



St. John Vianney Fund

FOR PRIESTLY FORMATION

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER

Please welcome our five new seminarians!



John Krump grew up in Burnaby with eight siblings, one being his twin. His home parish is St. Michael the Archangel where he served as an altar server since his first communion. He recently finished an electrical apprenticeship where he developed a strong work ethic.



Juan Pablo Meneses grew up in Colombia. He joined the Neocatechumenal Way when he was sixteen. He entered the Redemptoris Mater Seminary of Medellin, Colombia, where he did his Spirituality Year. He arrived in Vancouver in July 2022 and is now studying English.



Luis Esquivel grew up in a devout Catholic family in Monterrey, Mexico. An avid runner, he has work experience in economics, finance, and IT consulting. His home parish is Sacred Heart in Vancouver.



Pablo Gamòn is from Texas, USA. He joined the Neocatechumenal Way seven years ago in his home parish, Nuestra Senora del Pilar, in Dallas. A graduate of the University of Dallas, he responded to a vocational call to the priesthood after a retreat with his community.



Michael Roy grew up in North Surrey. Michael has a variety of volunteer and work experiences, including a local soup kitchen, Overcoming Porn Initiative, and internship with the Canadian Centre for Bio-Ethical Reform. His home parish is Our Lady of Good Counsel.

▲ Top photo: Seminarians at their annual convocation. Read more on Page 3.



Serving at the Papal Mass

by Alexis Boquiren

On Tuesday July 26, 2022, Pope Francis celebrated Mass with 50,000 people at the Commonwealth Stadium in Edmonton on the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne. There was much anticipation for the Holy Father's arrival in the stadium. We knew he had arrived when the crowd started cheering as he went around the stadium. He was waving to everyone and holding every single baby he could see.

The altar servers all lined up, side by side, preparing to meet the Pope face to face, rehearsing our handshakes, and asking around what to say in Italian or Spanish. When the time arrived, Pope Francis with his walker greeted the servers slowly one by one. The experience was

surreal. His presence and attention to the person in front of him was noticeable.

Holy Mass went on, and Pope Francis emphasized the importance of remembering where we came from and realizing our responsibility for the people around us. He said that we are "children of a history that needs to be preserved; we are authors of a history yet to be written." The ones who came before us have given us so much, and it is up to us now to decide what we are going to do. From "roots to fruits", we are nourished and sustained by our ancestors, elders, parents, and grandparents, our roots. Now it is our turn to bear fruits. Jesus through Pope Francis exhorts us to reignite the flame that was passed on to us.

St. Joseph's Seminary

The Archdiocese of Vancouver has newly established relationship with St. Joseph's Seminary in Edmonton, as three of our new seminarians have begun their Spirituality Year formation there.

Here is an introductory remark taken from the seminary website: "During the course of its 80+ years, over 500 men have gone forth from St. Joseph Seminary to serve the Lord in the ordained ministry as priests."

The seminary is run by the Society of the Priests of Saint Sulpice, a group of diocesan priests dedicated to forming seminarians for pastoral ministry. "Bringing with them their experience of 350 years of priestly formation, the Sulpicians have continued to build on the long tradition of St. Joseph Seminary, forming together with the seminarians in their charge, one educative community by living in an apostolic spirit around our Lord Jesus Christ."

St. Joseph's Seminary had the honour of hosting Pope Francis recently. As he bid farewell, Francis gifted the institute with a statue of Jesus' foster father and Mary's husband, saying, "I am leaving you my dearest friend." This was an unexpected blessing for our new seminarians who moved there shortly after!

Photo by Vatican News



Seminarian Convocation

In late August, our seminarians spent the weekend together for their annual convocation at Charis Camp in Chilliwack. They gathered for a few days of prayer and fraternity as they prepared to return to seminary for the new school year. Fr. Paul Goo, Fr. Davide Lanzani and Fr. Bryan Duggan accompanied them. A special thanks to Fr. Bruce-John Hamilton, pastor of Corpus Christi Parish, for giving an inspiring presentation on how his team has planned a ten-year vision for the parish!



Men In Black in action!

The 10th World Meeting of Families wrapped up at the Vatican on June 26, 2022 with Pope Francis reminding thousands attending Mass, “Don’t ever forget this: the family is the first place where you learn to love.

In Surrey, that love was celebrated in a big way with families from around the archdiocese gathering for a Joy of the Family event complete with games, family fun, and food, all in celebration of the end of the Year of the Family.



Also making an appearance was the Men in Black soccer team – made up of archdiocesan priests, seminarians, and a few laymen – who braved the heat in matches that pitted them against the younger children and then against teens and adults.

Write-up by Nicholas Elbers

Summer seminarian formation

Four senior seminarians were placed in parishes for pastoral internship in the summer as follows: Jerome Robles at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, William Mancao in Yukon, Medard Kamanzi at Corpus Christi Parish, and Paul Vo at St. Paul’s Parish in Richmond. Patrick Le finished Clinical Pastoral Education with Providence Health Care and is currently on pastoral internship at St. Matthew’s Parish.

Three junior seminarians – Alexis Boquiren, Luis Duenas, and Albert Remoroza – tried something new this summer, i.e. rectory living. They each got to live in a rectory alongside the priests in residence while commuting to their workplace outside the parish. In this way they could discern their vocation more in the concrete experience than in their imagination of the priestly life.

Under the leadership of Archbishop J. Michael Miller, the St. John Vianney Fund was established in 2015 at the annual Archbishop’s Dinner. The fund has since raised over \$1 million to form holy, intelligent, competent, and pastorally-engaged men who strive to continue the work of Christ in their vocation as a priest in the Archdiocese.

We would like to thank all donors for their generous support. Please consider becoming a donor if you are not one yet. A donation of \$25/day will cover the education cost of a seminarian.

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