

SCJ NEWS

a newsletter of the U.S. Province of the Priests of the Sacred Heart

December 2010

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Classmates ordained for the diaconate



SCJ Deacons Duy Nguyen and Greg Schill after Dn. Greg's ordination at Sacred Heart School of Theology in October.

Dn. Duy Nguyen ordained in Mississippi and Dn. Greg Schill at Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hales Corners, Wis.

This fall the province celebrated the ordination of two SCJs to the diaconate. As noted briefly in the last *SCJ News*, Dn. Duy Nguyen, SCJ, was ordained October 10 at Christ the King parish in Southaven, Miss.

Six weeks later, Dn. Greg Schill, SCJ, was ordained in a ceremony at Sacred Heart School of Theology, along with SHST seminarian Clint Landry, who is preparing for diocesan priesthood in Fairbanks.

Dn. Greg, 34, is originally from San Antonio, Texas.

Before entering candidacy with the Priests of the Sacred Heart in 2003, he served in the U.S Marine Corps for four years. Following an honorable discharge, he earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville. In May, Dn. Greg received his Master's of Divinity from Catholic Theological Union, Chicago.

"The welcoming spirit and presence of the SCJs attracted me to the Priests of the Sacred Heart," said Dn. Greg. "I cannot tell you how many times I have brought guests to Dehon House and heard them comment on how much they appreciated the community and energy of the place.

"The SCJs' emphasis on reaching out to the poor and marginalized has also given me the spirit and inspiration to become an SCJ."

Dn. Greg professed his first vows in 2006. In 2008, he completed a CPE program (Clinical Pastoral Education) and did his pastoral year in northern Mississippi. During the past summer he, and Dn. Duy, spent two months in Argentina doing an intensive Spanish language course.

As a student in Chicago Dn. Greg was active with Chicago Lighthouse, an organization that assists people who are visually impaired. In 2009 he was named "Volunteer of the Year." To give a sense of the significance of the award, Dn. Greg was one of 300-plus volunteers at the center. These volunteers are in addition to the 200 paid staff members.

On October 2, Dn. Greg made his final profession of vows, also at Sacred Heart. He now joins the pastoral team at St. Martin of Tours Parish in Franklin, Wis., that includes Fr. Yvon Sheehy, SCJ (pastor), Fr. Thi Pham, SCJ and Fr. Bob Naglich, SCJ.

Among those in attendance at Dn. Greg's ordination was novitiate classmate Dn. Duy. During his visit to



"The SCJs' emphasis on reaching out to the poor and marginalized has also given me the spirit and inspiration to become an SCJ."

-Dn. Greg Schill, SCJ



ABOVE: Bishop Joseph Latino of Jackson ordained Dn. Duy Nguyen. BELOW: Dn. Duy with nieces and nephews after his ordination ceremony.

Hales Corners he talked briefly about his first weeks of full-time ministry as a member of the Mississippi pastoral team that ministers to Christ the King Parish (where he was ordained), St. Gregory Parish in Senatobia, Holy Spirit Parish in Hernando and Good Shepherd Parish in Robinsonville.

His ministry is varied so that he gets a good sampling of parish life. "I preach once a week on the weekdays, and once a month at the Sunday Masses," he said. "I did two baptisms, one house blessing, and I subbed once for a CCD class for 2nd graders.

Dn. Duy, who still refers to himself as the "newly minted deacon," is also a part of a team that is trying to develop a young adult ministry program.

"Of course, I also attend various meetings, such as pastoral council meetings and so forth. I'm getting a broad sense of our different parishes and their needs and ministries."

So far, he said that what he enjoys the most is meeting with and talking to the many people who are a part of the parishes. "But with four, it's hard to remember people's names," he said.

Northern Mississippi has a quickly growing Hispanic population, which has allowed Dn. Duy to put his

Go to the province photo site to see more pictures from the ordinations:

www.scjusa.smugmug.com



newly-learned Spanish skills to good use.

"I've taught two baptism classes in Spanish," he said, adding that he has also done bilingual homilies.

It takes many years of preparation to become a full-time minister, either as an ordained member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart or as a brother. For Dn. Duy, there were undergraduate studies at the University of Illinois - Champagne and the University of Illinois - Chicago, as well as several years at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago where he earned his Master of Divinity last spring.

What does it feel like to be out of school?

"I feel like I am putting into practice what I learned at CTU," he said. "It is good to finally be out of school and engaged in full-time ministry."



ABOVE: After his ordination, Dn. Greg Schill signs the Sacred Heart Monastery house journal. Jo Calcagnino, assistant to the SHST president-rector, is on the right.

Reflecting on the founder's words

Prior to their first profession of vows in 2006, SCJ Deacons Duy Nguyen and Greg Schill were asked to reflect on letters written by Fr. Leo John Dehon, SCJ founder. Both wrote about what they were being called to as SCJs, and about the founder, whose dreams they were preparing to follow. Excerpts from those reflections:

A relationship with God

"Amidst the concerns and stresses of daily activities in our lives I'm reminded to focus on the prayer life, to continually foster a deep and real relationship with God," wrote Dn. Duy.

"Before any type of ministry can be done, one must unite with God first. All good works will flow as a result of this union..."

"Dehon's life is proof that union with God is not far-fetched. All it takes is hard work, discipline and the grace of God."

Lead by example

"As I am preparing for first profession, I hear the voice of Fr. Dehon reminding us that we must remain in union with Christ," wrote Dn. Greg. "If Fr. Dehon met me face to face today, I can picture him telling me that for us to perform ministry and to help those who need our help, we must lead by example and remain devoted to the Sacred Heart. In addition, Fr. Dehon would probably tell me to exercise devotion to Christ through my heart, not simply because it is my duty to do so."

My Dehonian Playlist

Br. Duane Lemke, SCJ, director of the province formation program in Chicago, had been tossing around the idea of doing a blog for some time. Inspired by an aunt, he sat down a few months ago and centered on a theme: music.

"One of my earliest memories is of a journal my aunt (and godmother) kept of song lyrics," wrote Br. Duane in his first blog entry. "Back in her day, there was no such thing as a quick Google of one's favorite lyrics, and a right-click cut-and-paste. Nope. This was retro when retro was new: a journal kept on looseleaf paper in a three-ring binder covered with flowers. Each lyric was written by hand, representing time spent listening to the song over and over again, just to be sure she got it right. This wasn't a painstaking task, but an act of devotion. She loved music.

"Thus began my own devotion to music. I like music of all genres, sometimes in languages I don't understand. Sometimes it may be the beat that gets my feet tapping. Sometimes the song may simply be fun. At others, the song might remind me of a time with friends or family. Maybe the lyrics give words to something I am not able to express well myself. All of this is great, but it is not what this blog is about."

What is the blog about? "As a Catholic, and as a Dehonian, I've found grace in my natural love for music. Many times the lyrics and music I love have become fodder for deeper faith, even if the song is not overtly religious; *often* when the song is not overtly religious. As a minister, I've also made use of songs such as these in teaching and passing the



Br. Duane Lemke is the creator of "My Dehonian Playlist," a blog with his reflections on songs that he says "I turn to when I want to re-energize my commitment as a religious brother, as a person

faith on to other generations..."

"In this blog I will introduce you to 'My Dehonian Playlist.' It is a real playlist. These are songs I turn to when I want to re-energize my commitment as a religious brother, as a person of faith. These are songs that I find have inspired and challenged me to live well my particular slice of our great, wide faith. Just like that hand-

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53130-0289

(414) 427-4266.

Email: marygorski@sbcglobal.net

Mary Gorski, editor.

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Priests of the Sacred Heart

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written journal gave expression to my aunt's favorite music, I hope for this blog to be a record of those songs that are worth my time and that serve as an inspiration to my faith."

Linking faith to everyday life

After posting that first blog entry, Br. Duane reflected a bit more on what inspired him to start "My Dehonian Playlist."

"I want to enjoy the creative juices that I experienced as a catechist when trying to find ways to link faith with stuff from everyday experience," he said. "I'm getting a chance to flex catechetical muscles that haven't been exercised since I left parish ministry."

Br. Duane also thought that the blog could be a way of creatively sharing the spirituality and theology of the Priests of the Sacred Heart.

"I realized that I had to stop talking and step up and finally put my fingers to the keyboard."

Sample post

Every genre of music seems to find its way into Br. Duane's library. The Dehonian Playlist includes cur-

rent pop stars Kanye West, U2 and P. Diddy, as well as folk icons Peter, Paul and Mary, and Motown legends Martha Reeves and the Vandellas.

The following post was on P. Diddy's "I'll Be Missing You."

"This week I had a chance to attend a workshop on the coming translations that will be used at Mass. These translations got me thinking about our images of God. I noticed that many of the original Latin texts express a relationship to a God who is distant, wholly other, greater, over, and above. We approach this God in great humility. We are not only servants, we are slaves, and God is Master. We do not look God in the eye. This is a God who *deigns* to give us attention.

"This is a legitimate image of God and has its place in our prayer life. God's thoughts are so beyond our thoughts, God's ways are so beyond our perspective that it is the height of arrogance for us to assume any relationship other than to be supplicative.

"Yet, I couldn't help but have this song by P. Diddy play in my mind. I remember a funeral for a teen in Fort Thompson, S.D. His death was sudden, unexpected, and tragic. A winter auto accident. His friends and siblings — heartbroken, vulnerable — played this song at the graveside. Huddled together against the cold around their sound system, it was the lyrics of this song that gave final expression to their pain and brokenness.

"The lyrics, though not addressed directly to God, are certainly in God's presence. They talk about a God who is the God of life, who hears our prayers, who is concerned about relationship and bonds that break, who responds to heartbreak, who is present for every step, every night, every move we make.

"There are times we need to come before God in the most humble of terms. Yet, as a Dehonian, I must admit that image fails to speak as poignantly as the time some Fort

Thompson teens stood before a God who was listening to P. Diddy, as he gave words to their vulnerability and faith when they could do no more than huddle against the cold, together in God's presence."

Visit My Dehonian Playlist

To listen to "I'll Be Missing You" and read about some of the other songs on "My Dehonian Playlist" go to: www.mydehonianplaylist.blogspot.com.

Who is Br. Duane?

Br. Duane Lemke is 37 and professed first vows in 1997. A home-grown SCJ, he grew up in an SCJ parish in South Dakota and as a teen, worked for the SCJ community when it had a pastoral team in Eagle Butte, SD. He has worked in parish ministry and currently is the administrator of the Dehon Formation Community in Chicago. In June he was elected to the Provincial Council of the U.S. Province.

Also on the web...

The U.S. Province has a growing presence on the internet. A few sites that we invite you to visit:

www.sacredheartusa.org
U.S. Province

www.scjusa.smugmug.com
Province photo site


www.scjusa.wordpress.com
Province blog

www.poshusa.org
Province Development Office

www.shst.edu
Sacred Heart School of Theology

www.stjo.org
St. Joseph's Indian School

www.shl.org
Sacred Heart Southern Missions

And Find Us On 



Students are happy to get their new supplies at the start of the school year. For some, it is the first time they have had the supplies many students in the U.S. take for granted.

Founder's dreams continue in Asia

It was in the factory town of Saint-Quentin, France, that Fr. Leo John Dehon was first exposed to the plight of the working poor. It awakened him to the fact that the Church needs to do more than offer sacraments, its priests must “get out of the sacristy and go to the people,” he said.

Fr. Dehon's words have come alive in Vietnam where the Priests of the Sacred Heart have partnered with St. Paul Parish near Ho Chi Minh City. The parish has much in common with the founder's first parish assignment in Saint-Quentin. The population that surrounds it is made up primarily of factory workers and young migrant families. Many have come from the poorest areas of the country, seeking jobs and a better life near the city.

In 2008, the Priests of the Sacred Heart sent three seminarians to work

with what Fr. Rino, SCJ, described as a “very Dehonian community.” St. Paul is not an SCJ parish, but the outreach that it does with the poor, especially the working poor, is reminiscent of Fr. Dehon's work in Saint Quentin.

Fr. Rino is the local superior of the SCJ community in Vietnam. He described Binh Tan District, the area in which St. Paul's is located, as a place where “the living conditions are very precarious. Salaries are low and workers cannot rely on a secure job.”

Many families have come to Binh Tan with their children in tow, but they cannot afford to send them to school. Books, uniforms and other necessities of a typical Viet-

namese school are out of reach to these migrant families.

“The parents simply don't send their children to school, hoping that some day their situation will be better,” said one SCJ.

The result is that many of these children spend the day on the streets. Some join gangs. “Without structure, they have nothing to do,” added the SCJ. “They put their lives at risk and can cause a great deal of trouble in the neighborhoods.”

The diocesan parish priest at St. Paul's suggested to the parish council that the parish do something to reach out to these children.

In 2000 the parish rented a small parcel of land and put up four classrooms. Migrant parents were invited to send their children to the school. Through the amazing contribution of volunteer teachers — Catholics from the area — the street children were able to follow the same educational plan as students in government-operated schools.

The only payment the teachers continue to receive is \$75 to cover travel expenses.

The parish petitioned the government for support of Huong Tam School (“Huong Tam” means “Toward the future” in Vietnamese). As a rule, there are no private schools in the country; all fall under the government-run educational system.

Although Huong Tam did not receive financial support from the government, it did receive permission to operate. This in itself was a significant hurdle to cross. Education officials periodically visit the school, sometimes bringing with them clothes for the students, and even baked treats. In 2008, the

government accredited the school, which validates the graduation certificates of its students.

“The parents simply don't send their children to school, hoping that some day their situation will be better.”

"The school is a beautiful social endeavor of the parish; it is very Dehonian," said an SCJ who visited the school. "All of the teachers are Catholic, but only about 10 percent of the students are. It is a way for the Church to reach out to the wider community, to focus on the needs of these very poor children."

Huong Tam operates at its capacity of 175 students in grades 1-5 at a total cost of \$13,350 a year. Among its volunteer staff are two newly ordained SCJ deacons who teach English.

Recently, the U.S. Province committed to funding the school for three years.

"The school easily fits into the mission of our religious community," said Fr. Tom Cassidy, SCJ, provincial superior. "This commitment allows us to educate a whole school of children who would otherwise not easily have such an opportunity."

"This commitment from the U.S. Province is a great help not only to the Huong Tam School but to the parish as well," said Fr. Rino. "Now the funds that were used for the school can go to many of the other social needs of the area, including job training."

"It is exciting to be a part of a project that is so closely aligned with the early works of the founder."



Students outside of Huong Tam school; the school, funded by the U.S. Province, makes it possible for the children of migrant families to get an education.



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Taking the first step

This year the province welcomed two candidates to its formation program: Justin Krenke and Anthony Nguyen.

The two young men introduce themselves below:

Justin Krenke

I am 20 years old and was born in West Allis, Wis., but grew up in near-by Milwaukee. I lived with my mom, step-dad and two older sisters. After graduating from W.E.B. Dubois High School in 2009 I spent a year helping my sister Heather with her three children. It



Justin Krenke

was hard not to go to college right away, but she needed the help.

This is my first year of formation so I am just trying to get used to everything. I am a freshman at St. Xavier University and learning to get back into the habit of homework after a year away from studies. So far, my days have been filled with school and community activities, like taking part in Mass and other prayer in the community.

What attracts me to the Priests of the Sacred Heart is the way everyone treats each other like they are one big family. There is a lot of laughter. Sometimes I don't even feel like I am one of the new guys here. Often, it feels like I have been here for years — and I mean that in a GOOD way. The guys here are really helpful, if you ever need anything — help or advice — all you have to do is ask.

Anthony Nguyen

I'm 18 and though I was born in San Diego, Calif., I consider Minneapolis, Minn., as my home. I moved there when I was four. I graduated

last spring from DeLaSalle High School in Minnesota. I am the youngest of five brothers, and I love sports. I like to try new sports. This is my first year in the Dehon

Formation Community. I attend Harold Washington College in downtown Chicago. Next year I'll be at St. Xavier University where some of the other SCJ students go.

Before I became a candidate I volunteered at a hospital and worked for three months serving meals to the elderly. I have also been strongly involved in a youth group called "TNTT." It is a nationwide Eucharistic youth group that encourages young kids and teenagers to learn about the Catholic religion. I hope to become involved with Chicago's TNTT group next semester.

What attracts me to the Priests of the Sacred Heart is that members of the community are loving and caring toward one another. You never feel like you are alone because the community is there for you; we pray for and support one another. The community also helps you to strengthen your faith by the way things are done in the formation house.

The community is a lot of fun. To me, the Priests of the Sacred Heart are a family.

What is candidacy?

Candidacy is the first formal step of vocation discernment. It is a time when a person interested in pursuing a vocation with the Priests of the Sacred Heart lives, prays and studies with community. Candidacy generally lasts between two and four years.

To learn more about the discernment and formation process, go to www.sacredheartusa.org/process.



Anthony Nguyen

SCJ NEWS

New rectory blessed

On Saturday, November 6, the new rectory at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Houston was dedicated and blessed by Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza. "Los Arrieros," a mariachi band led by parishioner Liborio Moreno, provided the entertainment, and a group of parish volunteers prepared and served a reception on the rectory patio after the blessing.

An open house was held the next day after the 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Masses for parishioners who were not able to attend the Saturday festivities. Approximately 250 people participated in the two-day event.

Fr. Ed Kilianski, SCJ, is pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Fr. Wayne Jenkins, SCJ, who received the Vatican II award for "Service in Ecumenism" during the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's annual Vatican II Awards Ceremony on November 9. The awards were established in 1991 to honor men, women and young adults who exemplify the Catholic Church's vision set forth in the Second Vatican Council.

Fr. Wayne was one of 14 award recipients. Organizers noted that Fr. Wayne "has spent the majority of his life simultaneously educating people about the Catholic faith and promoting understanding of other religions.



Fr. Wayne stands with Archbishop ListECKI during the awards ceremony.

He held Bible study groups for Indonesian University students of Catholic, Muslim and other Christian faiths at the Newman Center of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and has been a

member of the rabbi/priest dialogue. In 1995, he became a member of the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Ecumenical and Interfaith Commission, and served as vice-chair of the commission for two years and chairperson for two years. Fr. Jenkins has served as sacramental minister for Villa St. Francis, Milwaukee, and St. Monica's Senior Citizen Home, Racine. He has also been on the boards of the Benedict Center, TYME-OUT Youth Center and St. Monica's Senior Citizen Home."

Fr. Wayne said that his service is inspired by a passage from Corinthians (1 Cor 10:17): "Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf."

He credits the ecumenical marriage of his parents as one of the

sparks that ignited his interest in ecumenical outreach.

SCJ school houses refugees from Indonesian volcano

The SCJ student community in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, became a refugee center for the physically and mentally disabled, as well as elderly residents of a nursing home, following the November 5 eruption of Mt. Merapi in Indonesia.

A state of emergency had been declared for the area, which was covered in volcanic ash. "During morning prayer and Eucharist the ash continued to rain down and even entered the chapel," wrote Fr. Sigit Pranoto, SCJ. "Some wore masks."

Approximately 100 refugees were hosted by the school. "Meanwhile, the families of our several of our SCJs have also been displaced," said Fr. Sigit.

The U.S. Province donated \$25,000 to the Indonesian Province to assist in relief efforts.

ESL alum named bishop

Fr. Blaise Nzeyimana, who was a student in the 2010 ESL (English as a Second Language) summer program, was named bishop of the Diocese of

Ruyigi in Burundi. The bishop-elect is one of several Burundi priests whom the province has hosted in Sacred Heart School of Theology's ESL program.

"I am pleased that the province has been able to help the mission church of Burundi," said Fr. Tom Cassidy, SCJ, provincial superior. "That we are able to host priests and religious from there is just one way we can carry on the mission spirit of our congregation."

Bishop-elect Blaise Nzeyimana, 56, has held a variety of administrative posts in the Archdiocese of Gitega, including his current position as a member of the Joint Committee of the Church of Tanzania and Burundi for Refugees, as well as secretary of the Episcopal Commission for Clergy.

Ministry begins in Chad

October marked the beginning of a new SCJ presence in Chad. Frs. Cyrille Mindzie and David Dagsou (Fr. David is an ESL alumnus) have started ministry in the Diocese of Lai (Tandjilé Region). Sponsored by the Cameroon Province, it is Cameroon's first missionary venture.

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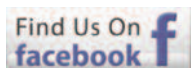
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