Seminary Announces Affiliation

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius has announced an affiliation with the theology department of Duquesne University, in Pittsburgh, for awarding master's degrees to eligible seminarians.

Under the affiliation agreement beginning this fall, seminary students may earn a Master of Arts degree through Duquesne's theology department. After successfully completing the necessary coursework at the required GPA level at the seminary, as well as four graduate theology courses at the university with a "B" average, seminary students can sit for a comprehensive examination for the M.A. degree, which will be awarded by Duquesne. The agreement will also allow Duquesne students to cross-register for certain courses at the seminary.

Father John G. Petro, Rector of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary said, "We approached Duquesne University because of its high academic reputation and its excellent department of theology. We are pleased with their decision to affiliate with the Byzantine Catholic Seminary because we believe it complements each school. We will certainly benefit from the overall academic program and excellence of Duquesne University, and we can offer a distinctive Byzantine theological approach to their fine program."

Dr. James P. Hanigan, chair of the Duquesne theology department said, "... they will contribute a dimension to our program that we haven't had strongly here, the distinctive Byzantine approach to theology."
Rector’s Message

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary has indeed been blessed by God. As you will see in these pages, many donors have come forth to help us, and we continue to benefit from many talented people, such as Dr. Betty Radvak Shovlin, Chairperson of the Seminary Advisory Board. A most wonderful blessing is our affiliation with Duquesne University, allowing us to move into the 21st century with confidence in our academic program. Regarding academics, I am also pleased to announce that Professor J. Michael Thompson, a noted church musician, will become a fulltime faculty member in September, as director of our music program. With all these blessings, we stand ever in awe of God’s goodness to us.

Father John G. Petro, Rector

Famed Theologian Inaugurates
SS. Cyril and Methodius Lecture Series

Right Reverend Archimandrite Robert F. Taft, S.J., addressed an audience of 200 on Tuesday, May 8, 2001 at the auditorium of St. Paul’s Seminary in Pittsburgh. Father Taft’s address, “Eastern Catholic Theology: Slow Rebirth after a Long and Difficult Gestation,” carefully traced the development of an Eastern Catholic theology. He then highlighted ten characteristics that distinguish this tradition. Father Taft is Vice Rector and Ordinary Professor of Liturgy at the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome. The author of more than a dozen books and some six hundred scholarly articles, Father Taft has served in various Vatican roles. This event marked the close of the seminary’s 50th anniversary celebration and the inauguration of the SS. Cyril and Methodius Lecture to be held annually.
Anonymous Donor Gives Seminary $100,000

In November 2000 an anonymous donor gave the Byzantine Catholic Seminary a gift of securities worth $100,000. The Very Reverend Archpriest John G. Petro, rector of the seminary, said, “We are humbled by the generosity of this donor who wishes to have this gift remain anonymous, as we are humbled by the gifts of all people who have contributed to our ‘Campaign of Planting and Harvesting.’ All donations will be made part of the seminary endowment and will help provide for spiritual formation of priests well into the future.”

Pittsburgh Foundations Award Seminary Grants

In December 2000 the Byzantine Catholic Seminary received notification from the PNC Bank Charitable Trusts Committee and the Kate M. Kelley Foundation that grants of $10,000 and $2,000, respectively, had been awarded to the seminary. The PNC Bank Charitable Trusts grant will be used for the music program at the seminary and the $2,000 Kelley grant will be made part of the seminary endowment. Father Petro, seminary rector, said, “We are grateful to Bruce Bickel of PNC and Reverend Leo Vanyo at the Kelley Foundation for their acknowledgement of and trust in the seminary.”

Dr. Betty Radvak Shovlin

Board Chairperson

Betty Shovlin, Chairperson of the Seminary Advisory Board, is a person who knows her way around education. Educated at Duquesne University, the University of Pittsburgh and Harvard, Betty has served for 36 years as classroom teacher, principal of three different schools, Elementary Supervisor of Instruction, and Associate Director of the Division of Staff Development of the Pittsburgh Public Schools. She is currently adjunct Associate Professor at Carlow College. A member of St. Gregory Byzantine Catholic Church in Upper St. Clair, PA, Betty is married to John F. Shovlin III. “We are truly blessed to have a person of Betty’s talent and learning as an advisor to our seminary,” Father John Petro said. “Her wisdom, guidance, and equanimity have served us well in the on-going development of our seminary.”
Memorial and Securities Gifts Continue

The seminary has benefited from the continued interest of the faithful in the *Book of Remembrance*, according to Edward Barr, seminary Development Director. "We have had more than 65 people choose to remember their loved ones in our *Book of Remembrance*,” Barr said. “And the seminary’s fund-raising program for the anniversary year continues to move toward a successful conclusion because many people have given donations, particularly in the form of stocks. We are certainly very grateful to all contributors, regardless of the method or the amount they choose to give.”

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Eternal Memory

The seminary lost a great friend and supporter with the untimely death of His Eminence Metropolitan Judson M. Procyk on April 24, 2001. His interest in and support of the seminary and its many programs will long be remembered by faculty, staff and students. May his memory be eternal!