



The Beholder

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FALL 2018

SAVE THE DATE

- ◆ **AUGUST 18**
NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION
- ◆ **SEPTEMBER 5**
LAY ENRICHMENT SERIES (LES@NDS)
FR. JIM, RECTOR
- ◆ **SEPT. 21-22**
ILEM RETREAT
- ◆ **OCTOBER 10**
LES@NDS:
DR. TOM NEAL
- ◆ **NOVEMBER 5-9**
SPRING 2019 REGISTRATION
- ◆ **NOVEMBER 7**
LES@NDS:
DR. MARIO SACASA
- ◆ **DECEMBER 12**
LES@NDS:
DR. SUSIE VETERS
- ◆ **DECEMBER 15**
ADVENT EVENING OF REFLECTION
- ◆ **JANUARY 27**
ILEM COMMISSIONING
ST. LOUIS CATHEDRAL

What's New in the Lay Programs?

There are many new things happening this Fall in the Lay Programs that we are excited to share.

New Directors

Fr. Jim Wehner, Rector of NDS, has agreed to become the Pastoral Formation Director for the ILEM & MAPL Programs. Fr. Jim commented on his new position, *“Effective, competent ministry cannot occur in the life of the Church without the charms of the lay faithful. The collaboration between the ordained and the laity is what provides for fruitful, healthy, vibrant ministry. The formation programs we provide at NDS for the laity equip them with a solid theological, pastoral preparation for ministry into today’s Church.”*

We are grateful to Fr. Joe Krafft who has filled this position since the beginning of the

ILEM Program. He will be greatly missed!

Dr. David Liberto, Professor of Dogmatic and Historical Theology, has become the Director of the Masters of Theological Studies, MATS, Program.

Mrs. Caroline Butterworth has become the Director of the Institute of Lay Ecclesial Ministry, ILEM, and will return to NDS in September in a part-time capacity.

GO! Conference Presenters

Mary Lou McCall, MAPL student, will be speaking at the [GO! Conference](#) this January. The title of her talk is *“The supernatural unity between science and the Sacraments: Preventing drug abuse, addiction, and overdose deaths.”* To register or for more information about the Conference, go to

<https://go4th.faith/>

Alpha—Catholic Version

The 12 week Alpha Course, has been in existence for 30 years throughout the world but was just introduced to the New Orleans area Catholic Churches by the Archdiocese in January 2017. Alpha is a tool to introduce people to an initial proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ – the kerygma. Each meeting includes a dinner, a 1/2 hour video, and a 1-1/4 hour small group discussion on the video.

One of our MAPL students, Mark Williams, will be leading the 2nd [“Alpha in a Catholic Context”](#) at his parish Ascension of Our Lord, LaPlace. For questions, more information, or to register email Mark at markw24@aol.com.

“To Whomever I Send You, You Shall Go...”

by Terri Derbes

“Nooooo!” I cried as I hung up my office phone. The Archdiocese had just ask me to film a gospel reflection for their website. I grabbed the hands of Ann and Jane, who were standing close by.

“I need you to pray for me, right now,” I said, eyes brimming.

Ann, no stranger to prayer, started a calm litany asking for help. Jane, my co-worker, asked very perplexed, “Terri, what is going on?”

“God is asking me to do something and I absolutely do not want to do it.”

She looked at me very earnestly, not knowing what was causing my concern. “But Terri, hasn’t He been preparing you just for this?”

The amazing part of her statement was this: Yes, He had been. He had sent me on a transformative journey through the Institute for Lay Ecclesial Ministry (ILEM).

At the same time that I was being formed though the ILEM program, I was also engaged in challenging, fascinating, and parish-practical graduate coursework for my Master’s Degree in Pastoral Leadership. A phrase that one of my fellow students told me on the first day of class I found to be the absolute truth: I was being taught by rock-star faculty. The knowledge of the Catholic faith that was afforded me during my time at Notre Dame Seminary has and will serve me as I work in His church to serve others. Through my formation and

education and spiritual development in ILEM and the graduate program, God had been preparing me so that He when called, I could say, “yes.”

Terri Derbes was commissioned by the Archbishop as a Lay Ecclesial Minister January 2018 and graduated with a Master’s Degree in Pastoral Leadership from Notre Dame Seminary. She is the Pastoral Associate at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church.



Check out the star article the Clarion Herald did on the Lay Programs [Here!](#)

Welcome to Our New Students!

Stephenie Aubert - St. Philip/St. James, Vacherie

Jeannie Callaway - St. Luke, Slidell

Gregg Griffin - Our Lady of Wisdom, Lafayette

Lauren Hicks - Christ the King, Baton Rouge

Kelli Joseph - Our Lady of Grace, Reserve

Lauren Lagarde - St. Francis of Assisi, N.O.

Toni Landeche - Holy Family, Lulling

Christopher Lazarine - St. Charles Borromeo, Destrehan

Gavin Matherne - St. Matthew, River Ridge

Susan May - St. Jane de Chantal, Abita Springs

Patricia Reed - St. Jane de Chantal, Abita Springs

Candace Robertson - Our Lady of Grace, Reserve

Lee Schaffer - St. Bernadette, Houma

Laurie Smith - All Saints Church, N.O.

Jacquelyn Sofio - St. Edward the Confessor, Metairie

Janet Stains - Our Lady of Lourdes, Slidell

Mark Williams - Ascension of Our Lord, LaPlace

Torie Winter - Visitation of Our Lady, Marrero



Lay Enrichment Series

The Lay Enrichment Series at Notre Dame Seminary (LES@NDS) is a lecture series created to provide our community with an opportunity to continue their faith formation. By better understanding your faith, you are able to move into a more mature and informed relationship with the Lord. Our hope is to empower you to continue the ministry of Christ through active engagement in the Church. Mark your calendars and join us this fall as we engage in topics ranging from The New Evangelization to the Sacrament of Marriage--you won't want to miss this awesome faith and spiritual enrichment opportunity!



September 5: The New Evangelization, Fr. Jim Wehner

October 10: The Power of Baptism in Life, Dr. Tom Neal

November 7: Marriage as a Rock of Security, Dr. Mario Sacasa

December 12: Catholicism and the Saints, Dr. Susie Veters



For more information and descriptions of talks or to register for any of the speakers, please visit www.nds.edu/les or contact the MA Office by phone at (504) 866-7426, ext. 742 or by email at maoffice@nds.edu. We hope you can join us!

Interested in one of NDS Lay Programs? Visit <https://nds.edu/laymasterprograms/> or give us a call: 504-866-7426, Ext. 742.

Getting to Know Dr. Andrew Geist, Professor of Sacred Scripture

Dr. Andrew Geist was hired this summer as the new professor of Sacred Scripture.

Q: Where are you from and what lead you to Notre Dame Seminary?

A: Portland, OR, originally. South Bend, IN most recently. I felt incredibly welcomed by seminarians and faculty when I visited. Teaching here is a clear way academic theology can serve the Church.

Q: What is something you are looking forward to as a professor at NDS?

A: Getting to teach a theological approach to Scripture to people whose vocations are deeply connected to it.

Q: What do you like best/worst about being a professor?

A: Best: Students who come to love something they did not before. Worst: sometimes this requires grading-intensive assignments!

Q: Why did you choose to become a Scripture Professor?

A: My own teachers helped me to love Scripture where I did not before. I'd like to do this as well.

Q: What is the last good book you read besides the Bible :)?

A: The Idiot by Fyodor Dostoevsky

Q: What are you most grateful for?

A: My wife and children

Q: Best once-in-a-lifetime memory?

A: I have to say two: our wedding and the birth of our first child.

Q: One fun fact most people do not know about you?

A: In 5th grade I hit a double off of Packer's QB Aaron Rodgers.



Q: What inspires you?

A: Materially: Good coffee. Spiritually: The humility and generosity of others.

Q: What is your favorite class to teach?

A: Classes on Genesis, the Temple, or money.

Q: What is the best way to study for your classes?

A: Don't reread any of your notes etc. until you've practiced answers out loud from memory.

Along with teaching seminarians, Dr. Geist will be teaching Lay Students and the new Diaconate class starting this Fall, SS 611: Old Testament. Please keep him and his family in your prayers during this period of transition and adjustment. Dr Geist can be reached at ageist@nds.edu.

We want our students to be consistent contributors to the newsletter, so please send us any information, news, updates, etc. that could be posted in future Lay Programs Newsletters to maoffice@nds.edu.