



NOTRE DAME SEMINARY

Message from the Rector

May 6, 2021

Dear Friends of NDS:

Greetings and best wishes as the Church continues to celebrate this Easter Season as well as this Year of Saint Joseph. Our academic year is coming to close with Commencement Exercises on May 13, 2021. While a challenging year, the Lord has blessed the seminary community in such a way that we have been praying over the “virtue of gratitude”: how the Lord has blessed us, how friends such as yourselves have supported us, how our seminarians continue to respond to the challenges of priestly formation, and how our lay/religious students remain engaged with their formation and studies.

The Lord has blessed me with what will be 10 years of seminary ministry next year here at Notre Dame Seminary and an overall 20 years of seminary formation. Archbishop Aymond and the Board of Trustees recently invited me to serve another 5 years as rector as my term concludes in June 2022. After much prayer and discernment, I feel confident the Lord is preparing me for a new ministry back in my home diocese of Pittsburgh; therefore, I will conclude my assignment as Rector in June 2022. Some of this discernment relates to the very strong leadership and administration already in place at NDS including the stability of an outstanding teaching and formation faculty. The enrollment remains one of the highest in our country and our financial health – thanks to you – remains extraordinarily strong. I am committed to a very smooth transition in the search and preparation of our new rector.

In the meantime, we are looking forward to another strong enrollment this Fall. Seminarians are presently preparing for priesthood and diaconate ordinations, and we will welcome two new priests to the faculty as well as a new development assistant this Summer. God is good! May the Lord bless us in our preparations for the great feast of Pentecost.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,