



# Vocations

## Quo Vadis and FIAT Camps bring young people closer to Christ

More than 200 high school students had a fun and fruitful time at our summer discernment camps, held in July at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD. FIAT, for girls, is staffed by religious sisters and college-aged discerners, and Quo Vadis, for boys, is run by our diocesan seminarians, priests and religious.



Registration for 2019 camps will open March 1.

Visit [www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT](http://www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT) or

[www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/QuoVadis](http://www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/QuoVadis)

### What They're Saying

- After FIAT, "I feel like instead of knowing what path to take, I know how to find out what path to take, and that helps A LOT."
- "I learned that the priesthood can be and should be adventurous and fun."
- "Quo Vadis is fun, and the first place I ever prayed, and the place I claimed my faith."
- "[Camp] really increased my love for God and my desire to speak to Him, and it balances prayer and fun."

## Vocation Events for Men, Women, and Teens

FOR MEN	QUO VADIS (HIGH SCHOOL BOYS)	FOR WOMEN	FIAT (HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS)
<b>Day of Recollection</b> December 22, 2018	<b>Basketball Game vs. Seminarians</b> January 5, 2019 (Refereed by Bishop Burbidge)	<b>Nun Run (Convent Visits)</b> December 1, 2018	<b>Nun Run (Convent Visits)</b> December 1, 2018
<b>Weekend Discernment Retreat</b> March 12-14, 2019	<b>Mass &amp; Ropes Course</b> March 30, 2019	<b>Day of Recollection</b> December 16, 2018	<b>Day of Recollection</b> February 3, 2019
<b>Seminary Visit</b> April 12-14, 2019	<b>Quo Vadis Summer Camp</b> July 7-11, 2019	<b>Day of Discernment (Sisters of Life)</b> January 19, 2019	<b>Mass &amp; Ropes Course</b> April 6, 2019
		<b>Weekend Discernment Retreat</b> June 14-16, 2019	<b>FIAT Days Summer Camp</b> July 13-17, 2019

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If you think God may be calling you to the priesthood or consecrated religious life, talk to one of your priests or contact Fr. Michael Isenberg: [vocations@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org) • (703) 841-2514  
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## From the Desk of Bishop Burbidge

"The love of Christ compels us." 2 Cor 5:14

One of our seminarians, sadly moved by the situation of our church, said: "I have never before had so strong a desire to be a holy priest for the sake of church — for the sake of every person who constitutes her."

God still calls. Even when we see our Church in turmoil, when we witness daily trials to our faith, when we hear of violence to people of faith, often in the name of religion, God is still calling men and women to follow him.

These seeming obstacles only make God's case—and ours—more compelling. Our world needs saints, holy men and women who've made an encounter with the love of Christ and offered their very selves to bring this love to others so desperate for it.

Let National Vocation Awareness Week be an invitation, a call, to all of us, first to encounter Christ's love, and then to let it compel us to be—and to pray for—the saints our world needs.

He is still calling.

*God bless you always,  
Bishop Burbidge*

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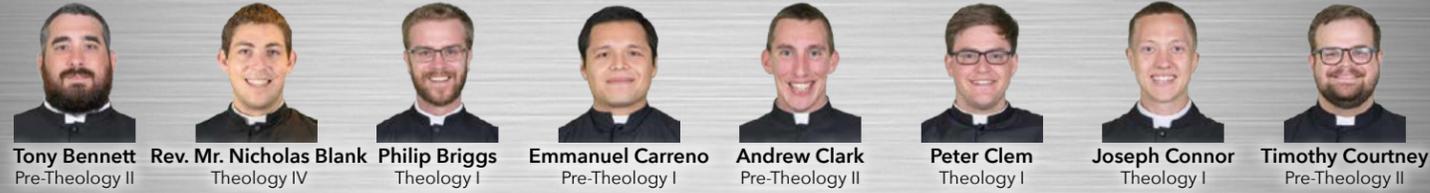
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Bishop Burbidge with seminarians Jonathan Smith, Jeff Petroski and John Paul Heisler after their Mass of Installation to the Ministry of Lector at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood, PA.

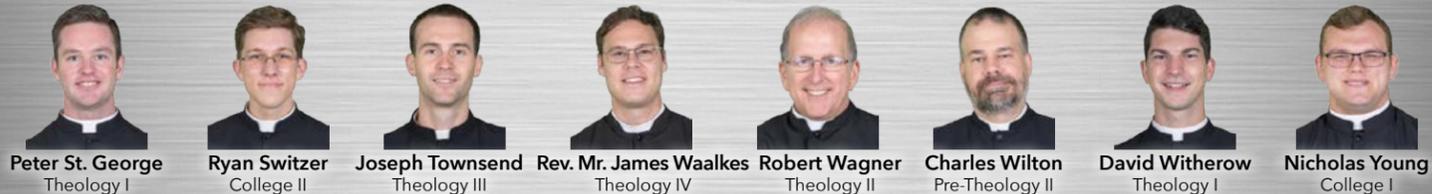
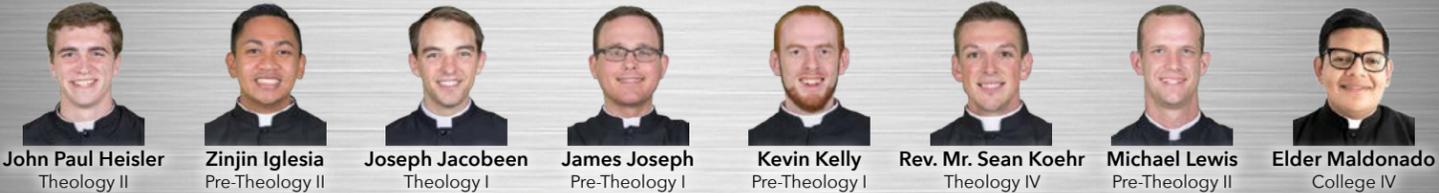
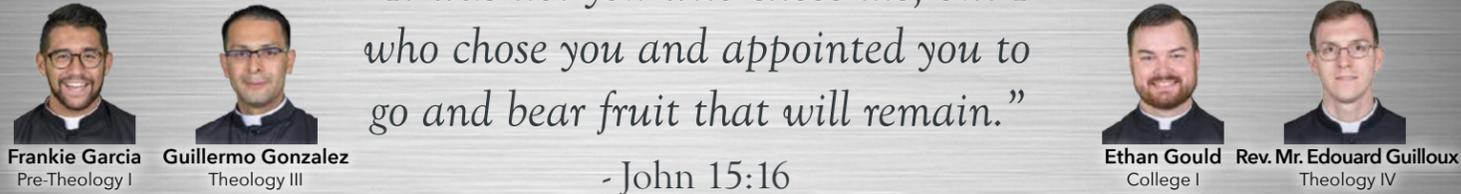
# 2018-19 SEMINARIANS



## IS GOD CALLING YOU?

*"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain."*

- John 15:16



## What if God called one of your children to be a priest or sister? The parents of two of our seminarians share their experience.

*An interview with Mark and Holly McShurley, parents of seminarian Peter McShurley, and Paul and Lisa Heisler, parents of seminarian John Paul Heisler & Sister Mary Grace Augustine Heisler, Carmel D.C.J.*

Grace Augustine first approached them about becoming a sister. A couple years later, John Paul said he was considering the priesthood.

Paul said, "John Paul asked me recently, 'Dad, do you remember what you said to me when I told you?' I said, 'No, what did I say?' He said, 'People are going to think our family is weird!'"

A culture of vocations means supporting your children when they talk about their future, whether they're talking about marriage, the priesthood, or religious life. It also means supporting other families, and their children's vocations.

"I've heard that there can be friction between kids discerning a vocation to the priesthood or religious life, and their parents," Lisa Heisler said. "We're so blessed because around our parish, people are almost envious! They ask, 'What are you doing right?' Ultimately the discerner comes to it through prayer, and the parents of discerners need to pray, too."

Creating a culture of vocations in the home doesn't mean constantly telling your children to consider the priesthood or religious life. Fundamentally, it just means living your faith, passing it on to your children, and letting God do the rest of the work.

To Paul Heisler, living your faith means, above all, having a relationship with Jesus. For his family, all the devotionals the Church has to offer can't replace that.

"I remember hearing a story of St. John Vianney asking a man why he sat at the back of the church," Paul said. "The man said, 'He [meaning Jesus] looks at me and I look at Him.' Faith has to be a relationship, and we made sure our kids knew that."

Mark and Holly McShurley incorporated Catholic teaching into conversations about just about everything.

"We talked about religion, and we talked about science, we talked about what was going on in the culture, good and bad," he said. "Faith and reason are both so important." Added Holly: "There need to be reasons why you believe what you believe or why you act how you act. You can't just say, 'This is just how it is.' We as Catholics believe that the Truth makes you free, and there's freedom in knowledge."

When Peter told Mark and Holly he wanted to become a priest, they had very different reactions. Holly saw it coming, but Mark was caught off guard. He was also worried.

"Honestly, I was concerned at first," he said. "There were scandals going on, and it worried me. Then a friend said, 'You have to admire a man who wants to run into a burning building and help people.'"

Lisa and Paul were very receptive when Sr.



Mark and Holly McShurley, seated, center, with their children and grandchildren. Peter is standing in the back row.



Lisa and Paul Heisler, with their children, including Sr. Grace Augustine and seminarian John Paul.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS BY NAME

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