



Dougherty, Mathew ordained to priesthood

By Jason Koshinskie
FaithLife editor

St. Peter Cathedral overflowed with family and friends of Joseph Dougherty and Shane Mathew and others from across the Erie Diocese who came to celebrate the ordination of the two men to the priesthood.

Bishop Donald Trautman presided at the ordination Mass on June 3 and a number of priests from throughout the diocese participated.

Fr. Michael Kesicki, rector of St. Mark Seminary, presented the candidates, who were then elected by Bishop Trautman.

After the consent and applause of the assembly, Bishop Trautman directed his homily toward the candidates, who were seated directly in front of the cathedra chair.

"This evening we all rejoice in the Lord's choosing you, calling you, consecrating you and commissioning you to be his priest, his co-worker in the ministry of salvation," Bishop Trautman said. "Tonight we all rejoice in your 'yes' to Christ's call."

After a promise of obedience, the candidates reclined face down on the cathedral floor in front of the altar while the congregation sang the litany of saints. This posture symbolizes the candidates' unworthiness for the gift of the priesthood and their total dependence on God.

Through the laying on of hands, Bishop Trautman conferred the sacrament of orders.

"The gift of the Holy Spirit that comes this night to you through the laying on of hands is more than enough for the task ahead," Bishop Trautman said. "Do not be afraid. Christ is with you. Christ comes in the sacrament of Holy Orders to empower

and strengthen you. Trust in the Lord whose power at work within you can do more than you hope or imagine."

The newly ordained priests were then invested with a stole and chasuble by their sponsoring priests. Msgr. John Lucas, pastor of Holy Redeemer Parish, Warren, invested Fr. Dougherty, and Msgr. Richard Mayer, pastor of St. George Parish, Erie, invested Fr. Mathew.

Bishop Trautman then anointed the new priests' hands with sacred chrism, following the practice of the Old Testament in setting apart a person for a sacred task.

"Why does Christ share his priesthood with you?" Bishop Trautman asked. "Because he loves you and loves his people and wants to provide for their spiritual life."

Before the closing blessing, Bishop Trautman addressed the congregation from the lectern.

"In April, the Vatican announced with joyful enthusiasm that 'We have a pope!'" Bishop Trautman said. "It is with that same joyful enthusiasm that I announce to you, 'We have two new priests!'"

He then gave the newly ordained their first priestly assignments. Fr. Dougherty was assigned to St. Luke Parish, Erie, and Fr. Mathew was assigned to St. Joseph Parish, Sharon.

Photos by Jason Koshinskie

Above left, the ordinands lay prostrate in front of the altar at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie. Top right, Fr. Joseph Dougherty, left, and Fr. Shane Mathew pose with Bishop Trautman after Mass. Bottom right, fellow priests gather near the altar during the prayer of consecration.



Report: New priests older, better educated; more are foreign born

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The ordination class of 2005 in the United States reflects an increase in the number of older and better educated priests and an increase in the number of those born in foreign countries, according to a report conducted by sociologist Dean Hoge of The Catholic University of America in Washington.

Hoge based his report on the trends seen in ordination classes since 1998 and compared with data on men to be ordained this year who responded to an annual survey conducted by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

He noted that the average ordination age has increased from 34.8 to 37.0 in the past

seven years. He also said men entering the priesthood tend to have a higher level of education prior to entering the seminary. In 1998, 30 percent of candidates had less than a bachelor's degree, but in the 2005 sample, only 28 percent had less than a bachelor's degree. The percentage of candidates who had received a master's degree or a professional degree beyond a bachelor's degree also rose from 13 to 32 percent.

Another finding in the report was the percentage of new priests born outside the United States; since 1998 it has risen from 24 percent to 27 percent. Today, new priests are primarily from Vietnam, Mexico, the Philippines

and Poland.

This year, 286 members of the 2005 ordination class responded to the survey. Of the respondents, 251 were preparing to be diocesan priests and 35 were entering religious congregations.

Half of the diocesan ordinands are under the age of 35. Four percent are older than 60.

Asian or Pacific Islanders make up 12 percent of all the ordinands, a percentage substantially higher than the estimated 2 percent to 3 percent of the Asians or Pacific Islanders in the total U.S. Catholic population.

The percentage of Hispanic/Latino seminarians dropped to 10 percent from last

year's 12 percent. The figure is significantly lower than the estimated 25 percent to 30 percent of Catholics who are Hispanic/Latino. Only 1 percent of the class of 2005 is African-American. African-Americans constitute 3 percent to 4 percent of U.S. Catholics.

The report suggests that Catholic education at the high school and college level is a significant factor in cultivating vocations.

Forty percent of the ordinands attended Catholic high school, compared to 26 percent of the general U.S. population. The report also noted that 45 percent of the ordinands attended a Catholic college or university,

compared with 10 percent of the nation's 35- to 54-year-olds.

Many of the ordinands took part in diocesan and parish vocation programs. Thirty-nine percent participated in diocesan programs that included visits to seminaries or monasteries, and 20 percent attended parish vocation programs. Twenty-seven percent participated in World Youth Day events.

The survey also showed that many of the candidates had been involved in parish activities:

- 59 percent were eucharistic ministers.
- 76 percent were altar servers.
- 68 percent were lectors.
- 53 percent attended retreats.

Clergy Appointments

The Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, S.T.D., S.S.L., Bishop of Erie, announces the following clergy appointments:

Msgr. Daniel Arnold, reappointed pastor of St. Boniface Parish, Erie, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective immediately.

Fr. Thomas Brooks, reappointed pastor of Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective immediately.

Fr. Joseph V. Dougherty, appointed parochial vicar of St. Luke Parish, Erie, for a term of three years ending June 30, 2008. Effective July 1, 2005.

Fr. Leo Gallina, reappointed pastor of St. Bernard Parish, Bradford, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective immediately.

Fr. Jason Glover, assigned to graduate studies in pursuit of the degree of Licentiate in Sacred Theology at St. Mary Seminary and University, Baltimore. Effective Aug. 1, 2005.

Fr. James Gutting, reappointed pastor of Holy Rosary Parish, Erie, for a term of six years ending on June 30, 2011. Effective immediately.

Msgr. Andrew Karg, reappointed pastor of St. Michael Parish, Greenville, and St. Margaret Mission, Jamestown, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective immediately.

Fr. James Kennelley, reappointed pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Mercer, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective immediately.

Msgr. Daniel Magraw, reappointed pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Erie, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective immediately.

Fr. T. Shane Mathew, appointed parochial vicar of St. Joseph Parish, Sharon, for a term of three years ending June 30, 2008. Effective July 1, 2005.

Fr. Regis Meenihan, appointed pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Lucinda, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective May 24, 2005.

Fr. William Miller, reappointed pastor of St. Luke Parish, Youngsville, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective immediately.

Fr. David Perry, appointed to the faculty of Elk County Catholic High School, St. Marys, and weekend sacramental assistant at St. Leo Magnus Parish, Ridgway, with residence at St. Leo Magnus, for a term of five years ending June 30, 2010. Effective July 1, 2005.

Fr. Daniel Prez, appointed to the following positions: Catholic chaplain of the Erie County Prison; Catholic chaplain of Pleasant Ridge Manor West, Girard; Co-Catholic chaplain of the State Correctional Institution in Cambridge Springs; and Co-Catholic chaplain of the Veterans Medical Center, Erie, with residence at St. Patrick Parish, Erie. Effective June 1, 2005.

Fr. William G. Rice, assigned to residency at St. Joseph Parish rectory, Erie, while continuing as a member of the faculty of Cathedral Preparatory School. Effective Aug. 1, 2005.

Fr. Matthew Ruyechan, appointed pastor of St. Stephen Parish, Oil City, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective April, 29, 2005.

Fr. Marc Stockton, appointed parochial vicar of St. Peter Cathedral Parish, Erie, and to the faculty of Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie, for a term of three years ending June 30, 2008. Appointed regional vocation coordinator for Erie County for a term of three years. All effective July 1, 2005.

Fr. Thomas Suppa, reappointed pastor of St. Teresa Parish, Union City, and Our Lady of Fatima Mission, Canadohta Lake, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective immediately.

Fr. William Sutherland, reappointed pastor of St. Patrick and St. Hedwig parishes, Erie, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective immediately.

Fr. Richard Toohey, appointed parochial vicar of Notre Dame Parish, Hermitage, for a term of three years ending June 30, 2008. Effective Aug. 1, 2005. Appointed regional vocation coordinator for Mercer County for a term of three years. Effective July 1, 2005.

Fr. Thomas Whitman, reappointed pastor of All Saints Parish, Erie, for a term of six years ending June 30, 2011. Effective immediately.

By the Way...



Jason Koshinski

Many musical selections for this year's ordination liturgy were drawn from a piece called *Lyric Liturgy* by Alexander Peloquin. It was commissioned by retired Bishop Michael Murphy in 1973 when he was rector of St. Mary Seminary in Cleveland to commemorate the 125th anniversary of its foundation.

When Bishop Murphy had it commissioned, he asked for it to be a practical piece that could easily be sung by a cantor or full choir.

"The Our Father is as beautiful as any that's been written," Bishop Murphy said. "It's very moving and prayerful."

His favorite part of the piece is the Communion song *Faith, Hope and Love*.

Speaking of Bishop Murphy, our retired bishop turns 90 on July 1. St. Patrick Parish in Erie will celebrate the bishop's birthday at the 11 o'clock Mass on June 26. On June 11, he celebrated 29 years as a bishop.

His thoughts on marking the anniversaries?

"When you get to be as old as I am, every weekend is an anniversary," the bishop said.

He does, however, have a birthday wish. What he really wants to do is take a few days, and with the companionship of a driver simply visit the places that have been significant in his life. The tour would start off in his native Cleveland on Detroit Street at the former house of Ann Mary Gallagher, an older woman who received immigrant Irish into her home at the turn of the century. She received Bishop Murphy's mother when she came to the United States, and took in many families throughout the years. The house is still there.

The next stop would be at 32nd and Detroit, where his father was a saloon keeper.

There are other places he would like to visit if nothing more than to see the spot and let the memories flow.

Bishop Murphy, may God bless you with your wish!

Jason Koshinski is editor of FaithLife. Contact him at JKoshinski@erieRCD.org or 814.824.1171.

Congratulations on your 25th Anniversary
Fr. Richard Tomasone
 Pastor of St. John the Baptist, Erie
A Mass of Thanksgiving followed by a reception will be held Tuesday, June 28 at 7 p.m.
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Benedictines to celebrate 150 years of community, ministry

By Jason Koshinski
 FaithLife editor

The Benedictine Sisters of Erie begin a year-long jubilee celebration this month marking 150 years of community, prayer and ministry in the Diocese of Erie.

The celebration opens with prayer on June 23. The public is invited to attend vespers at Mount St. Benedict Monastery, 6101 E. Lake Road, Erie, at 7:30 p.m.

"We hope it's a genuine celebration with all the people who have supported us, benefited from us and whom we have benefited from: our friends, our oblates, the local clergy," says Sr. Christine Vladimiroff, prioress of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie. "We really want it to be a celebration. And we're beginning it in prayer."

In 1856, only five years after coming to the United States, a group of German-speaking nuns traveled from St. Marys to Erie to educate and guide German immigrants. The group settled in a small house on East Ninth Street adjacent to St. Mary Parish in Erie.

In addition to an icon of prioress Sr. Scholastica Burkhard, blue-and-white banners celebrating the anniversary will be featured at Benedictine ministries as well as the monastery.

The jubilee year celebration runs through June 25, 2006. Some highlights include:

- June 23 - The Erie County Historical Society Museum will open an exhibit of the sisters' history that runs through October. The exhibit will reopen to coincide with the closing of the jubilee year in June 2006.

- Aug. 6 - Celebration of ministries reception, St. Mary Parish, Erie, honoring teaching ministries at St. Mary and Mount Calvary, Erie; St. Gregory, North East; and St. Boniface, Hammett.
 - Aug. 21 - Ministries reception for Fryburg and Clarion areas, Immaculate Conception Parish, Clarion, 3-5 p.m.
 - Sept. 11 - Ministries reception for Oil City area, St. Joseph Parish, Oil City, 3-5 p.m.
 - Sept. 18 - Ministries reception for Shenango Valley area, St. Joseph Parish, Sharon, 3-5 p.m.
 - Oct. 14-16 - Oblate gathering and commitment ceremony
 - Oct. 28-30 - Fall Community Days
 - Nov. 25 - Alumnae homecoming weekend opens with a Christmas concert at the Warner Theatre, Erie, at 7:30 p.m.
 - April 28-30 - Spring Community Days
 - June 25, 2006 - Closing of the jubilee year liturgy
- The sisters are encouraging people to participate in the jubilee year events and also visit the monastery.
- "The monastery is a place of hospitality, it's a center for prayer. It's a center that animates us so when we leave the monastery, we can be a part of our ministries," Sr. Christine says. "People sometimes just see the ministries that we do. What we're trying to say is that we're first a community that prays and that ministry is the overflow of the fact that we live with each other, pray together then go out and try to meet people's needs."



The icon of Sr. Scholastica Burkhard will be associated with the many events of the 150th anniversary celebration of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie. Sr. Scholastica was appointed the prioress of the first community of women religious in Erie.

Relics installed in parish altars

Two parishes completed renovation projects with the installation of relics in new altars on June 4-5.

St. Mark Parish, Emporium, dedicated a new altar and marquee sign. Bishop Trautman visited the parish June 4 to install a first-class relic of St. Alphonsus Liguori in the altar, which was dedicated in 2004. Funds for the new sign came from the parish's portion of the diocesan capital campaign.

On June 5, the bishop blessed the new altar, pulpit, baptismal font and confessional at Holy Rosary Parish, Erie. A first-class relic of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was installed in the altar.

Funds for the Holy Rosary renovations came from the parish's five-year Companion on the Journey campaign.



Bishop Trautman installs a relic into the new altar of St. Mark Parish, Emporium.

Catholic Charities Ball 2005

The annual Catholic Charities Musical performances included Mary Alice Brown, Sam "Butch" Country Club. The event, themed "A Tribute to an Era of Jazz," raised \$24,860 for the Catholic Charities agencies of the Erie Diocese. Mercyhurst Jazz Ensemble as well as dancing to the music of Tennessee Backporch.



Pictured from left are brothers George, John and Mike Blatt of the ball committee with their mother Janet Blatt, who is a committee sponsor.

Bishop marks milestone anniversaries

This year marks two significant anniversaries for Bishop Donald Trautman. Bishop Trautman celebrated the 20th anniversary of his episcopal ordination on April 16. On that day in 1985 he was ordained auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Buffalo. June 16 marked the 15th anniversary of his installation as the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Erie.

Employees of the Erie Diocese at St. Mark Catholic Center recently honored the bishop at a prayer service and breakfast where he was presented with a \$10,000 donation to the Carol Trautman Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Contributions to the fund were made not only by diocesan employees, but also by the priests and deacons of the Erie Diocese. The money donated will be used to benefit the following schools: Holy Family School, Erie; St. Bernard Elementary & Middle School, Bradford; St. Boniface School, Erie; St. Patrick School, Franklin; St. Thomas School, Corry; and St. Titus School, Titusville.



Top, Bishop Trautman visits with co-workers at St. Mark Catholic Center, Erie, including retired Bishop Michael Murphy. Bottom, Msgr. Robert Smith, vicar general of the Erie Diocese, at left, presents Bishop Trautman with a \$10,000 check for the Carol Trautman Memorial Scholarship Fund. The fund was established in honor of the bishop's late sister, who was a school teacher.

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National Directory for Catechesis published

Staff and wire reports

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has published the new *National Directory for Catechesis*.

While many Catholics may wonder why the U.S. bishops just published something that sounds like a phone book for religious education teachers, catechists are familiar with the directory as a guide for teaching the faith.

“This book directs anybody who teaches in the name of the church,” says Joe Streett, director of religious education/adult religious education for the Erie Diocese. “Anybody who’s teaching the faith, whether it’s principals and school teachers, RCIA, Pre-Cana, baptism prep, they are given insight and direction in this book.”

The directory replaces *Sharing the Light of Faith*, the national catechetical directory adopted by the bishops in 1977 and published, following Vatican approval, in 1979.

It is available now in English. The Spanish version is due out in mid-July.

A summary of the directory, available in English and Spanish versions, has also been released.

Leaders’ guides in English and Spanish, which will combine printed material and a CD with PowerPoint presentations and text, will be available July 1.

Like its predecessor, the new directory will serve as a guide for all those who have catechetical responsibilities in U.S.

dioceses and parishes, especially those responsible for organizing and supervising catechetical programs. It will serve as a fundamental reference for authors, editors and publishers of catechetical texts and other catechetical resources.

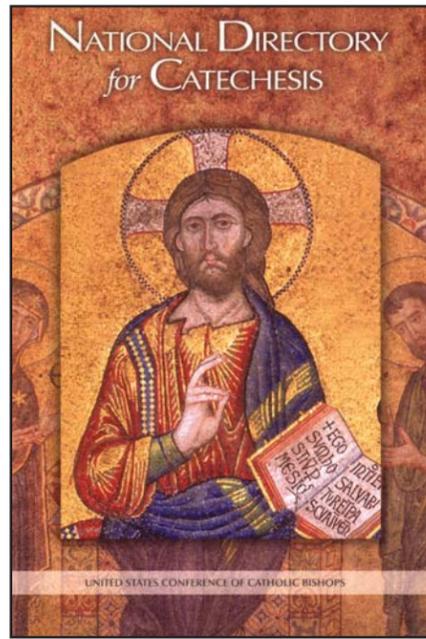
The Erie Diocese will provide a copy of the summary for all principals and religious education teachers, Streett says, and a flyer explaining the new directory will be available to every catechist and school teacher.

The general structure of the new directory is similar to that of *Sharing the Light of Faith*, but it treats many areas in greater detail and reflects significant catechetical developments in the church since 1977.

These included Pope John Paul II’s 1979 apostolic exhortation *On Catechesis in Our Time*, the publication of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in 1992, and the Vatican’s issuance of a new *General Directory for Catechesis* in 1997, updating and expanding on its 1971 *General Catechetical Directory*.

“John Paul II did a lot of writing in the area of catechesis,” Streett says. “He shifted catechesis toward what he called the ‘new evangelization.’ Anybody who has heard the gospel always needs to have it reignited in their lives. That was a major shift. Evangelization and catechesis are related and they work together.”

Unlike the directory itself, which was approved by the bishops and the Vatican, the summary was developed by the USCCB Committee on Catechesis. It is written especially for volunteers, includ-



ing parents, young adults and teens, but it is also intended to help teachers, catechists, pastors, religious, committees, principals, and directors or coordinators of various pastoral ministries understand more about the directory.

“The biggest fundamental change that we’re dealing with is we need to learn to do catechesis in a way that sets people’s hearts on fire for the gospel,” Streett says.

The *National Directory for Catechesis* is available from USCCB publishing for \$19.95; the English and Spanish summaries, \$3.95; materials can be ordered online at www.usccb.org or by phone at 1.800.235.8722.

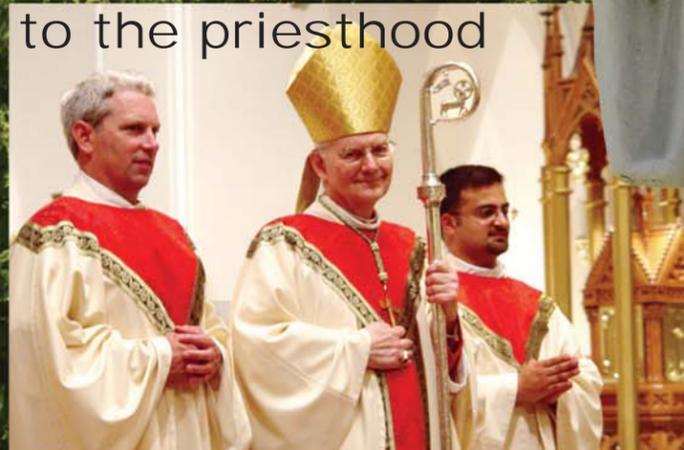
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FaithLife

June 19, 2005

Benedictine Sisters of Erie to celebrate 150 years of PRAYER, COMMUNITY & MINISTRY

Two ordained to the priesthood



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