



This wasn't just an athletic event however, as the kids also spent the weeks leading up to the sprint raising money for the Office of Vocations in order to help with the costs of education of seminarians. In all, the students raised just over \$8600—a very impressive amount! Of course, during the preparation for the seminarian sprint, they also learned about vocations and were taught how to better listen to the voice of the Lord.

The best part however, was the sheer enthusiasm of the kids themselves. They cheered for us and interacted with us and truly made us feel welcome. At the same time the event made us feel like rock stars, while also humbling us because we know that it is not for us, but rather for God's call that we received their adulation. During the assembly after the event, the auditorium was filled with happy cheers and much excitement and exploded to a fever pitch when their pastor, Fr. Kleinmann, walked into the auditorium.

There was real substance behind the excitement: it was for our faith and for the Lord. I had the opportunity to visit the eighth grade class and speak to them. I took some time to ask them a variety of questions, particularly focused on topics that are important to confirmation (which they had received two months prior). They responded well to all of the questions and showed they knew their faith. Moreover, they were attentive and engaged during the class, which speaks volumes for the community that exists among the pastor, the teachers, other faculty and the students. Their foundation is in the right place—on Jesus Christ. *(courtesy of Deacon Weber)* ***Back to Headlines***

NICHOLAS BARNES & BRENDAN BARTLETT TO BEGIN THEOLOGY STUDIES IN ROME

On June 20th, Nicholas Barnes and Brendan Bartlett were admitted to candidacy for Holy Orders prior to their upcoming departure for theology studies and formation at the Pontifical North American College in Rome, Italy next fall. Both Nick and Brendan completed their pre-theology formation at St. Charles Seminary in Philadelphia. While joining Joe Bergida, Mike Isenberg, Jeb Donelan, Luke Dundon and Fr. Robert Wagner—in varying levels of formation—as NAC'ers, Brendan will do his theology coursework at the [Angelicum](#) and Nick at the [Gregorian](#).



Regarding their studies in the Eternal City, Brendan feels *“very blessed and excited about the opportunity to continue my formation for the priesthood in Rome. The prospect of studying with men from all over the country and the world, not to mention learning a new language and culture is still a bit overwhelming, but I eagerly anticipate gaining an appreciation for the Universal Church. I am awestruck at the thought of having all of that history and beautiful architecture literally at my fingertips. I hope and pray that this experience will lend to my ability to one day serve the people of The Diocese of Arlington.”* Nick is *“very grateful for this opportunity to study in Rome”* and is *“very excited to get to know the city in an intimate way that I wouldn't be able to do otherwise.”*

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WOMEN DISCERNERS DINNER WITH BISHOP & SISTERS



Bishop Loverde hosted the annual **Dinner for Women Discerners & Sisters** this year at the St. Thomas More Center. It was one of the first vocation promotion functions to be held at his residence. Gathering on June 1st the women discerners had the opportunity to meet with one another and six consecrated women religious along with three parish vocation promoters serving in the Diocese of Arlington. Bishop Loverde led Evening Prayer in the chapel prior to dinner and gave an explanation of the architectural features which had been retained from the original chapel of the Sister, Servant of the Immaculate Heart of Mary as well as the new sanctuary furnishings.

In addition to a fine dinner and companionship, the evening offered all the participants a chance to share ideas about how better to serve the women here in Arlington who may be considering a vocation to become a religious sister or cloistered nun. Bishop Loverde closed with words of encouragement and the assurance of his prayers. *Back to Headlines*

QUO VADIS DAYS 2009

The Diocese of Arlington Quo Vadis Days 2009 was held at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD from Sunday, June 28 to Thursday, July 2. The camp gave an opportunity for high school age Catholic men to deepen their faith, learn more about the priesthood and to better discern God's call in their lives. The theme this year was "Lord, That I May See." The cost of attending Quo Vadis Days 2009 was \$75.00 with financial assistance available upon request.



With a blending of prayer, talks and a variety of recreation, participants in the 2008 Quo Vadis Days recommended it because *"it was the perfect mix of prayer and play"*, *"It was a good place to meet people and learn more about our faith"*, *"It was immensely helpful in the discerning process"*, *"I learned a lot about being a good Christian man and about the priesthood too."* and *"It changed my perception about the priesthood"*.

Sunday's opening Mass was celebrated by Bishop Paul S. Loverde and was followed by a Cook-out Welcome for all the families whose sons were participating in the 2009 QVDays. Our Arlington Seminarians manned the grills for the cook-out and served as Crew Members during the camp. Each day had its own unique adventures planned from hikes, sports, games, DVD's, talks, private & liturgical prayer and also a candlelit Rosary Walk to the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes. For more information about Quo Vadis Days 2009 or the Quo Vadis groups, call the Office of Vocations at 703 841-2515. *Back to Headlines*

BISHOP LOVERDE ORDAINS THREE NEW DEACONS & THREE NEW PRIESTS



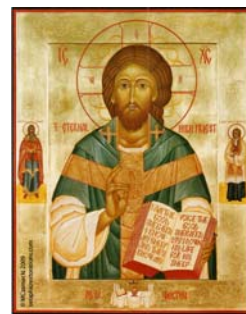
June is the month especially dedicated to devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. How fitting then that the Diocese of Arlington was blessed with Diaconate and Priesthood Ordinations on June 7th and June 14th respectively! Bishop Loverde ordained Ed Bresnahan, Mick Kelly and Jason Weber as transitional deacons. Deacon Jason will be serving at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More while Deacon Ed will be in Manassas at All Saints for his diaconal assignment. Deacon Mick's service will be carried out at Blessed Sacrament in Alexandria. Our three newly ordained priests are Father Matthew DeForest, Father Stephen Schultz and

Father Robert Wagner. Fr. DeForest's parochial vicar assignment is at All Saints in Manassas. Fr. Schultz will be in Chantilly at St. Timothy's. St. Leo the Great Church will be home to Fr. Wagner for the summer until he heads back to Rome for further studies in spiritual theology. Please keep them and all the clergy in your prayers. *Back to Headlines*

YEAR FOR PRIESTS—JUNE 19, 2009-JUNE 19, 2010

"Faithfulness of Christ, faithfulness of priests"

The Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus is set aside each year as **World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests**. This year it also marks the beginning of the **Year for Priests**. On June 19th the Cathedral of St. Thomas More held hours of Eucharistic Adoration for priests between the 7am and the 12:05pm Masses. Chancery staff members signed up for half hour slots to keep watch with Jesus so that others might be able to stop to pray as well. Many of our parish vocation promoters and discerners joined in silent prayer during the morning.



In Rome, Pope Benedict XVI inaugurated the Year on 19 June by presiding at Vespers in St. Peter's Basilica where the relics of the saintly 'Curé of Ars', patron of parish priests, were brought for the occasion. He will close the year on June, 19, 2010, presiding at a "World Meeting of Priests" in St. Peter's Square. For an explanation of the icon, prayers and more information on the Year for Priests visit <http://www.usccb.org/yearforpriests/> *Back to Headlines*

MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH AND MOTHER OF VOCATIONS, PRAY FOR US!

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