Every new beginning comes from some other beginning’s end

by Fr. Joe Moriarty
Rector

We have reached the end of another school year and I reflect on the notion that every end is a new beginning.

I began this year as the new rector of Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary, on the heels of Fr. Bob Robeson as he ended his tenure. Or, I should say on Fr. Bob’s shoulders as I continue the amazing work he put forth to build the foundation of our seminary. His end became my beginning. I am so grateful for the blessing to serve here; to use my God-given abilities to help guide our seminarians and grow this seminary.

We graduated six seniors in early May. The end of their time here at Bruté is but a beginning to the next phase in their journey. When speaking about the seminary in the community, I often relate that no time spent in seminary is wasted. Whether a young man continues on in his theological studies or not, the time he spends in discernment is valuable to his future calling. Two of our seminarians will continue on in their priestly formation. Three have discerned out of the seminary and I know that they will go on to become engaged members of their faith communities. One more will be taking a pastoral year before continuing his theology studies. No matter their decision, I am confident the time they spent here has enriched their spiritual life and shaped them into godly men.

The end of this academic year only means we embark on the beginning of another. I am excited to announce that we will welcome 52 young men this Fall, placing the seminary at full capacity. Among our enrollment, we anticipate doubling the number of seminarians from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Please take the time to read this issue of our newsletter. It is packed with great news ... from beginning to end. May God bless you. ☺

Fr. Joe Moriarty celebrates Mass at St. Michael Church in Greenfield during a Bruté Weekend.
ADAM BERENDES  
Diocese of Evansville

CHRIS TRUMMER  
Diocese of Springfield

CHRISTOPHER GLASER  
Diocese of Owensboro

Congratulations

What are your post-graduation plans?

After graduation, I will be discerning out of seminary and living in Indianapolis. My hope is to teach mathematics in one of the area Catholic high schools.

I will continue my seminary formation at the Pontifical North American College in Rome and study theology at the Gregorian University. I fly to Rome this July and will spend four weeks in Siena learning Italian. I will spend the next four years in Rome, returning to my diocese for the summers beginning after my second year.

After graduation, I will not be continuing onto Theology. I am going to be living in Indianapolis with my friend Adam Berendes. I am currently searching for a financial or development job in the not-for-profit sector. I plan on pursuing an MBA in a year or two.

What is your favorite memory from your time at Bruté?

Our pilgrimage to the Holy Land during Christmas break in my sophomore year. It was amazing to walk in the same steps that Christ walked and to follow his life in those sacred places. To be able to experience that with the other men in seminary was a “once in a lifetime” experience.

Favorite memory from my time at Bruté was our pilgrimage to the Holy Land during my sophomore year (2014). During my prayer and experiences at all the various holy sites and Churches there, I felt very confirmed in my vocation to the priesthood and closely united to my brother seminarians.

The trip that many of us took with Fr. Bob Robeson to the Holy Land in December of 2014. Seeing the places where Jesus’ ministry was carried out with my closest friends was indescribable. It made me really see the connection between where our faith comes from.

Describe the most important thing you learned at Bruté.

I learned to be my authentic self and to not be afraid to use my strengths to help others in need.

God is calling me to the priesthood - not some idealized version of me that doesn’t exist yet or never will. Worthiness has nothing to do with one’s vocation - all that matters is our love for God, our desire to do His will, and our response to Christ’s call, “Follow me.” (Mat 4:19)

God’s love is always there; read the poem “Love” by George Herbert for a more concrete example of what I mean.
My post-graduation plans are to work in a parish for the next year getting hands-on experience of what it is like to be a priest. This summer I will be at St. Michael's in Greenfield, IN. Then next August I will move to another parish in the Archdiocese which is yet to be determined.

My favorite memory from Bruté was at the end of my junior year when a senior and I woke up and made a bunch of French toast for the other guys who woke up early to study for an exam that morning. Or when another student and I made pies about every weekend and most of the time ending up with flour or some other baking ingredient all over us and the kitchen.

That we are a brotherhood of seminarians here. We are all from different backgrounds but we are striving to do what God wants us to do in our lives which brings us together, and we can help each other though a lot.

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I have discerned that God is calling me away from seminary so I will be moving to the Cincinnati area after graduation. My hope is to be able to find a job in Cincinnati while I continue to discern God’s will for the future.

The seminary trip to the Holy Land and Rome in December of 2014. Having the opportunity to literally walk in the footsteps of Christ was a very moving experience for me. On that trip, I had the opportunity to serve Mass inside the Holy Sepulchre and to pray at the site of the Crucifixion. While in Rome, I served Mass at the tomb of Pope Saint John Paul II as well as the Christmas Eve Mass for Pope Francis at the Vatican.

For me, the most important aspect of my time in seminary has been the opportunity that community life has given me to grow and mature in human formation.

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I will be continuing seminary studies at the North American College in Rome, Italy.

My favorite memory of Bruté is Christmas time, when we all have Christmas dinner and celebrate the end of the year together.

The most important thing I learned while at Bruté is how to be there for other people in their time of need.
This past Spring Break I went to Tohatchi, New Mexico on a service trip. I went with Marian University’s “Alternative Break” program in which Marian University students spend their spring break on a service trip in different areas across the world. There were groups that went to Appalachia, Puerto Rico, and New Mexico, and a group will be leaving in May to spend a week in Guatemala. As a seminarian at Bishop Simon Bruté Seminary, I study at Marian University.

I first learned about the Alternative Break during my first week of classes. Another seminarian, Eamonn Daily, told me that he was leading a trip to Tohatchi, New Mexico. I knew I had to sign up because when I was in high school, I went on two separate mission trips to Thoreau, New Mexico to work with the Navajo people. Thoreau is about an hour away from Tohatchi. The trip was sponsored by my home parish of St. Barnabas. On these trips, I fell in love with the southwest and the Navajo people. When I heard that Marian University offered a trip there, I knew I had to sign up.

During the alternative break, we participated in a myriad of service opportunities. We did manual labor such as digging a trench, painting, and plumbing. We also had the opportunity to visit some of the Navajo and just talk with them. On top of all of that, we got to do some hiking and enjoy some breathtaking views.

On one of the nights of the trip, Sister Pat, one of the Franciscan sisters who lives in Tohatchi, led a SPRED event. SPRED is a religious education program for those with mental disabilities. Sister Pat put it on for the local group home. I was partnered with a woman named Thamer. As soon as the van from the group home was parked, Thamer jumped out of the car and hugged me. She did not even know my name, but she treated me like family. Thamer had this goofy, contagious grin that could light up a room. It was one of those smiles that you come across only a handful of times in your life. When Thamer would look at you, her eyes seemed to burn with love itself. Throughout the lesson, Thamer would interrupt Sister Pat and say really loud “Hello! Hello!” Thamer couldn’t help it. She was so full of joy and wanted to be friendly. Thamer would interrupt multiple times and each time Sister Pat would kindly redirect Thamer to the task at hand.

Although I met with Thamer for less than an hour, she left such a profound impact on me. To me, Thamer is how I imagine God’s love: free, total, and unconditional. Occasionally, as I am going about my day, I will think back to Thamer and how she would interrupt and say “Hello! Hello!” and I will instantly be reminded of God’s love for me. To this day, whenever I hear those words, I remember how God is always present with me. As I am walking to class, when I am working on a paper, or when I am having a bad day, I am reminded that God is always with me. As a seminarian, it can be very easy to fall into just going through the motions. But God will interrupt my day and gently remind me of His presence, and that in everything I do, I should do it for Him.
Bishop Simon Bruté graduates ordained to Holy Orders and the Diaconate

Jarred Kohn  
Archdiocese of Cincinnati—Ordained to the diaconate on April 29, 2017

Dominic Rankin  
Diocese of Springfield, IL—Will be ordained to the diaconate on September 28, 2017 in Rome

Alexander Witt  
Archdiocese of Cincinnati, OH—Ordained to the priesthood on May 20, 2017

Wayne Stock  
Diocese of Springfield, IL—Ordained to the priesthood on May 27, 2017

John Nguyen  
Diocese of Lafayette, IN—Ordained to the priesthood on June 3, 2017

FR. ANDREW BUDZINSKI  
Vocations Director, Diocese of Ft. Wayne-South Bend

“I had the opportunity last year to meet with Fr. Joe Moriarty, (and then rector, Fr. Bob Robeson) and learn about them and Bishop Simon Bruté Seminary. I was immediately impressed. It was apparent the priests had a great relationship with the seminarians. The seminarians were happy, at ease, and edified by their priestly role models. I’m pleased that our seminarians have had the same experience in this, our first year of sending men to Bruté. Every time I see our seminarians, as we talk about the seminary, smiles come across their faces. They love the priests. They say it’s a very healthy environment. They are able to discern in peace. They also love the interaction with other students on the Marian University campus.”

Seminarians assist with marketing efforts

We have begun tapping the creative and technological abilities of our very own seminarians to assist in helping market the seminary. Pictured from left: Eric Gehlhausen, Mark Ninmer, Chris Trummer, Mark Hellinger, Liam Hosty, Nick Sellers and Charlie Wessel, have already helped launch the new seminary website and will be helping with future marketing projects such as videos, photography, social media, newsletters and blogs.

The newly formed Seminarian Marketing Committee
I have always been a summer camp guy. I went to summer camps as a kid, was a counselor in high school and college, and as a professional, I worked full time in the camping industry helping direct Catholic summer camps and consult for scores of other camps across the country. I believe summer camps are a treasure to our society, and Bishop Bruté Days are a special jewel in the crown.

Bishop Bruté Days is a three-day, two-night summer camp retreat experience at Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis for high school boys who are open to discerning the priesthood. This summer it will be held June 20-22. The camp is a unique blend of traditional summer camp activities and a discernment retreat. High school guys are invited to come and learn more about what life in the seminary is really like in a relaxed and fun environment.

The boisterous images of summer camp swirling in your mind might be conflicting with the overly pious images of a seminarian, so let me help you set both images aside and get to the heart of Bishop Bruté Days: relationships. On the surface there are, of course, the many friendships that form between campers and counselors, but Bishop Bruté Days calls the young men into deeper relationship with Christ and His church. This is the central relationship of the week, and helping the young men to hear God’s voice in their life and how He is calling them to live their lives is the focus.

Relationships are built in a variety of ways at Bishop Bruté Days. The schedule of the camp mirrors the life in the seminary. All four pillars of formation are present in a seminarian’s day, and so we reflect those four pillars at Bishop Bruté Days.

- **Human formation:** The whole camp gathers for common meals and recreation time.
- **Spiritual formation:** Liturgy of the hours is prayed, as well as daily Mass, opportunities for Reconciliation, and Adoration.
- **Academic formation:** Special guest speakers come and talk about different aspects of seminary and priesthood, as well as topics about the broader Catholic Church.
- **Pastoral formation:** Serving fellow campers and staff, assisting with light house work, sharing and offering reflections.

There is magic in a campfire. As it begins to burn out, the light begins to fade, the shadows begin to blur, and your focus is pulled into the glowing ambers. At Bishop Bruté Days, the campers get to experience campfires, but they also get to experience greater mystery in Christ. By pulling away from all of the distractions of life at home, the light of Christ begins to burn a little brighter, God’s calling in the young men’s hearts becomes a little clearer, and the focus shines bright on God.

So this summer, please consider supporting Bishop Bruté Days. Whether you are a lay person or a member of the clergy, young or retired, we need you to help encourage high school men to come and participate in this wonderful experience.

For information, visit: www.heargodscall.com/bishop-brute-days

*Recreation is just one aspect of Brute Days.*
Welcome to our new Advisory Board members

Ed Charbonneau
- Parishioner at St. Paul Parish in Valparaiso, IN
- Serves as an Indiana State Senator
- President & CEO of The Methodist Hospitals in Lake County, IN (Hospitals in Merrillville & Gary)
- President & CEO of the Northwest Indiana Forum (7 county economic development organization); Executive Management with U.S. Steel Corporation for 36 years
- Married to Sharon for 45 years this September; 2 children, 5 grandchildren
- I was born and raised a Catholic. Priests have always played a part in my life. It has become very troubling to me as I see the affect the shortage of priests is having on the Catholic community.

Tom Hirschauer
- Parishioner at St. Luke the Evangelist
- Principal at tfhirschauer, llc
- Married to Brownie Hirschauer, a teacher at St. Luke Catholic School; two children, one grandchild
- I believe we need to support the education and faith formation of young men and women who give so much to lead the church.

Carl McClelland
- I grew up in Christ the King and I have been a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish for 42 years.
- I’m retired from Eli Lilly and Co. after 35 years in Accounting and Finance.
- Married to Mary Cunningham for 42 years. Mary grew up in St. Catherine’s. We have 3 daughters and 10 grandchildren.
- My attraction to the cause of vocations started when I became a member of the Serra Club 10 years ago. During this time, the Serra Club has established close connections with Bishop Brute, Our Lady of Grace Monastery and the Vocation Office of the Archdiocese.

WITH HEARTFELT THANKS
We wish to express our gratitude to the following individuals who have recently fulfilled their terms as members of the Bruté Advisory Board:
- Art Berkemeier
- Ralph Nowak
- David Hodde
- Sam Reed

DONATE ONLINE
Did you know you can make a contribution to Bishop Simon Bruté Seminary online? It’s easy and secure.
Visit: bishopsimonbrute.org/donate-to-the-seminary
Donations can be set up as a one-time gift or on a recurring basis.

INTERESTED IN ADMISSIONS INFORMATION OR A BRUTÉ TOUR?
Contact Anne Shea, Bruté Administrative Assistant, at: ashea@archindy.org

“What Fr. Bob Robeson has established at Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary is truly amazing. The young men are learning at an early age what has taken many of us a long time to learn: Life is about loving and serving one another. This foundation is the basis for each of our Christian communities. Our future priests will be well grounded and ready to serve.

Fortunately, our priests have a diversity of skills. The entrepreneur skills of Fr. Bob established the seminary. Fr Joe Moriarty is now using his administrative and team-building skills to solidify the campus and grow the Bruté family. He has a great support team, both on campus and beyond. May God continue to bless and inspire them.

For any community to survive it takes a family of support. I was honored to serve in a capacity whereby we could establish and grow that family. My wife Ann and I will continue to be members of the Bishop Simon Bruté family and invite you to join us. Each and every donation makes a difference. The future of our parishes depends on it.”
Bruté Days summer camp
June 20-22
Register at: heargodscall.com/bishop-brute-days

Bruté Alumni Reunion
August 4

Fall Semester begins
August 21

Bruté Supporters Special Event
September 21

Bruté Parents/Pastors Celebration
September 23

Be sure to visit the seminary’s new website which our seminarians helped create!
Visit: www.bishopsimonbrute.org

The new site features:
- A complete listing of all seminarians with their photos and biographies so you can keep each one in your prayers
- Information about seminarian student life and academics
- Discernment video, admissions information and important links
- Seminarian photo albums and upcoming events
- Information about supporting the seminary
- . . . and more to come!

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
For the latest news and photos, follow us on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/BruteSeminary/

CONTACT US
317-924-4100
ashea@archindy.org

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!

Seminarian Joe Huelseman serving at the Chrism Mass on April 11.

Seminarian Adam Berning chatting with Vicki Dwenger at the Serra Club cookout on April 24.