



**Time to MOVE IN** Bringing their basic belongings, novices move in to Loyola House in Berkley, MI, assisted by the novice master, brother Jesuits, and family members.

# The Jesuit Novitiate

**A TIME FOR PRAYER, STUDY, SERVICE, AND COMMUNITY**

*by Patrick Fairbanks, SJ*

**N**ew Jesuits and their families and friends often ask, “What will life in the novitiate be like?” As these photos show, during the two years in this beginning stage of formation, novices are exposed to many aspects of Jesuit life that help them become true “contemplatives in action.” As the four young men who entered the Society in August get settled into their new lives as Jesuits, I ask you to join me in praying for them and giving thanks to God for the blessing of their vocations.



**Time to BEGIN** Br. Jim Boynton, SJ, vocation director for the Detroit Province, “tells it like it is” as he informs novices and their families what the next two years hold for them.



**Time for THE LORD** The chapel at Loyola House is the daily gathering space for communal Mass and personal prayer, but it is also a place to learn about liturgy, music, and homiletics.



**Time for STUDY** Novices devote quiet time in study and reflection, usually on the Constitutions of the Society, the history of the Jesuits, and the nature of the three vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.



**Time for the SPIRITUAL EXERCISES** Engaging in the key experiences of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola, a novice spends 30 days in silence learning through head and heart to know Jesus Christ more personally and to follow him more closely. The long retreat is usually conducted in January at the Jesuit retreat house near Gloucester, MA.



**Time for MISSION** Every two years, Jesuit novices travel internationally to make an immersion experience and to learn a foreign language. The Society of Jesus requires that each Jesuit speak at least two languages fluently for more effective mission and ministry. Most American Jesuits study Spanish. Chicago Province Jesuits usually visit Peru for this purpose.

# Vocations

OF CHICAGO PROVINCE JESUITS



**Time for building COMMUNITY** Jesuit novices from all over the US gather for the biennial conference in Denver. The men not only examine Jesuit history in depth, but they also build community with those from other US provinces, making steps toward greater incorporation into the Society of Jesus.

## MEET THE NEW Novices



**James Sand**, 24, (front, left) has a bachelor's in classics and history and another bachelor's in education from Miami University in Ohio. He completed a Six-Weeks-a-Jesuit program in Chicago and taught at St. Cecilia School in St. Louis as a Jesuit Volunteer. His interests range from baseball and naval history to science fiction.

**Ryan Masterson**, 24, (front, right) graduated with a bachelor's degree in accounting from Xavier University in Cincinnati, where he also sang in the choir and played lacrosse. He's practiced as an accountant and has volunteered with a tax-preparation program, assisting low-income and elderly taxpayers. He roots for the Ohio State Buckeyes.

**Matthew Spotts**, 23, (back, left) attended St. Xavier High in Cincinnati and earned bachelor's degrees in history and philosophy from Fordham University in the Bronx, where he was a resident assistant in a dorm for two years. He was active in Fordham's Christian Life Community and in parliamentary debate there. He is a fan of soccer and Ohio State football.

**Robert Carlton**, 25, (back, right) graduated from Loyola Academy in Wilmette, Illinois, and earned a bachelor's degree in classical studies from Georgetown University, where he also rowed. He had an internship in the office of Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL) and was an officer in the navy. He has run five marathons, including one in Athens and another in Rome.

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