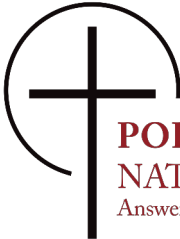


POPE ST. JOHN XXIII NATIONAL SEMINARY
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We want to share with you an initiative that Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary is undertaking to assist prospective candidates between 30 and 60 years of age in their discernment of a possible vocation to priesthood.

“First Friday Visits”

We will host interested men and invite them to join the Seminary community for prayer, fellowship and dinner. These brief and informal evenings will begin at 4:30 PM and conclude by 7:30 PM.

During their visit here, the men will join the community for Holy Hour and Evening Prayer, fol-

lowed by dinner with the seminarians and an opportunity to tour the Seminary. If a candidate wishes to speak with a priest faculty member during his visit, we will arrange for that as well.

Please encourage men that you know in your parish to avail themselves of this opportunity and join us the first Friday of every month in: **November, December, February, March, April and May.**

If you know of a man who might be interested in pursuing a possible vocation or who might benefit from a brief visit to Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary, please have him contact Msgr. William Fay at the Seminary to arrange the visit: 781.899.5500 or msgr.fay@psjs.edu.

DID YOU KNOW?

PSJS XXIII has Mass that is open to the public every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. during the academic year. After Mass, you may join us for conversation in the Refectory over brunch prepared by our very own executive chef!

HAS YOUR CONTACT
INFORMATION CHANGED?

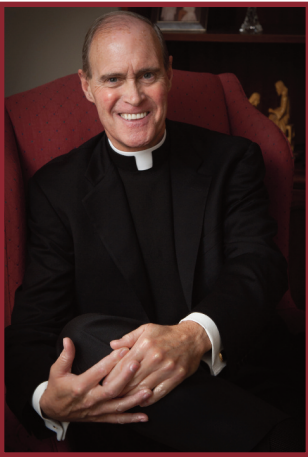
Please send your current information to Kate Folan: kfolan@psjs.edu or visit the Alumni section on psjs.edu



FALL 2019

POPE ST. JOHN XXIII NATIONAL SEMINARY

FROM THE RECTOR’S DESK



“It’s New!”

It seems everywhere I turn this semester many happenings are “new”!

The Vice Rector Fr. Paul E. Miceli assumed a new role at the Seminary as Director of Human Formation. You will read more about the program and its goals inside, but I want to express my strong support for having a director who will take ownership over this important pillar of formation. I am grateful to Fr. Miceli for accepting this role and strengthening our program of priestly formation.

Msgr. James Mongelluzzo, Director of Liturgy and Homiletics, recently published a new book that we are all very proud of! *Understanding the Liturgy: A Guide to How Catholics Worship* serves as a helpful tool in the world of sacred liturgy and is available for all, especially those who may be interested in enhancing adult faith formation groups at the parish level. Speaking of liturgy, we have a new Director of Music, Michael Olbash, who in his role will broaden our liturgical experience and help the seminarians to better appreciate the musical aspects of the Mass.

A new initiative gaining speed this fall is “First Friday Visits”. With this program, we are inviting men between 30 and 60 years of age who may be discerning a call to the sacred priesthood to visit and join the Seminary community for prayer, fellowship and dinner on the first Friday of every month. We hope many of our brother priests will encourage men in their parishes to take advantage of this opportunity.

Forced to address structural issues in our student lounge, we have completely renovated this seminarian space. The “new” student lounge now provides a comfortable and modern area to relax and unwind when the men break from their studies. We are grateful to our friend Christine Roessel for making this renovation possible and for always stepping up so graciously when there is a need.

Inside you will meet the Class of 2023 and learn about their journeys that brought them to Weston, Massachusetts where they will further discern their calling, learn from the best, and deepen their service to God and His Church. Join us in praying for them!

With my prayerful best wishes and my thanks for your continued support and prayers, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Very Rev. Brian R. Kiely
Rector

WHAT’S INSIDE:

- Meet the Class of 2023
- New Director of Human Formation
- Msgr. James Mongelluzzo Publishes New Book Book on Liturgy
- Student Lounge Renovated
- Around the Seminary
- First Friday Visits

Appointment of Director of Human Formation: Rev. Paul E. Miceli



At the opening of the new academic year, the Vice Rector, Rev. Paul E. Miceli, assumed an additional role at the Seminary as Director of Human Formation. Human formation is one of the four pillars upon which the whole formation program is built (spiritual, pastoral, human and intellectual).

The human formation of a priest was a deep concern of St. John Paul II. The Holy Father called human formation the cement in which the other dimensions of formation are anchored. If this dimension isn't strong the whole program of priestly formation collapses. Since a priest is called to be a man of communion, the human formation of a seminarian must be attentive to strengthening his capacity to relate well with others.

Fr. Kiely is deeply committed to the on-going strengthening of the human formation program at the Seminary. The Rector insures that our

formation program follows the directives of the Program of Priestly Formation which was developed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and "The Gift of the Priestly Vocation" promulgated by the Congregation of The Clergy. Some of the goals that have been articulated by the Conference of Bishops and the Congregation of The Clergy are being addressed in our newly formed seminars. Seminar topics include: Addictions, Friendship is Essential to Happiness, Affective Maturity, Celibacy, Conflict Management, and Priest as a Public Person.

We have many other instruments of human formation but the most essential is the relationship that each seminarian has with both his faculty formator and his spiritual director. These two relationships are critical in assisting each seminarian in becoming a priest after the mind and heart of Christ. We need to take the words of St. John Paul II to heart and help our seminarians develop a spirituality of communion as they accompany others in our pilgrimage to heaven.

-Rev. Paul E. Miceli

A Renovated Student Lounge Surprises Seminarians!

When upperclassmen arrived on campus in September, they were treated to a wonderful surprise. Over the years, the student lounge on the lower level of the Seminary had taken on some structural damage and needed attention. A very generous benefactor and stalwart supporter of the Seminary, Ms. Christine Roessel, stepped in and provided the means necessary to accomplish this summer project. New column support and design, new flooring, renovated walls and a new island for seating has brightened the room and made it a welcoming and relaxing space for the seminarians to catch their breath from the rigors of academics. We cannot thank Ms. Roessel enough for her generosity, friendship and prayers to help bolster the seminarians as they embark on another year of discernment and formation. The area will be dedicated with Mass and a blessing on Sunday, November 17th as the **Raymond A. Kelliher, Ph. D Student Lounge** to honor Christine's late husband. THANK YOU, CHRISTINE!



SAVE THE DATE!
PSJS GOLF TOURNAMENT • MONDAY, MAY 18
WESTON GOLF CLUB

Around the Seminary



On Sept. 14th, **Michael Bova '18** was ordained to the priesthood by the Most Rev. Dennis Agbenyadzi, Society of African Missionaries (SMA Fathers), Bishop of Berberati, Central African Republic, in the St. Anthony Chapel at the SMA Provincial House in New Jersey. Prior to entering the Seminary, Michael received a Ph.D. in Pharmacology from the UCLA School of Medicine and worked in the biotechnology industry for close to 14 years before entering religious life....**Michael Olbash** has been hired at the Seminary as the new Director of Music. His sharing of sacred



music will certainly enrich the seminary formation program!....Tune in every first Thursday of the month to **CatholicTV** and join our Faculty & seminarians as they celebrate Mass for the TV audience! Thank you to Bishop Robert Reed for providing this opportunity for us to reach a wider audience and bring the Lord to a diverse population....We were thrilled to

have pilgrims from **Oklahoma City** stop by the Seminary for Mass and lunch on Sept 14th and share their journey with us as they travel through New England....Join us in welcoming **Mary Brown** to the Institutional Ad-



vancement team! Mary has her Masters degree in Pastoral Ministry from Boston College, and has already established an honorable place within the Seminary community. We look forward to all of you meeting her!and finally the **38th Annual Lawn Party** held in September yielded the highest donation amount to date! We are grateful to have received over \$300,000 in generous support and cannot thank our Chairper-

sons, Ro and Bill Janovitz, enough for their leadership and for bringing the Seminary to a higher rung on the ladder. Most importantly, thank YOU – all our supporters who came and enjoyed the night under the tent, who consistently offer prayers and lend support whole-heartedly to help bring good men to YOUR parish after ordination. God is Good!



Deepening Their Relationship...

As they do every fall semester in October, the men studying at PSJS make a retreat as a way of deepening their relationship with God. Led by our spiritual formation team, each class travels off-site with a spiritual director – Fr. Bill Murphy (Director of Spiritual Formation), Fr. Vin Daily and Fr. Greg Hoppough, CSS – to reflect and re-energize for the rest of the semester. It's a practice the men look forward to each year and many return to PSJS after retreat week with a higher degree of confidence in their discernment journey.



Enders Island,
Mystic, Conn.



Marie Joseph Spiritual Center,
Biddeford, Maine

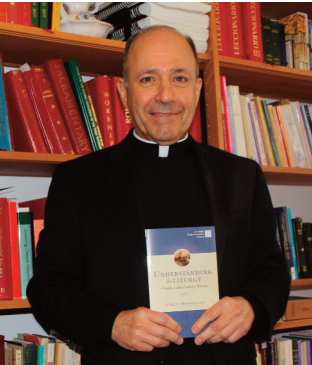


Miramar Retreat Center,
Duxbury, Mass.

Consider your IRA...

Did you know today's estates are comprised largely of IRAs—typically about 30 to 80 percent of the estate? For philanthropically minded individuals, transferring IRA assets to a charity provides a significant tax benefit. For Planned Giving information to support the future of Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary please contact Kate Folan, Director of Institutional Advancement, 781-899-5500 or kfolan@psjs.edu.

Faculty Member Recently Published: Msgr. James Mongelluzzo



Following is an excerpt from a comprehensive interview Dan McHale '21 had with faculty member Msgr. James Mongelluzzo

If you were to survey Pope St. John XXIII seminarians on who their favorite professor is, undoubtedly Monsignor James Mongelluzzo would be near or at the top of that list. A native of Waterbury, Connecticut and a priest of the Diocese of Worcester, Msgr.

Mongelluzzo holds advanced degrees in Sacred Liturgy from Weston Jesuit School of Theology and the University of Notre Dame. Currently, he is Director of Liturgy and Homiletics at PSJS. He has previously served as Associate Director for Liturgical and Spiritual Formation at Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, and was the seventh rector at the Cathedral of Saint Paul in Worcester, MA. On weekends for the past 23 years, he has celebrated Mass at Our Lady of the Lake in Leominster, MA.

Recently, I had the privilege of interviewing the longtime teacher and mentor to seminarians about his recently published book, *Understanding the Liturgy: A Guide to How Catholics Worship*.

Dan: Firstly, Monsignor, I want to congratulate you on the publication of your book. How did this project get started?

MM: Thank you, Dan. I was teaching an online liturgy course during the summer of 2017 for the Boston College School of Theology and Crossroads Program. The program offers courses for adult faith formation. We could never find a book that suited the course. After changing the course book a number of times, Crossroads leadership said, "Why don't you write one?" I said, "I'll never have the time; it's impossible!" They said, "Try it." So I did! It took me a whole summer to write, and I had really good editors who gave me lots of support and helpful feedback. So that's the origins of the book, which is part of a six-book series called The Adult Faith Formation Library published by Twenty-Third Publications.

Dan: Although this is your first book, you have written a doctoral dissertation. Unlike your dissertation, however, this book is designed for a general readership. Is it harder to write for an academic audience, or for a general audience?

MM: For me, writing for a wider audience is a bigger challenge. When you want something to reach a more inclusive readership, you need to be clear, use the terminology everyone understands and make the content attractive. Writing a dissertation is for a narrower audience who are specialists in your field. Because they know the field, you can presume knowledge of technical terminology and background information.

The publisher's limit for the book was four chapters, 20 pages per chapter and reflection questions at the end of each chapter. When writing these questions, I had to think of questions that parishioners would ask, for example, questions about liturgical practices they experience at Mass or baptism, the liturgical calendar, liturgical symbols or liturgical ministries. I included lots of basic information that would help people appreciate at a deeper level, what God is doing for them

in a liturgical rite and how they respond to God during the rite. There's so much about liturgy that I could have included in the book, but I selected what I hoped might be most helpful to adults in Catholic parishes.

Dan: In your book, you frequently cite the Vatican II document called the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, particularly its declaration that "full, conscious and active participation" is necessary for the faithful at Mass. Why do you feel this is so essential?

MM: I referred to the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy a lot because it's the Second Vatican Council's vision statement for the entire liturgical life of the Church. It sets the standards for all the official liturgical developments we have been experiencing over the past fifty-six years. It's like a "blue print" or "master plan" for shaping all components of liturgical rites and liturgical catechesis. If you understand the Constitution, the meaning of today's liturgical rites comes into clearer focus.

I gave a lot of emphasis in the book to full, conscious and active participation in liturgical celebrations because it's one of the key principles in the Constitution on the Liturgy. The Constitution says that, in all liturgical rites, full, conscious and active participation by all the faithful is to be considered above all else. The Constitution envisions all liturgical rites as actions of Christ and the members of his Body the Church. This means people are not to be spectators but participants with Christ who has conjoined his people to himself in his own perpetual liturgy of praise and intercession before God. We actualize this in liturgical rites through the various ministerial roles of the clergy and laity, prayerful words, singing, actions and silence. In other words, full, conscious and active participation is a major constituent of the very nature of the liturgy.

Dan: Finally, how can this book benefit Pope St. John XXIII seminarians once they are out in the field as parochial vicars or pastors of their own parishes?

MM: I'm glad to hear that question. The book is designed for parish adult faith formation. Individuals can read it on their own. Or, the book can be used for group discussion over a four-week period. The book has four chapters of about 20 pages. Each chapter is designed to be read in one sitting. There are discussion questions at the end of each chapter. The book can also be helpful for parish liturgy committees in learning liturgy basics. Parish liturgical ministers might find the book helpful to explore the meaning of the liturgy in which they hold an important place.

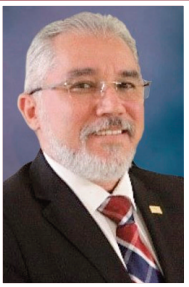
Dan: Thank you for your time, Monsignor. And a special thanks to you for writing such a clear, concise and helpful book on liturgy.

MM: Thank you, Dan. See you in class on Saturday.

If you are interested in purchasing copies of Monsignor Mongelluzzo's book for yourself or for your parish, they can be found on the Twenty-Third Publications website at www.twentythirdpublications.com/unlinegutoho.html or by typing the number 1627854177 into the search bar on Amazon.com.

Read the full interview on the PSJS website www.psjs.edu

Welcome Class of 2023!



IREMAR DA COSTA

A native of Brazil, it was at the young age of 8 that Deacon Iremar heard the calling but needed to postpone his "yes" as he grew and attended to family responsibilities. He eventually studied and practiced law for over 25 years. At age 25, he was invited to join the Santo Estevam Diaconal School and there studied Theology for five years. On September 26, 2003, he was ordained a Permanent Deacon for the Archdiocese of Natal, from Brazil.

"In 2017, after completing a Specialization in Canon Law, I had the grace to come to the Diocese of Fall River, MA to meet the Ecclesiastical Court. During this trip, Bishop Da Cunha, after hearing the history of my vocation, invited me to come here to be a diocesan Priest. At first, I thought it was impossible, because my parents were old and under my care, but God will always provide. Everything resolved, and, like St. Francis of Assisi, I left everything I had: family, friends, property, and left for Fall River, MA, to be a Priest of Christ. Here I am Lord!"

DIOCESE OF FALL RIVER



JOSEPH DANZI

Joe is a native of Brooklyn, N.Y. He spent a year in the minor seminary at Cathedral Seminary House of Formation in Douglaston, N.Y. studying Philosophy before entering PSJS. Prior to entering Cathedral Seminary he made a career in finance. Joe is a "9-11" survivor; he enjoys chess, running, art and reading when not in study mode.

"Many years ago I had a "Born Again" experience in my Catholic faith and felt that God was calling me to serve Him. However, I was unsure what that was and continued to work in the corporate world. As time went on I felt God giving me little promptings to enter the seminary. It was through His grace that I had the courage to do so."

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN



MICHAEL DICKSON

Mike is a native of Needham, Massachusetts and received a BA in Economics from Stonehill College. Prior to attending PSJS, he spent most of his career working in marketing serving as a project manager, digital marketing specialist and marketing analyst.

"The most Holy Eucharist and Rosary have had the strongest impact on my vocation and hearing God's call. Career had lost its meaning and I felt the need to do more with my life. Through prayerful reflection, speaking with several priests and visiting PSJS, I knew God was calling me to be here. I feel truly blessed to wake up and spend my day responding to God's call."

ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON



JAMES DIVASTO

Jim retired in 2018 from a 37 year career at the Knights of Columbus Supreme Office in New Haven, Connecticut. At that time, he began prayerfully to consider how he might best continue - "to love my 3 adult children and 4 grandchildren as well as continue to serve on the diocesan Committee for Healing of Abuse Victims." A phone call from a Committee member one day deeply struck a chord and Jim immediately contacted his vocations office. By August 2018 Bishop Frank Caggiano accepted him for priestly formation. After close to a year in minor seminary in Stamford, Jim was encouraged and visited PSJS.

"I met seminarians from the United States and Australia who had been pediatricians, mental health workers, corporate executives, lawyers, you name it. Each expressed how Jesus's call had changed all that, and how life and formation here at PSJS has truly given them Jesus' peace in a deep way. Their credible witness was all I needed to know that PSJS was the next place Jesus had prepared for me to continue discerning His call. I'm so at peace now at PSJS. Come visit - perhaps Jesus is calling you!"

DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT



JASON FOX

Jason studied Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice in Michigan when he decided to move back to Ohio and be nearer to his family. It was in Columbus that his calling to the priesthood reemerged suddenly and unexpectedly. In his words, “I decided to stop fighting my true vocation and instead embraced it.”

“With the guidance of my loving grandmother I came to know and fall in love with the Catholic faith and the Church. I felt a call to the priesthood at a young age, but as I grew into my teenage years my thoughts ventured to the secular world. Then, back in Ohio, all the doors that I had previously closed I found suddenly opened, and through the guidance of my Vocational and Spiritual Directors I was led to Pope St. John XXIII. It is with a joyful heart that I now eagerly seek our Lord’s will and plan for my life.”

DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS



PETERCLAVER KIVIIRI

After obtaining a Master’s degree in Marketing and Medical logistics, PeterClaver worked with Express Scripts Pharmacy, Inc. for eight years. For every 1 out of the 3 Americans, he was the person responsible for their medicines leaving the pharmacy. The job was good but didn’t bring him happiness. Peterclaver also volunteered at The Ohio Food Bank.

“Getting involved in many social activities like The Ohio Food Bank and many Church activities, my love for God’s people grew deeper and deeper. After a long period of prayer, and discerning for the vocation of priesthood, I shared the idea with my pastor, and then our vocations director. The process began, and here I am at Pope St John XIII National Seminary, thank you Jesus! My heartfelt thanks go out to my Bishop -The Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan - for sending me to PSJS; I’m grateful to this house of formation.”

DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

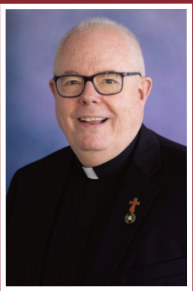


LUIS MARQUEZ

Luis is a native of Medellin, Columbia where, with great devotion, his family practiced their Catholic faith. After attending the Minor Seminary of the Archdiocese of Medellin he emigrated with his family to the United States and Luis began an American life. He went on to receive a degree in modern language and become a Spanish teacher before answering God’s call.

“My father, since I was a child, taught me about the Catholic faith and one day while we were at Mass my father proposed to me to serve in the church as an altar boy. I consider his advice my beginning to the call to the priesthood. I had great signs that God wanted me to be a priest. One of these signs was a woman I met at New Jersey City University; she was pregnant and wanted to abort. My advice was that the being in her womb would one day call her Mom. I never saw her again until one day we met in a class where she brought her beloved son and she thanked me. In 2017, I answered God’s call. As a priest I can save many souls, fortified with the feeling that God put me with the woman at the university where I gave her advice and she accepted it. At PSJS I find myself realizing my dream of becoming a priest. I will always have words of thanks to my family, especially my father who died recently but I know that from heaven he guides me to strengthen my priestly vocation.”

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN



JAMES O’ROURKE

Most of Deacon Jim’s long career has been in health care. Jim is a respiratory therapist and has held many positions in hospitals and long-term care. He worked for Public Health in Albany County, NY in various roles and was a market development specialist for a major pharmaceutical company.

“I have not only the three best adult children possible, but, the cutest and smartest granddaughter that God has ever created. My call to serve God’s people came in the mid 1990’s and it was eventually suggested that I consider diaconate and/or priesthood. So, I discerned both. Certain life circumstances made priesthood a difficulty and so I followed the call to the diaconate. But, I just could not turn off the call to serve as a priest. Eventually my life and Our Lord got on the same page and here I am in this wonderful institution. God is Good, All the time!”

DIOCESE OF ALBANY



GENE SCHAEFFER

Deacon Gene was employed in healthcare IT for about 30 years, mostly as a leader of application developers and business analysts. His last job was at Centene Corp, a healthcare company primarily in the Medicare and Medicaid markets. In addition to being a deacon and working, Gene is also blessed by two wonderful daughters and most recently two amazing and beautiful grandkids.

“Several years ago, my spiritual director suggested that I should consider being a priest. I laughed and said I was too old, but it reminded me of how I felt as a high school student all those years ago; regarding the desire to be a priest. I went home that night and started searching the internet for Catholic seminaries for older men and discovered Pope St. John XXIII. After visiting last Fall, I worked with my formation director and bishop, took care of the logistics of life, applied and was accepted. I continue to try to discern God’s will for my life, and by His will, I hope to return to St. Louis as a priest in 2022”.

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS



EDGAR SERRANO

Edgar Serrano is originally from Bogotá-Colombia, South America, where he worked as a dance / acting teacher for children and youth from preschool to High School. He also trained employees of different companies on how to improve living conditions. Edgar moved to the USA in 1999, worked in the customer service industry, and volunteered in community theater for years.

“I was baptized Catholic yet took a different spiritual path for many years. By the grace of God, and due to a tragedy in my family, I returned to Catholicism – with formidable strength! After additional formation, I worked as a Director of the Hispanic Ministry in my community serving in all possible roles in the church, including leading prayer groups and retreats for the last 12 years. This led to my entering the Permanent Diaconate program for 2 years until my new pastor, PSJS Alum Fr. Ivan Olmo ’13, took me out of my comfort zone and advised me to discern my vocation to the priesthood even at my age. Together we were able to encourage the Bishop and Vocations Director of the importance of training at PSJS... and here I am!”

DIOCESE OF ORLANDO



MICHAEL SILVEUS

Before entering the seminary, Mike was a professor of Dentistry at Georgetown University and a general dentist in Washington, D.C. He also served as an administrator in the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry and taught dentistry as well as philosophy to undergraduate students. Mike was blessed to have spent eight years studying as a member of the Society of Jesus.

“What makes being at PSJS especially unique is living with men who have had similar backgrounds, in that they have lived full and interesting lives, and have acted on God’s call to the priesthood later in our lives. I have felt the call to the priesthood since I was an altar server in third grade, but also believed God wanted me to live and experience life outside the priesthood before I brought my life experiences to the Diocese.”

DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN



VINCENT VU

As a young altar server, Vincent approached his pastor about a vocation to the priesthood. After he graduated university in Vietnam, Vincent was sent to the U.S to study and to become a priest who can understand, sympathize with, and encourage those of different cultures and languages. Vincent began with studying English at St. John University, then two theology years at Holy Apostles Seminary in Cromwell, CT and one pastoral year in the Brooklyn Diocese.

“My vocation director and faculty suggested that I should consider attending Pope St. John XXIII for the last two years of theological formation for its nurturing environment for my strong desire to serve. My priestly svocation is the mystery of God’s love. As I begin at PSJS now, I hope that I will be able to grow in my friendship with the Lord and to gain skills for the future service of His people. It is my dream to write the next chapter of my life at Pope St. John XXIII.”

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN



AARON YOHE

Before entering Pope St. John XXIII, Aaron was a Business Analyst for Nationwide Children's Hospital located in Columbus, OH. There he supported IT functions for Supply Chain Operations. He received a BSBA degree from Ohio University and also attended St. Meinrad Seminary from 2005-2007.

"I am returning to the seminary; I felt God's call in a sense as myself being a type of 'Jonah' but see God's providence at work. I am thankful every day to be here."

DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS