share the location of our DWC Assessment Manual again. It can be found on our Assessment webpage, under “Assessment Documents”, and is titled “Assessment Manual”. You can also use the following link:


https://www.dwci.edu/application/files/7117/4017/2994/Divine_Word_College_Assessment_Manual_revised_01.31.2025.pdf

The Manual offers many important and interesting aspects of our institution’s assessment processes, procedures, and activities. Some of these include a section on Assessment Objectives, the role and responsibilities of the IAC, our academic PLOs and Core Competencies, Formation Assessment, our DWC Assessment Communication Plan, etc. The Appendices also include various important standardized templates that have been approved over the past years.



assessment manual

Scan below to access the assessment manual:





VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION/DEAN OF STUDENTS
Fr. Tuan Hoang, SVD

Welcome to Our New Students

Divine Word College welcomes five new students who recently arrived to the college for their English studies. We welcome Geunhyeong Park, Fr. Geova Mendes Da Costa, Sr. Francine Indekanza Mave, OLVSM, Sr. Ewa Rudzka, SSpS, and Woochan Jin to the Divine Word College community. Our new students come from different parts of the world – Brazil, Poland, D.R. Congo, and Korea. All of them arrived safely last week, and are adjusting themselves to the community. If you see them around, please welcome them.



Lenten Recollection

This Saturday, March 22, 2025, there will be a Lenten Recollection guided by Fr. Thomas Hennen, pastor of the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Davenport, IA. The theme for the Lenten Recollection is *Living in Truth in Love: A Reflection on the Woman at the Well*. The SVD community will join us for this recollection. All students are required to attend the recollection, so please not make any plans. The schedule is posted on the student bulletin board.




Summer Placement Program

Last week, I have emailed about the Summer Placement Program. This program is to give students an opportunity to work at Divine Word College, or other ministry sites and parishes to learn about the mission and ministry of the Arnoldus Family in the United States.

If you are interested, please turn in the application to my mailbox (#208) by Friday, March 21, 2025. Each applicant is required to select two sites/services in the application. Please take note that not all who apply for the Summer Placement Program will be accepted.






 Matthew Jacoby Library


opac.dwci.edu

MENTAL HEALTH & TRAUMA


FREE PANEL WITH LOCAL EXPERTS

 THURSDAY, MARCH 27

 6:30 P.M.

 UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE

To learn more visit: bit.ly/DubCoReads25



MODERATOR
Elyse Acompanado

PANELIST
Katie Kopp

PANELIST
Mae Hingtgen

PANELIST
Brian McLauchlin

PANELIST
Tricia Borelli

PANELIST
Nathan Hough

Upcoming Event: Free Mental Health Panel

Dubuque County Reads is hosting a Mental Health and Trauma Panel on Thursday, March 27 at 6:30 PM at the University of Dubuque Heritage Center Babka Theatre. This dynamic event features local experts--including DWC's Br. Brian McLauchlin--who will discuss mental health and trauma related questions from a variety of perspectives, including lived experiences, theoretical insights, and pathways to healing. If you would like to attend, but do not have a ride, there is a sign-up sheet on the student board.

Dubuque County Reads

There is still time to read the book before the on-campus discussion on April 1st. Stop by the library to request a print, ebook, or audiobook copy of *What My Bones Know: A Memoir of Healing From Complex Trauma*.

Cite your Sources Workshop This Friday

Save, organize, and cite your sources with the tool [Zotero](https://www.zotero.org/). Attend this hands-on workshop on Friday, March 21st from 12:30-12:55 PM in Room 006. Attendees should bring their personal computers. Register today: <https://forms.office.com/r/W1uL6L53ns> (Max 10 Attendees, advance registration preferred).



What does Zotero do?

- Saves articles, webpages, books etc with 1-click
- Instantly creates references and bibliographies
- Allows you to sort items into collections and tag them with keywords

external affairs



Instructor
Laci Hoffmann



YOGA
for beginners

FREE CLASS OPEN TO EVERYONE!

on
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19
11:45 AM TO 12:30 PM
In the Gym

Signup on the Student Board!

Free Yoga Class

Looking for some relaxation? Sign-up for a free yoga session with Laci Hoffmann on Wednesday, March 19, from 11:45 AM to 12:30 PM in the gym. No experience needed! Feel free to quietly exit early if you have other commitments afterward. Please bring any yoga mats you have so that everyone can participate.

LENTEN RECOLLECTION

Saturday, March 22, 2025

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

"Living the Truth in Love:

A Reflection on the Woman at the Well"

With Fr. Thomas Hennen

pastor of Sacred Heart Cathedral, Davenport, Iowa

- 9:00 AM Morning Prayer (Main Chapel) – **Sr. Maurine Ozioma Okpara**
- 9:15 AM **Session I – Fr. Thomas Hennen**
- 10:15 AM Personal Prayer and Reflection
(Please keep silent throughout the day until after Mass)
- Noon** **Lunch** with meditative music [**SILENCE**]
- 2:00 PM **Session II – Fr. Thomas Hennen**
- 2:50 PM Group Sharing (designated locations) – **Fr. Simon Hoang**
- 3:30 PM Eucharistic Adoration with Sacrament of Reconciliation – **Fr. Sonny DeClass**
- 4:30 PM Eucharist (Main Chapel) – **Fr. Thomas Hennen**
- 5:30 PM Supper

SMALL SHARING GROUPS

(See a separate sheet for your sharing group)

SMALL SHARING GROUPS

Groups	Meeting Rooms	Facilitators
Pre-Novitiate (5 +5) *	Room 101	Fr. Sonny De Class, SVD
St. Joseph Freinademetz (16-5)	Room 102	Fr. Tuan Hoang, SVD
St. Teresa of the Child Jesus (14)	Room 103	Sr. Anna Trang Mai, IHM
St. Teresa of Calcutta (10)	Room 104	Sr. Aprilia Untarto, SSpS
St. Teresa of Avila (17)	Room 207	Fr. Simon Hoang, SVD
St. Teresa Margaret of SH 1 (20:2=10) *	Room 208	Fr. Stephen Kha Nguyen, SVD
St. Teresa Margaret of SH 2 (10) *	Art Gallery	Sr. Agathe Bramkamp, SSpS
St. John Vianney (11)	Queen of the Americas Chapel	Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD
St. Arnold Janssen (7)	Mother of the Word Chapel	Fr. Akizou Kamina, SVD
St. Francis of Assisi (11)	Mother of Asia Chapel	Fr. Benyamin Boro Nama, SVD
SVD community (20-7= 13)	SVD Second Floor Lounge	Br. Brian McLauchlin, SVD

*DIVIDED GROUPS

Pre-Novitiate + Joseph Freinademetz

1. Peter Brungardt [US]
2. Do Tuang [MM]
3. Ladouceur Flarissaint [HT]
4. Andrew Quang Nguyen [VN/US]
5. Kim Hoa Pham [VN]
6. Tan Duy Nguyen [VN]
7. Tai Van Truong [VN]
8. Bao Louis Nguyen [VN/US]
9. Angel Rodriguez [MX/US]
10. Joseph Quang Trung Vu [VN/US]

St. Joseph Freinademetz

1. Benedict Pau Mun Khual [MM/US]
2. Thi Van Nguyen [VN]
3. Chinh Cong Pham [VN]
4. Truong Van Nguyen [VN]
5. Nguyen Vo [VN]
6. Alejandro Gonzalez Cruz (MX)
7. Khoa Dang Pham (VN)
8. An Truong [VN]
9. Anh Truong [VN]
10. Thien Bao Nguyen [VN/US]
11. Ricardo Jose Rojas Chavez [VZ]

St. Teresa Margaret Group 1

1. Sr. Nhan Thi Dao, LHC-KT [VN]
2. Sr. Tham Thi Dinh, IHM [VN]
3. Sr. Duyen Thi Duong, LHC-V [VN]
4. Sr. Theresia Jadul, SSpS [ID]
5. Sr. Phuong X. T. Ngo LHC-PT [VN]
6. Sr. Diem Kieu T. Nguyen, LHC-GV [VN]
7. Sr. Nhi Thao Nguyen, LHC-GV [VN]
8. Sr. Trinh Tuyet Thi Nguyen, LHC-GV [VN]
9. Sr. Tuyen Thanh Nguyen, LHC-PT [VN]
10. Sr. Dung Kim Thi Pham, LHC-V [VN]

St. Teresa Margaret Group 2

11. Sr. Anh N. Thi Pham, LHC-GV [VN]
12. Sr. Thuong Thi Pham, LHC-V [VN]
13. Sr. Natalie Soka, SSpS [ID]
14. Sr. Yohana Nining Susilowati, SSpS [ID]
15. Sr. Nhung Hong Tran, LHC-TD [VN]
16. Sr. Luu Thi Nguyen, LHC-TD [VN]
17. Sr. Phuong Thi Vo, LHC-TD [VN]
18. Sr. Thuy Thi Pham, LHC-TD [VN]
19. Sr. Trang Huyen Nguyen Le, IHM [VN]
20. Sr. Khuyen Bao Minh Vo, IHM [VN]



Dubuque Colleges Sustainability Coalition Presents

CLIMATE ACTION FESTIVAL

Thursday, April 3

4-6 p.m.

**Loras College Alumni
Campus Center**

Enjoy crafts, food, dancing and information sessions from area experts on how **you** can make an impact on climate change.

Thank you to our sponsors:

Clarke University

Divine Word College

Loras College

University of Dubuque

Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid

Waste Agency



ATTENDANCE IS FREE AND OPEN TO ALL!