

Sons of Calvary

St. Lawrence Seminary Alumni Magazine

Volume 1 Issue 2

Summer 2015



Inside this issue:

CALLED TO VOCATIONS

Reshaping SLS-

St. Mary's Hall progress

St. Joseph Hall plans

Field Day at 108

An Interview with Dave Bartel:
25 Years of Service

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St Francis of the Hill, sculpted by Steve Maddock in 1998

ASK HERO!

Where our intrepid Hilltopper tackles your tough questions

Why is our school mascot's name "Hero"? I have never heard of it during my stay at SLS.
 -Raymund Sampaga '13

The origins of the Hilltopper mascot and his name, "Hero," have evolved over time. Both seem to date back to the late '60s. Prior to 1967, the word "Hilltoppers" was painted on the gym walls without any mascot. The first documented image of the mountain climber is in the 1967 yearbook. The following year's yearbook contains a photo of a student with a pennant naming the mascot "Hero." A 1972 *Hilltopics* article about cheerleading ("You Rah Rah SLS," Vol. 8, Issue 7) contains the first reference to the presence of a mascot Hero at sporting events and the 1973 yearbook features both the mascot and his name on the cover. It's not surprising that you're not familiar with the name, though. References to Hero's name have dwindled in recent years. -H

Hero, what percentage of current SLS students are the children of alumni?
 -Andrew Londo '88

Though only 8 out of 193 (4%) of our students are the children of alumni, 74 (38%) are related to alumni. -H

What is our current Latin curriculum at SLS? Latin I - Latin IV? Does it include the National Latin Exam? What kind of results? How many participants? -Barry Herbert Parmeter '57

David Gritt '58 teaches Latin I through Latin IV. In order to have Latin III, Cicero's Prose, especially the Catilinarian Orations, the course is alternated with Latin IV, Latin Poetry, especially Virgil's *Aeneid*. This school year is Prose. Next school year will be Poetry. All 25

Latin students take the National Latin Examination. This year's test resulted in one gold and one silver medal recipient. -H

Who is the Capuchin with the most years of service at St. Lawrence...historically? -Br. Peter Nault '63

Fr. Louis Biersack, known affectionately as Fr. Louie, taught Greek, German, Latin and U.S. History courses at St. Lawrence College for 49 years, from 1921 until the end of the college program in 1970. Born in Straubing, Bavaria, in 1894, then Joseph John immigrated to the United States in 1912 where he himself studied at St. Lawrence College. Upon entering the scholasticate, he was given the name Louis. He moved to Detroit in 1914 to begin his novitiate and made his profession of simple vows in 1915. He applied for US citizenship during World War I but was denied because of anti-German sentiment. In May of 1921, he was finally granted citizenship, was ordained less than one week later and began his teaching ministry at St. Lawrence the following fall. In retirement he remained at St. Lawrence until his death in 1983. -H



HAVE A QUESTION FOR HERO? EMAIL IT TO sonsofcalvary@stlawrence.edu.



Editor's Note

Whenever I tell people I went to an all-boys boarding high school they have all kinds of questions. I think they're imagining a stuffy New England campus or a mythical castle for training wizards.

Worn stone and veneered wood. Blue blazers and school ties. Hallways filled with class pictures in black and white. Tradition as musty and old as time itself. You and I know that's not true.

Yes, we're old. We were founded one year before the Civil War began. Yes, we have many well-worn traditions. We just celebrated our 108th annual Field Day.

The building I teach in was built in 1881!

But St. Lawrence is far from the same school it was 155 years ago. St. Lawrence's principle mission was originally to prepare young men for the priesthood. Today, its mission is to prepare young men for the world through the lens of the Catholic Church.

Initially the school only drew students from the immediate area. Back then the farthest student was several counties away. Today our students come from all over the United States and the world—the farthest coming from

several continents away.

The campus, too, has changed. Between the recent renovation projects of St. Anthony Hall and St. Mary's Hall, and the new construction of St. Joseph Hall, we're attempting to give due respect to our heritage while anticipating the future needs of St. Lawrence.

This issue features many of these changing dynamics. In an interview, Dave Bartel '78 explains the changes he's seen from his student days through his 25 years on the faculty. In separate but similar articles, Br. Tien Dinh '05 and Tyler Richter '02 tell about their own discernment processes that began at SLS, and how that process led them in different directions. In follow-up articles, Kevin Buelow '98 and I explain the construction progress being made and how these new projects are designed to maintain the traditional look and feel of campus while improving our ability to further the mission of the school.

The evolving nature of St. Lawrence isn't new. It's likely many of these changes were happening noticeably during your high school years. Right now, with all the construction vehicles around, it just seems so much more prevalent. St. Lawrence isn't a stuffy old campus—it's alive, evolving and shaping young men of every generation.

-Anthony Van Asten '01



From The Rector's Desk

Truth be told, the majority of us who live on the Hill year round look forward to the summer. The slower pace and the quiet are so much appreciated after months of action here: the constant bells, constant pages and constant running!

But this summer of 2015 is VERY different! The sounds of 200 young men living, laughing, working, playing and praying have been replaced by the sounds of jack hammers, cranes and tractors pounding scraping and digging. St. Lawrence is under construction this summer (again)!

St. Mary's Hall: our kitchen, dining room, junior dorm and study hall, student health services, storage and development is nearing completion. Our fingers are crossed that we'll be able to move the juniors in on August 22nd. The building will be beautiful; if you ever lived in St. Mary Hall, you won't recognize the new dorm and the views of the surrounding countryside are absolutely breathtaking!

Our new St. Joseph Hall is slowly starting to take shape. We can't wait to be able to move classrooms, offices and a welcome center into the building a year from now. Renovation will begin on St. Thomas Hall this fall after St.

Mary's Hall is completed. St. Thomas Hall will eventually welcome both band and choir activities in an acoustically correct space.

Life on the Hill, during the summer, has always meant cleaning and refurbishment. Each year we plan ahead to include normal upkeep like painting, new flooring, new drapes, in addition to the normal, necessary scrubbing and cleaning.

Not so obvious perhaps are the hours spent meeting and planning by the administrators. Our teachers are constantly updating their classes and planning ahead, while taking classes to fulfill requirements for their teaching license renewal. The admissions office continues to admit!

All of the different summer activities, both the normal ones and the construction ones, prepare us to welcome our returning students and an ever-growing group of new students in August. More importantly, these activities prepare us to welcome students far into the future with your continued help. Just as we were welcomed each year with clean, shiny floors, remodeled classrooms or recreation rooms (and, occasionally, a new building), we stand ready to welcome new generations of Sons of Calvary for years to come!

-Fr. John Holly '71



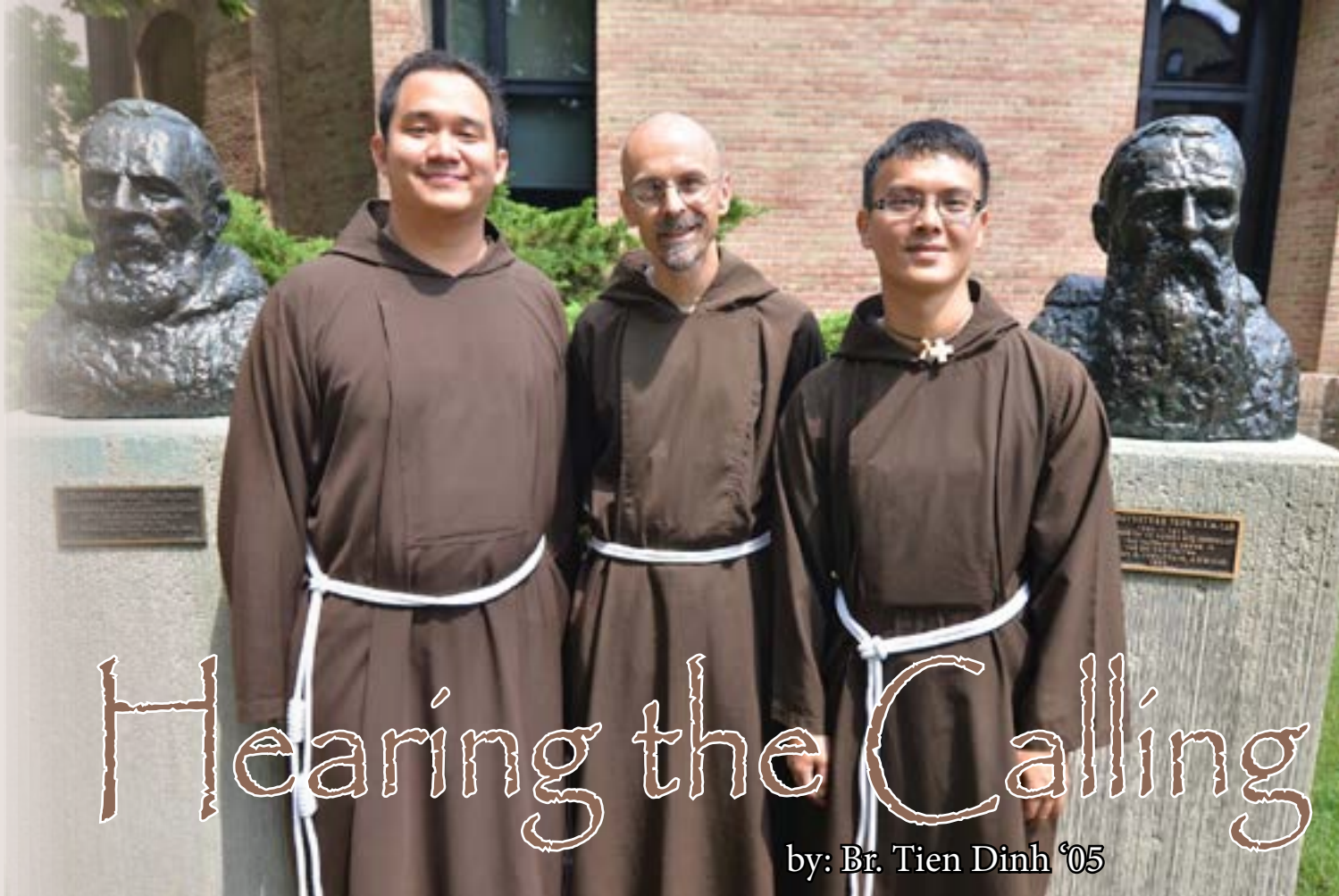
Daffodils bloom amidst the St. Mary's renovation.



Students play softball while a construction crane towers in the background.



Construction crews begin digging for the foundation of St. Joseph Hall.

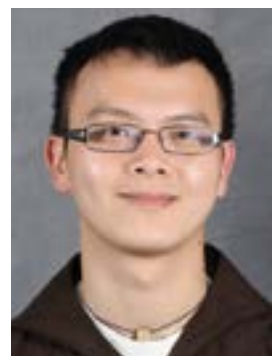


Hearing the Calling

by: Br. Tien Dinh '05

St. Lawrence Seminary, the Hill of Happiness, played a crucial role in directing my faith formation. I know that my parents are the first people who formed and shaped my faith. They taught me about the importance of liturgy, prayer, and the Catholic tradition, but it was at St. Lawrence that my understanding and knowledge of my Catholic faith expanded. It was here where I grew spiritually. Gaining a deeper understanding of my Catholic faith has helped me build and foster relationships with Jesus as well as others.

Attending religion classes at St. Lawrence helped me have a better understanding about the teaching, history and tradition of the church, but it was the liturgy and prayerful atmosphere throughout St. Lawrence that was enriching and faith-filling for me. Sharing liturgy, as well as daily morning and evening prayers with the student body and the many Capuchin friars at St. Lawrence showed me the importance of



When I decided to attend St. Lawrence, joining the priesthood or any religious order was not my goal.

community prayer—of praying together as one people of God. Listening to everyone sing songs during liturgy and at prayers encouraged and motivated me to do the same. The integration of prayers and songs from different cultures allowed me to appreciate the diversity of St. Lawrence as well as the Catholic faith.

One of the most important things that St. Lawrence taught me is the aspect of communal ministry: my classmates and I serving others who are in need. It was in doing ministry that I learned about the joy of service, the joy of teaming up with my classmates to help others. Being able to see the Capuchin friars joyfully serving and ministering to people in the surrounding area as well as to the students and me allowed me to understand what true service is: banding with those whom you know to serve others.

Being shaped and formed by attending St. Lawrence for four years, it is clear that my decision to attend St. Lawrence played an import-

(Opposite) Final vows with Br. Tom Nguyen and Fr. John Celichowski
(Below) Celebrating graduation with his classmates (Right) Working with the Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Society



ant role in my discernment to becoming a Capuchin Franciscan. When I decided to attend St. Lawrence, joining the priesthood or any religious order was not my goal. It had never entered my mind. However, through observing the Capuchin Friars as a student and being nurtured by living in a Capuchin environment, I felt a calling to the Capuchin way of life: their way of communal living, praying and ministering.

Due to the calling that I felt, I wanted to see if the Capuchin way of life was for me or not. Therefore, I answered the call by applying to the College Seminary program that the Capuchin Franciscans run at St. Joseph Seminary in Chicago. My discernment to become a Capuchin Franciscan happened because I attended St. Lawrence, where I had expanded my understanding and knowledge about the Catholic faith as well as enjoyed the many experiences that St. Lawrence had to offer to me as a student. On top of that I was also able to observe the life of the Capuchin Friars there, the way they prayed, ministered, and interacted with the staff and students. All of these factors helped my decision to answer my call to be-

come a Capuchin Franciscan, a decision that I will never regret, but will cherish forever.

Since joining the Capuchin Franciscans and taking my Perpetual Vows in August, 2012, I have been living in a community in Chicago and have the privilege of serving and ministering to many people. I have served adults with developmental disabilities and visited homebound elders who have no families and relatives living close by. Additionally, I have ministered to the St. Henry Parish chapter of the Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Society, a Catholic organization that helps young Vietnamese students grow up to be virtuous Christians. These many different ministries that I have been able to experience so far are very enriching and life-giving for me. Due to these experiences, I am constantly discovering more about myself and learning better ways to minister to people.

On June 6, 2015, I took my next step as I was ordained a transitional deacon in preparation for my ordination to priesthood next year. I will soon be living in a new Capuchin community that just developed in Crow Agency, Montana, where I will be ministering to the people of the Crow Native American Tribe.

St. Lawrence Seminary, the Hill of Happiness, played a crucial role in my faith formation as well as in my discernment to become a Capuchin Franciscan. It is a place where my Catholic faith was formed and shaped. It is a place where I gained a deeper appreciation of service to others. It is a place where I answered God's calling to become a Capuchin Franciscan.

For me St. Lawrence Seminary, the Hill of Happiness, is where it all began. ■

Of the over 10,000 SLS alumni, more than 1,500 have become priests or brothers. Most alums who go on to the priesthood become diocesan priests.

Thirteen alumni have become bishops.

The province currently has 23 men in formation, 7 of whom are sons of Calvary.



Called to be a Man of Christ

by: Tyler Richter '02

My experience at St. Lawrence started as a search; I was constantly searching to find myself. Coming from a middle class, agrarian background, I didn't have the opportunity in the public school system to really search within myself. I was involved in my church as best as I could be: altar server at church, a student in CCD classes, etc... but even when fellow Christians gathered around the flagpole to pray during "flagpole day," I felt uncomfortable and, quite frankly, I wasn't sure of what I was doing.

I was introduced to St. Lawrence Seminary in the spring of 1998. My weekend visit experience was rather frightening.

Coming from the northwoods of Wisconsin, I had minimal contact with others who weren't of the same culture and background as me. All of a sudden I was a part of something completely different than I had ever experienced. It was wonderful!



I wouldn't be the father I am if not for the love and charity I learned at St. Lawrence.

It wasn't hard to see right away that this was a community of brothers. No matter what race, ethnicity or background... these guys were family. It didn't take long for me to see that it was a great family too—they were a family in Christ and His Church. Evening and morning prayers were respectful. The sign of peace at Mass wasn't a handshake, but a strong embrace. This was it—iron sharpening iron! This was what I

found, and it was something of which I knew I had to be a part.

My freshman year I was still trying to find myself, still attempting to fit in. My mother told me, "You don't have to go back after the first year, but try it and see what you think." After the first year I wondered: how could I not go back?

Over the next three years at St. Lawrence I not only learned how to wash my own clothes, cook my own food and contribute to a community, I learned how to give of myself. St. Lawrence showed me that in my quest to find myself, I found not only who I was but what I was called to be. I learned how to be a man in the Church. The ministry of St. Lawrence taught me how to open my heart to the Lord. I even opened my heart to the idea of one day becoming a Capuchin.

I studied not only the life of Christ, but saw the life of Christ in people such as Fr. Dennis Druggan, Br. Dismas Seward, Mr. David Gritt and my fellow brothers. At such a young age, I was shown that being a man is more than age; it's action.

Like any other boy, I was absorbed in sports, life, and yes—even at an all-boys high school—girls. The difference is that I was taught respect and love for what Christ gives us. One of the things I remember fondly was the respect that Fr. Dennis Druggan expected from every young man regarding women. I specifically recall this because of contrary messages from pop culture and his expectation has stuck with me.

I found family in St. Lawrence: priests, brothers and sisters. Sr. Mildred Warner, God rest her soul, was one of the most influential people I knew. I bring all of these things up because St. Lawrence has had an effect on me as a lay person today—specifically as a father and husband.

The values of faith, love and respect are what I strive to: faith in our God, love through charity and good works, respect through action...because of St. Lawrence.

After careful thought and prayer, I found myself yearning for love outside of the consecrated life. I wanted to be a husband and father. I found my best friend in my wife, Tara. Because of the examples I witnessed at St. Lawrence, I learned how to respect, love and treasure my marriage to my best friend, my wife.

I am blessed to be a father to five beautiful



children: Josephine Leona, Augustine Lawrence, Blaise Tyler, Frances Marian and Therese Jeanne. I especially hold the values I learned at St. Lawrence close to my heart as I try to teach, mold and prepare my children for whatever life has in store for them.

I wouldn't be the husband I am had I not learned how to be a man in Christ at St. Lawrence. I wouldn't be the father I am if not for the love and charity I learned at St. Lawrence. I wouldn't be who I am today if not for everything St. Lawrence has done, and continues to do, in my life.

I also have brothers all over the world. My children have two god-fathers who are St. Lawrence alumni and several "uncles," who are such special parts of their lives. St. Lawrence still provides for me and my family—it has given me brothers that share in the joy of my family.

St. Lawrence is a place I will always call home, but it's a home that doesn't just stay, "atop a lofty hillside, arched against the blue." St. Lawrence Seminary lives in the hearts of all the Sons of Calvary. I keep the Hill of Happiness in my heart always as it continues to shape who I am. ■



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Measure Twice, Cut Once: Carefully Designing St. Joseph Hall

By: Anthony Van Asten '01

When St. Joseph Hall was destroyed by fire last year, the administrators deliberately chose to act slowly. They wanted to make sure whatever building was erected added to the visual beauty of campus, met the myriad needs of St. Lawrence and gave due respect to the Seminary's history. Over many months the architects from Uhlein-Wilson of Milwaukee weighed these concerns, meeting frequently with the administrators and various stakeholders, and their resulting design is aesthetically beautiful, academically practical and duly historical.

Designed To Be Beautiful

The east side of the building, to be visible from the courtyard between the Laurentianum and the chapel, replicates the classic style of the Laurentianum, with its two prominent gables. The design calls for a blending of brick colors to help create a transition from the tan "Cream City brick" of the Laurentianum to the red brick of the chapel and St. Mary's Hall buildings. At the same time, the sleek, sharp window frames and more modern styling prominent on the north east end blend well with the more contemporary designs of the chapel and St. Mary's.

The turret at the southern part of the building will match the footprint of part of St. Joseph lost in the fire—what had at one time been the sanctuary of the old student chapel. It will be taller, however; nearly the same height as the Laurentianum. In design it will look as if it is more a part of the Laurentianum than St. Joseph Hall.

Designed To Be Practical

In designing the new St. Joseph Hall, the architects and the administration identified one major issue early on: the building should not merely be a replacement of the old. Rather, it should be carefully designed to meet the needs of the school—needs that have evolved greatly from those of the era of the original St. Joseph Hall, which was built in 1872. This meant a campus-wide look at use of spaces and a careful assessment of what new spaces the reconstruction could create. The new building will be roughly 4,000 square feet of space larg-

er than the old one and every inch of the new building has been carefully planned.

The west side of the building, unlike the east side, looks very sleek and modern. It also solves one of the Seminary's chief design problems: the lack of an obvious "front door" for visitors unfamiliar with campus. With a circle drive and big, open doors, as well as an inviting "Friar's Garden," this entrance will provide a welcoming place for visitors.

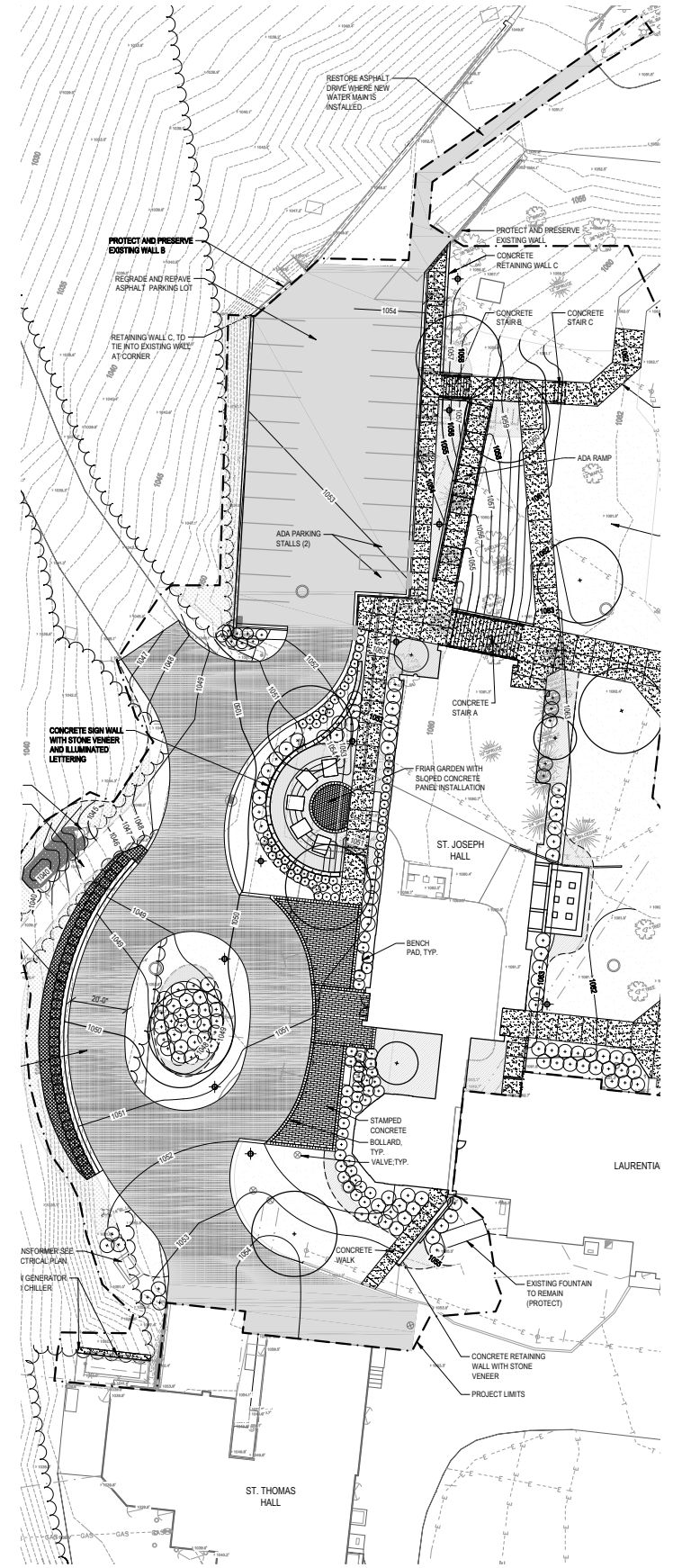
Additionally, this parking level will hold a staffed reception desk, a benefactor recognition area and a new classroom. Also on this level and the next, dubbed "campus level" (the floor that corresponds with the first floor of the Laurentianum), will be key infrastructural offices lost in the fire: spiritual directors, admissions, marketing, business, plant manager, housekeeping and custodial.

The new campus plan calls for a centralization of all classrooms; no longer will there be classrooms in odd spaces in buildings all across campus. With the exception of physical education and the arts, all classes will be contained within St. Joseph Hall and the Laurentianum, minimizing student travel between class periods. St. Joseph Hall will be attached to the Laurentianum at every level. Previously the buildings connected only at the ground level, which created a crowded hallway and stairwell between classes.

Only two classrooms were lost with the old building, but the new one creates many more spaces for learning. The second and third levels will feature six new classrooms, three of which are combination science lab/classrooms. Currently the three science classrooms share two labs, making coordination difficult; the new design will make the transition from classroom to lab flawless, resulting in more student-lab time and more frequent lab usage.

Designed To Be Historical

The original St. Joseph Hall, though the oldest building on campus, was often overshadowed by the resplendent Laurentianum. The stalwart St. Joseph itself is rich with history deserving commemoration. This is why careful thought was put into the design of the new building. Architects wanted to acknowledge the razed building's heritage and incorporate some of that heritage in key places. The new building will retain some of that history.



The aerial blueprint shows the footprint of the new building as well as the Friar's Garden and circle drive that will welcome visitors to campus.

The most immediately recognizable element of this is the portico on which was prominently displayed the statue of St. Joseph. Restoration crews were able to successfully remove the statue and dismantle the portico piece-by-piece. It will be cleaned and reassembled on the east side of the new building, facing the courtyard. The statue of St. Joseph, too, will be restored and placed atop the portico.

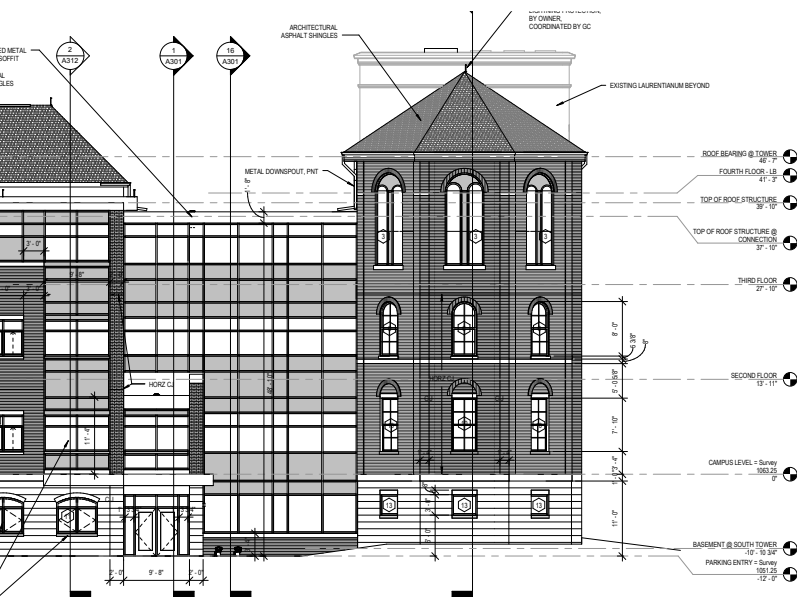
Along the west wall of the old building were a number of nearly 100-year-old carvings depicting the life of St. Francis. Alongside the wall was a beautiful meditation garden. Most of these carvings and the garden were destroyed in the fire. With the new building, in approximately the same place and next to the visitor's entrance will be a beautifully landscaped "Friar's Garden" that will feature the surviving carvings.

On the third floor of the turret will be the Heritage Room, designed to house and display St. Lawrence's archival documents, photos and historical artifacts. The room will be open to students, faculty, staff and visitors and will be a valuable asset in preserving and allowing access to the school's rich history.

Design In The Works

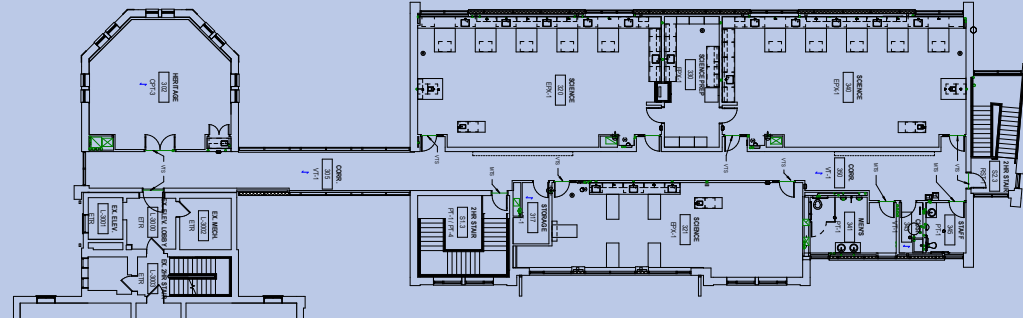
The preliminary construction work has already begun. The portico has already been removed and crews are digging the new building's foundation. Now with students gone for the summer, crews from C.D. Smith Construction of Fond du Lac can move more quickly. They expect to have the exterior erected and enclosed by winter and the whole project to be completed by June 1st of 2016.

This spring the portico was successfully dismantled. It will be rebuilt and incorporated into the new building.

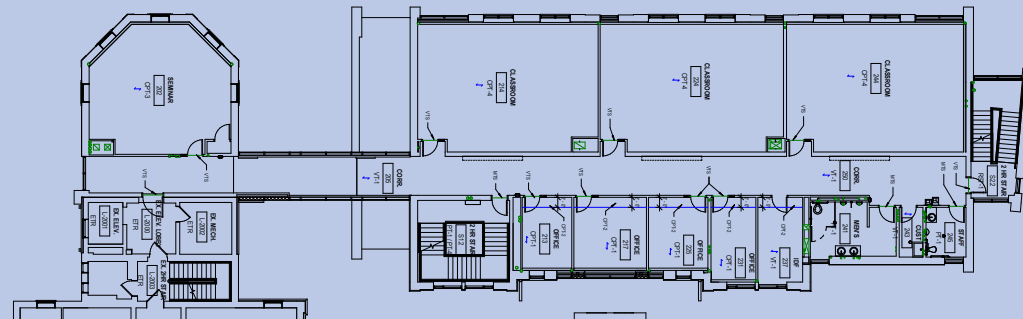


The new St. Joseph Hall will be filled with natural light: both east and west sides will have a plethora of windows.

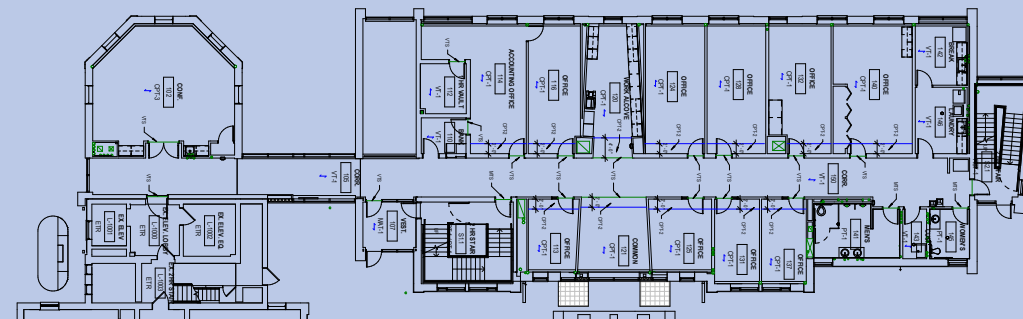
THE NEW BUILDING A FLOOR-BY-FLOOR BREAKDOWN



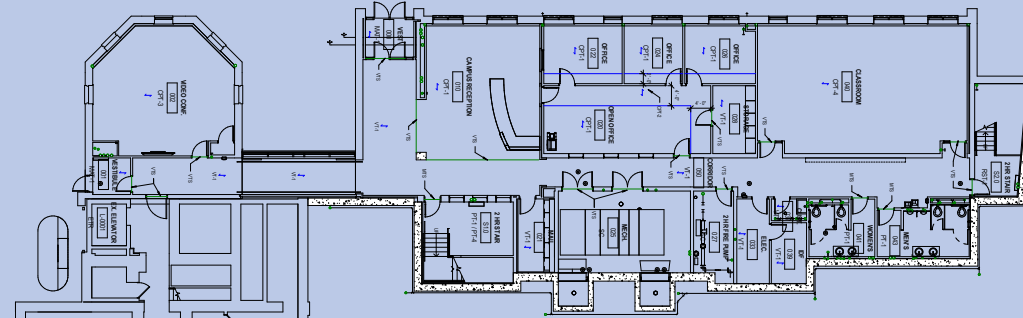
The third floor will house the Science Department and will feature three brand new science lab/classrooms. The Heritage Room will also be on this level.



The second floor will boast three new classrooms, faculty offices and, in the turret, a seminar meeting space.



The first floor, dubbed "campus level" will contain important institutional offices lost in the fire. Additionally, it will contain a common faculty workspace and, in the turret, one of two new conference rooms.



The floor at "parking level" will have a reception desk, several offices and one new classroom.



Though the new St. Joseph Hall will look very different, it will incorporate important elements of the original.

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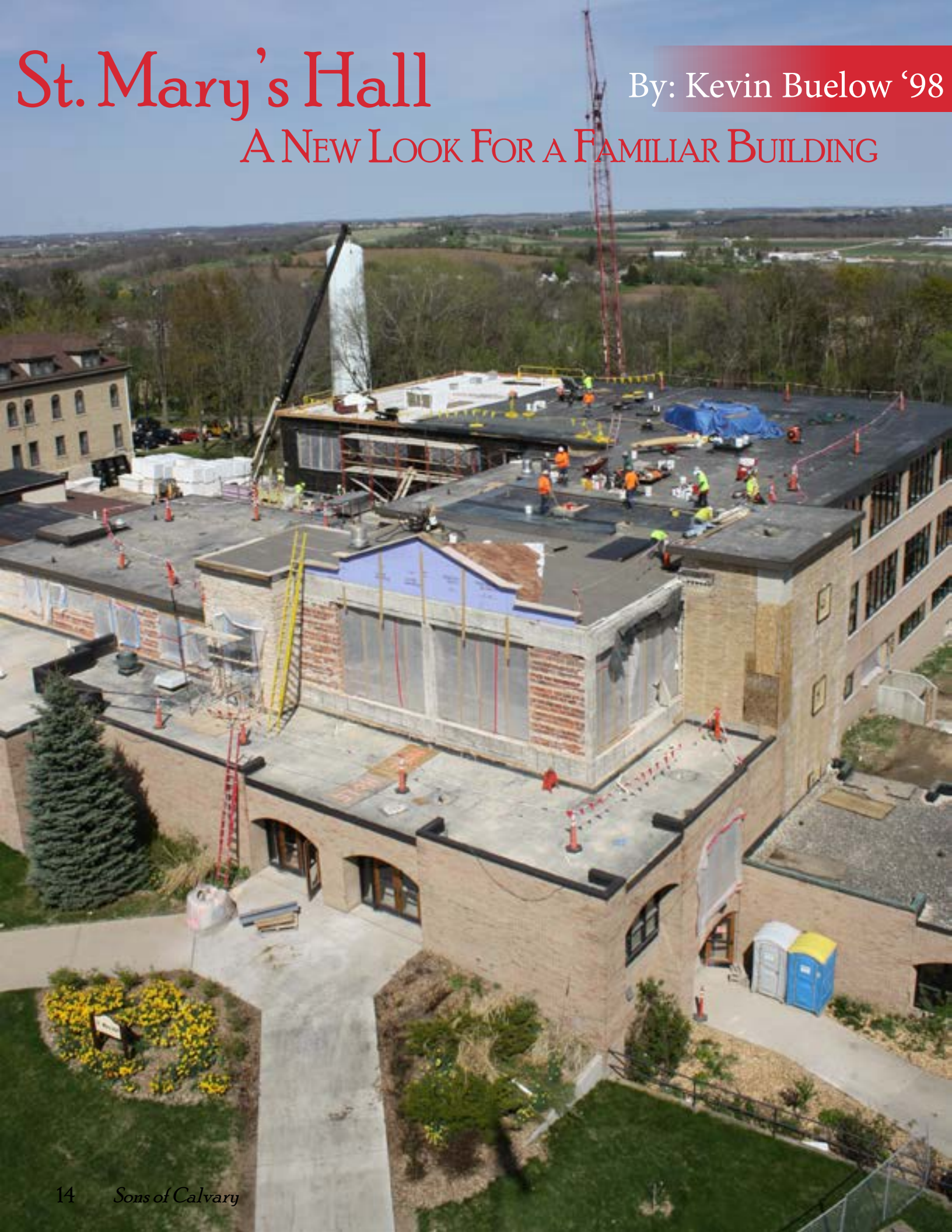
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St. Mary's Hall

A NEW LOOK FOR A FAMILIAR BUILDING

By: Kevin Buelow '98



Driving north on County Road W from Highway 23, as soon as the vehicle crests the hill, there it is: St. Lawrence. That awe of seeing the campus perched on top this majestic Hill is an experience familiar to many.

These days it is not only the cupola of the Main Building that can be seen from this vantage point—the 160 foot tall Manitowoc Crane from C.D. Smith Construction Services is a clear addition to the horizon.

St. Mary's Hall had been a building in need of renovation for quite some time: the dorm was small and dark, the refectory was cramped and the usable work spaces were inefficiently and haphazardly scattered about.

Plans to renovate the building had been in the works prior to the St. Joseph Hall fire, though the project wasn't slated to start quite as early as it did. Administrators gave it the green light so as to retain the builders until the St. Joseph Hall plans could carefully be crafted.

Renovating an existing building is often a harder and longer project than building anew. Though this was also the case with the St. Mary's Hall project, the end result will be a building more streamlined to meet the needs of the Seminary community.

Demolition and construction only commenced in January and already the addition is nearly complete on the outside. Much of the original building has been re-bricked and the additions to the façade are nearing completion.

The clearly visible external changes are now being followed by the less visible complexities of the inner workings of the building. The wooden lockers that served as the cube dividers in junior dorm (senior dorm for many alumni) are all removed. Some of the old locker doors are even being used temporarily to cover up holes for the new air ducts and plumbing.

The walls that made up the infirmary, supervisor suites and the bathroom in the dorm are being replaced with steel studs, new wires, vents for air-conditioning, and sheetrock in a uniquely envisioned layout.

Though it was a mild winter, the cold weather of Wisconsin did necessitate some minor modifications for construction crews. A temporary shelter the entire height and length of the southern wall of the building was created for the masons to lay brick, including a separate heated enclosure to mix the mortar. Even with the harsh cold days that plagued parts of these winter



The student refectory is being expanded into the addition to alleviate congestion and provide better service.



The addition also has additional faculty meeting spaces at the refectory level.



The new junior lobby will occupy the bright space beneath the building's new façade.



The junior dorm rooms are filled with windows with incredible views of the countryside.



The new façade takes shape.

months, the crews worked on the project almost daily. There was rarely a moment where an air hammer, chisel, or truck was not heard.

The largest obstacle faced by the students and staff has been the relocation of the refectory. When students returned after the March break, the dining services had moved to Maximillian's, a restaurant in the village. The original thought was to keep the refectory open until summer; however, letting the construction proceed without any students in the building would get the project completed on an accelerated schedule.

The refectory has been extended into what had formally been the Weisbrod Conference Room. Additionally, it has been fitted with sprinklers, air conditioning, new windows and an updated kitchen.

The project as a whole has been moving along very smoothly. The building is on track to be open by August, ready to receive students into a new space more suited to their needs and the needs of the whole infrastructure of the school.

It won't be long now until the skyline seen from the road is back to the way it should be. ■



The look and feel of meals on campus have changed over the years.

Please join us for the
Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

THE 15TH ANNUAL
BENEFACTOR OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, October 25, 2015
Mass at 10:15 am

R.S.V.P. online at:
saintlawrenceseminary.org/open-house



The exterior of the addition to the building's northeast corner is nearly complete.



Climbing the Hill 3 Meals a Day

by: Kevin Draftz '15

A change was befitting the season of spring: with the student refectory out of service this last quarter of the 2014-15 school year, the students had to walk down the hill to Maximillian's for meals. The meals were prepared by Sodexo, the company contracted to run the kitchen atop the Hill. Many found that the atmosphere in Maximillian's was a refreshing change that allowed for a more communal meal.

While the walk was arduous and time-consuming, administrators revamped the school day schedule to allow for extra time to make the descent and climb. With the three trips down and up every day, the average student added 1.5 miles of walking to his day.

The morning walk was a bit hazardous, as a train of

groggy students made the journey up and down the steep incline, but a strict set of rules prevented any accidents from occurring. Some students struggled to follow the rule of walking only two abreast while climbing the hill; most were tempted to walk in squads of three to five, but the rule was to prevent any sort of accident—with the many staff, faculty, visitors and especially construction workers coming on campus each day, student safety was of utmost concern.

While the walk was long, and the morning air brisk, students found that the hill wasn't as daunting as it looks. Many actually enjoyed walking up and down the hill—some students even took to running up it! The jaunt gave us a little more exercise throughout the day and let us appreciate the Hill of Happiness in a different way. ■

SLS Along the Way by: Anthony Mensah '15



This year Academic Dean Dave Bartel '78 celebrates his 25th year on the faculty at St. Lawrence. Recently he sat down with senior Anthony Mensah to explain how St. Lawrence has changed and how it's remained the same.

Anthony Mensah: In your time here as a teacher and as a student at St. Lawrence, what have been the major changes?

Dave Bartel: When I was a student, my freshmen class had 110 students and we graduated with only 46, so there was a lot of drop off. Now, we like to start off with about 60-70 freshmen and have an expected graduating class of about 50 so there's more retention. We were six to a cube! Now there's less in a cube and you all need more room! We had a lot less stuff than you did. Especially shoes.

A: What kind of stuff did you have?

D: Clothes.

A: That's it? No snacks or anything?

D: Not so much as far as snacks and things like that. You guys have a lot more electronics than we did. You know guys had radios and boom boxes, but you didn't really bring those up because if everyone was playing their music, then no one could hear their own music. But when I was in school here essentially you taught yourself freshman and sophomore year. We were giv-

en learning packets to go through. If you wanted to listen to a lecture on tape you could. Then you took the test; if you passed, you went on.

A: That's a big difference.

D: At the time it was the style of teaching. Now it has been realized that with that style the retention isn't quite as great. But some of that style is coming back in different forms.

Diversity here is quite different also. When I was a student it was probably 85-90% Caucasian, 8% African-American and 2% Hispanic. International students weren't really around. I think that was one of the things that definitely changed for the better.

A: What are other things that have changed?

D: We didn't have a social skills program and we also didn't have fraternities. We sat by tables. And we basically had kind of like a draft to see who would sit where.

A: So has the central mission of the school changed with the times?

D: I think the central mission has generally stayed the

same. It's always been to prepare Church leaders. I think it's become a lot more college prep now, with the expectation that most people go to college. Back then people wanted to go to college but it wasn't the same push. The experiences are generally the same, the buildings are the same, and you get the same experience of living away from home. Maybe connecting with your classmates, since we didn't have electronics and had to write actual letters is a change, but it has remained consistent in a lot of areas.

A: Okay, so with the changing of the times, sometimes you need to adjust the way you teach. As school principal how do you see the curriculum changing?

D: We're not one of those schools where everyone has a laptop. And I'm not sure if we are ever going to be one. When I was first teaching math we used calculators a lot, but we use them a lot less now and we can see the test scores have improved. Technology is great, but you need to know the basics. So, we may continue to incorporate technology, but I think we still need to lay down the basics. Even now I think the teachers do well incorporating technology, like the use of things like PowerPoint and researching.

When we ask alumni what we need to work on and what they felt ill-prepared for in college, I often expect to hear things about technology, but that's not the case. They generally focus on other things. Generally the alumni are already ready for freshman year in college. And I think that's because we prepare them to take responsibility for their studies.

A: So, when you were a student here, there were a lot more Capuchins in classrooms. Now there is a reduced number of Capuchins in classrooms. So how do you think St. Lawrence continues to keep its Capuchin identity?

D: I think it's mostly due to the leadership of the Capuchins. There's always the charisma of the Capuchins. And I think it's helped by alumni who come back and bring what they learned back with them—which is a good and bad thing, because at times we do need to branch out and experience something different. But the leadership of the Capuchin community does pay attention to what we do, and if we weren't doing what they want, then we would not be here anymore.

A: So, you've been working here for 25 years, what keeps you coming back?

D: I think what keeps you coming back is that you become a part of the program. It's hard to see progress in just one year. When you look at freshman to sophomore year you don't see as much growth. But when

you see the strides that students make from their freshmen year to their senior year, it's easy to see. But you know, at the same time, people come and go, but the program will remain. So if you see yourself as the main cog, it doesn't work. St. Lawrence isn't about one person; it's an institution. You know it's also spending time with you fine young gentleman too that keeps me here. We can talk about the staff, but without the students this wouldn't be a school. And personally I develop a different relationship with students than principals of most schools. Because you are an adult, students want to come to you, and I think that's important to the program.

A: You talked about your role as an adult figure to talk to; can explain a little further?

D: You kind of serve as a surrogate parent, and even though there are times where you don't want to be the ones that students talk to, I understand how necessary it is, and appreciate that students are willing and able to come to me or other staff members on campus with problems.

A: Okay so one last question. What do you think is the benefit of being a son of Calvary?

D: You know the education is a given, but it's not just academic. I think that you get diversity, you get social skills, study skills, and experiences that not many others get—especially the kind of experience you get, as compared to schools out east or even in Wisconsin, it's something you don't lose. ■



Dave Bartel teaches Pre-Calculus, Calculus and Calculus 2 (Opposite) Dave checks progress reports with his dog Henry



At SLS, Mathletes Multiply

by: John O'Neill '16

"The Mighty Math Marvels are on the move again!" is the battle cry often heard at lunch announcements. This is the name for the Saint Lawrence Seminary Math Team, a team of bright SLS students who compete against other schools in mathematics competitions. And what a marvel they are! For this school year, Team One won 1st place at every math meet that they attended, became the Flyway Conference Champions and the State Champs in Class C.

The questions on the test, usually 20 in number, range from pre-algebra to some high level trigonometry. But it is much more than students simply taking very difficult math tests. The Math Team, to many of the students who participate in it, offers a chance to expand their skills in a fun and competitive way. The program began in the late 1990s when Mrs. Jo Mickiewicz, then a math teacher at SLS, started it to expand students' knowledge of and passion for math.

Anybody, really, can participate in the math meets, as long as he is interested in expanding their math knowledge. The students who sign-up are grouped into four teams of about eight members each



TEAM ONE: (Left to right) Si-hyeon Kim, William Ko, Jae Lee, Paul Jeon, Michael Ko, Joseph Min, Gary Kim, Jung-ho Moon, Ronnie Nguyen, Nathan Martens, Adolfo Mora

by their demonstrated math skill. Though Team One, the brightest math scholars, is the one that achieves the most success, Teams Two, Three and Four lag not far behind in skill. Often one of these will place third or fourth at a meet—beating out other schools' Team Ones.

Mrs. Jenny Tabbert and Ms. Jaime Stephanie currently lead the Saint Lawrence Math Team in their successes and are always there to help students learn and get better at this academic sport. Congratulations Mighty Math Marvels! ■



In It To Pin It

by: Josh Gerads '15

When he joined wrestling his freshman year, Christian Osornio '15 was brand new, not even know-

ing some of the most fundamental moves of the sport. He struggled through his sophomore and junior seasons, slowly honing his skills. By senior year he was ready—ready to face the season harder than ever before.

At 138 lbs, Christian wrestled in one of the most competitive weight classes and at the end of the regular season had racked up wins against Laconia, North Fond duc Lac/St. Mary Springs, Horicon and others. His prowess led to Christian's 2nd place victory at the Flyway Conference meet. He then went on to take another 2nd place at the wrestling Regionals meet. This granted him the ability to wrestle in the WIAA Sectional tournament, something not done since SLS wrestler Joseph Nguyen '13. Although he unfortunately did not make it farther than Sectionals he still had a great and exciting season. His final record was 12-13, with six pins. ■

Field Day!

A Springtime Tradition

Since 1908 by: Charles Luke '15



Field Day is perhaps the oldest tradition within the SLS student body that still exists today. The first Field Day was held in 1908, 48 years after the founding of the school. Today, while some of the events and rules have changed, the purpose of the day is still very much the same. The goal of Field Day has always been to give students a day of fun and delightful competition before the end of the school year.

For a large part of Saint Lawrence's history, the school had only a few athletic teams. As a result, only a few students got a chance to compete in sporting events. Field Day offered a chance for not only the athletes in the student body to showcase their athletic ability, but also any student who wanted a shot at one day of glory.

Before 1995, competition was fierce between classes as the seniors tried to prove they were the best, while the sophomores tried to upset the juniors. It was very easy for class competition to escalate quickly into an intense and unruly struggle.

Since 1995, students have competed in teams comprised of their fraternities. The fraternity system has equalized the competition on Field Day in an attempt to make it more enjoyable for all students, not just the athletically gifted ones.

Many of the current Field Day events are the same as the original events from 107 years ago. Track and field events, such as sprints, relays and jumping events have always been an integral part of Field Day. There are several other odd events, including "Don't Be Late For Chapel" and the "Roll and Up-Chuck" that are mainstays.

As for the freshman, for many years Field Day was an initiation day complete with a challenging obstacle course through the swamp. This event concluded with the upperclassmen pelting the freshman with water balloons. It long ago morphed into another old SLS tradition: the tower shower.

Another Field Day tradition that has existed since 1972 is choosing a theme word each year. The theme word traditionally begins with the letter "e." The most recent Field Day word was ebullient which means "joyously unrestrained."

The traditions of Field Day are an example of how little SLS has changed throughout the years: the purpose, the time of year, and even many of the events have not changed in the 108 years that Field Day has been a part of the SLS tradition. While the buildings and the faces on campus have changed over the years, Field Day is a tradition which all alumni can recall fondly. ■



Field Days from years past.

FIELD DAY THEME WORDS

- 2015 Ebullient
- 2014 Eucrazy
- 2013 Ethereal
- 2012 Expugn
- 2011 Elephantine
- 2010 Essorant
- 2009 Eureka!
- 2008 Epinikion
- 2007 Epochal
- 2006 Endeavor
- 2005 Esperance
- 2004 En Masse
- 2003 Éclat
- 2002 Extreme
- 2001 Elan Vital
- 2000 Existentialism
- 1999 Esprit de Corps
- 1998 Egalitarian
- 1997 Esprit
- 1996 Copious
- 1995 Eke
- 1994 En Bloc
- 1993 Egad
- 1992 Élan
- 1991 Espiritis de Corpis
- 1990 Dissymptotic
- 1989 Euphoria
- 1988 Quadulation
- 1987 Explosion
- 1986 Zeit Geist
- 1985 Zany
- 1984 Ebullient
- 1983 Esprit
- 1982 Erg
- 1981 Élan
- 1980 Emulate
- 1979 Extravaganza
- 1978 Exuberance
- 1977 Éclat
- 1976 Exoergic
- 1975 Ebullience
- 1974 Effervescence
- 1973 Exuberation
- 1972 Enthusias

CLASS NOTES



This spring SLS staged *Oliver!* The last time the school performed this play was in 1966. At the Saturday night performance a number of original cast members were present: Tim Pelus '69 (Oliver), Rodney Weed '64 (Mr. Bumble), Fr. David La Plant '67 (pickpocket), Tim Schwaller '67 (pickpocket), Mark Kemmeter '67 (costuming) and Ron Awe '67 (costuming). Incidentally, the 1966 production was the first time women appeared on the SLS stage.



Sixteen teams competed in the first annual Alumni 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament. The Class of '07, including David Oropeza, Aaron Leon, Jason Zakem, Hector Leyva and Mike Saucedo, won.



Fr. Corey Litzner '96 visited SLS and presided at Mass with the students on April 15th. Fr. Corey serves parishes in L'Anse, Baraga and Assinins in upper Michigan.

Mark Your Calendars!
 All-Class Alumni Reunion - Sept. 19th
 Alumni Dinner, SLS School Play - May 7th



Congratulations to the Class of 2015!

SWEET MEMORIES

Trusting In God To Make Us Men

by: Fr. Joe Juknialis '61



When we were high school freshmen did any of us know why we went to the Seminary or why we thought we might want to be a priest? Yet for whatever reason, we did come, delivered to that arched doorstep by our parents on a mucky warm day in late August or early September. And when they drove away a few hours

later, we were on our own, alone to begin negotiating a new life with people we had never before met, though in time would allow a place into our hearts. Little did we realize the growing up that was about to begin.

Somehow all such growing up did happen, woven into the warp and woof of life as we found ourselves living it day by day.

Remember sleeping in a large dorm room with 40 other adolescent boys in rows of beds 3 feet apart, trapped amid the snoring and the sleep-talking and the locker room smells that had nowhere else to go?

Remember the Sunday morning study halls when we were encouraged to write home, not so much because we missed home but because, we were told, home missed us? So we wrote letters while classical music drifted from the P.A. system. It's because of that time that I came to know and appreciate Ravel's Bolero. The piece was played more than any other it seemed, perhaps because Fr. Rector liked it more than any other.

Remember "kneeling out" on the hard wooden steps leading up to the dorm - the consequence of too much laughing and snickering and talking after lights had been turned out, and the student prefects who called us out for being the instigators?

Remember the sliced beef that somehow shown iridescent in color upon our silver partitioned trays as it lay alongside the instant mashed potatoes and tasteless green peas? We followed those meals with a trek to our food lockers, gratefully stuffed with favorites from home.

Remember outdoor May devotions to Mary in the dusk of early evening amid the smell of lilacs and the springtime twittering of birds and the eager knowledge

that the end of the school year was soon to come?

Remember the study halls that sought to structure our learning in spite of our dragging efforts that seemed to do otherwise, always with the prefect sitting on a platform and surveying our scribbling and turning of pages and nodding off to sleep when we could?

Remember the "Morons' Club," named so because we thought any moron could do the work, where financial appeals were assembled and stuffed into envelopes for mailing? It became a means for offering service as well as a place to work off demerits.

How was it that we grew up in the span of those years, grew up into being men, grew up into discovering both our gifts as well as our faults, if we were honest, and in some ways discovering also our futures and even the God who was shaping us into whatever we would one day become? ■

HAVE A MEMORY YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE? WRITE TO US OR EMAIL US AT: sonsofcalvary@stlawrence.edu

Reconnect with us!

St. Lawrence Seminary Alumni Association



www.stlawrence.edu/alumni/index.php

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