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Cardinal Stritch University

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THE TROUBADOUR

AUGUST 15, 2006

ISSUE 60

GANNON BEGINS AS STRITCH'S NEW CAMPUS PRIEST

The Rev. James Gannon, OFM, who previously served as chaplain for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston at the Texas Medical Center's Methodist Hospital, began his role as director of the Franciscan Mission office on Aug. 1. He also serves half-time as the University's campus priest.

Father Gannon has held various positions in ministry over the years, including teaching English, religion and languages in his native Philadelphia for seven years before serving as a chaplain and pastoral minister in Chicago. He also served as president and campus minister of Archbishop Ryan High School in Philadelphia, where he taught years earlier.

Father Gannon said he's excited about working within Stritch's campus community and utilizing his experience as a teacher and administrator.

"I hope to bring the fruitful experiences of team ministry to my ministry at Stritch," he said.

He was pastor of St. Martha's Parish in Philadelphia for five years before he became co-director of Novices and Guardian of the community for the San Damiano Friary in Cedar Lake, Ind. He held various positions in two years at the St. Mary of the Angels Friary in Green Bay before serving as temporary administrator of the St. Peter's Parish in Greenwood, Miss.

While in Mississippi, Gannon experienced both Hurricanes Katrina & Rita. His parish sustained some damage to two of

nine buildings on its property. The parish school was reopened within a week, but water and gas were rationed and telephone internet services were down for weeks. He said the mission friary housed a family of nine who lost everything in New Orleans until March of this year.

Father Gannon entered the Franciscan order in 1981 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1987, has a bachelor's degree in English literature from De Sales University in Center Valley, Pa., and a master's degree in divinity from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

His two sisters and a brother still live in the Philadelphia area, and one sister, Pat, is a religious Sister of St. Joseph in the Chestnut Hill area of Philadelphia.

An avid jogger, swimmer and cook, Father Gannon relishes time he's able to spend with family.



"I love getting together with my family every August at the family beach house in Sea Isle, New Jersey. I love nature, especially a walk along the beach."

Father Gannon said he looks forward to getting settled in at his new community at St. Stanislaus Friary.

"The Midwest is like a second home to me, and I know I'll be very comfortable here in Milwaukee," he said.

FACULTY, STAFF OFFERED DISCOUNTED SEATS FOR OCT. 13 MSO CONCERT

The Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra will perform a classical concert at Stritch at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13 in the University Theater, and students, faculty and staff are offered discounted ticket prices for the event.

Tickets for the concert are \$20 for Stritch students, faculty and staff, and the Sisters of St. Francis. This represents a 50 percent discount off the regular admission price of \$40.

This concert will feature Stritch's Dr.

Eun-Joo Kwak as a piano soloist. Few musicians are extended the honor of guest performing with the MSO, and this will be Kwak's first performance with the orchestra. She will play Mozart's Piano Concerto in A Major, KV 488.

Kwak, who has been with the University seven years, is an assistant professor of piano, coordinator of performance studies, and a

member of the Clarus Piano Trio. Kwak has performed recitals in Russia, Taiwan, Korea and throughout the United States; has received numerous prizes in competitions around the country and abroad; and has passed her knowledge to students along the way.

The Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra will perform under the direction of guest conductor Kelly Corcoran, assistant



KWAK

conductor for the Canton Symphony Orchestra in Ohio and music director of the Cleveland area Heights Chamber Orchestra.



CORCORAN

Kwak will be honored at a reception following the concert. During the reception, attendees are invited to visit the Northwestern Mutual Art Gallery, which will feature a selection of works by Sister Thomasita Fessler, the founder of Stritch's art program.

Stritch is one of only three institutions of higher education in the metro area to host the Symphony on site, and the event will be the second MSO concert at Stritch. The first, under the direction of Andreas Delfs and featuring concertmaster Frank W. Almond on violin, was performed May 19.

Tickets will go on sale Monday, Aug. 28, and can be purchased by calling the

University Box Office at (414) 410-4171. Box Office hours are 1-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.



BARTH SETTLES INTO ROLE AS STRITCH'S NEW CAMPUS MINISTER

Bridget Barth began her role as Stritch's new campus minister on July 10.

Barth was previously coordinator of mission at Iona College in New Rochelle, New York. In that role, she planned alternative breaks for students during their traditional spring, summer, fall, and Christmas breaks. These trips included visits to South Florida, the Texas/Mexico border, and two visits to New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina.

Prior to that, the Madison native was director of campus ministry for St. Albert the Great Newman Center Parish, which serves New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. Barth has also held various roles in field education at Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis, including youth ministry, clinical pastoral care, and tutoring and mentoring with Covenant House.

Barth has a master's of divinity degree from the Aquinas Institute and bachelor's degrees in psychology and philosophy from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, where she was founding president of the campus chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

She is an active member of the Catholic Campus Ministry Association and has worked with Habitat for Humanity for 10 years, three of them as construction supervisor with the St. Louis chapter. She is also a graduate of the Frank J. Lewis



Institute, an intensive week-long training program for campus ministers.

Barth said the Stritch community has been very open and neighborly in the short time she's been here. She added that she plans to draw on that inclusive spirit to build a structure of student leadership in campus ministry, so that students have a more active role in planning ministry activities and can have more ownership.

She also hopes to develop more programming for both resident and commuter students, as well as peer leadership teams in the residence halls.

Though she has pastoral ministry experience in hospital and incarceration settings, Barth said she is most at home on college campuses.

"I'm drawn to working with young people," she said. "I like to be a part of that kind of culture,

where people are learning about themselves and what they can do in the world. I discovered I could be an important part of a student's life."

Stritch, she said, has a lot to offer the Milwaukee area. "What people do with their education, their activities outside of their professional lives, is really inspiring," she said. "I look forward to being a part of that."

THE TROUBADOUR

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