

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

Partners concludes its Province Priorities series in this issue by combining two different priorities, “evangelization” and “solidarity with the poor.” In our cover story, Fr. Joe Folzenlogen, SJ, evangelization coordinator for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, says evangelization involves “bringing the good news of Jesus Christ into every human situation.” He adds that this is not the work exclusively of the ordained, but rather the work of baptized Christians everywhere who constitute the “common priesthood.”

It’s personally inspiring to witness the good works of those both in the “ordained” and “common” priesthood. By partnering with the Jesuits and offering prayers, support, and financial resources, many people in the common priesthood have done much to make possible the work of the Jesuits. Barb and Len Miller, for example, have long been dedicated to serving the poorest of the poor, and supporting Jesuits working to do the same. Rosemary McNeeve and Helen Theissen have, for many years, offered their prayers

and support to those Jesuits working with the poor in this country and abroad. Steve and Maria Fatum’s relationship with Fr. Ed Daly, SJ, in India is another instance of partnership between the ordained and common priesthood. And those are just a few examples drawn from the thousands of people who have become partners of the Jesuits.

There are some in the common priesthood who evangelize and serve the poor every day in concrete ways in their own lives, too. Tom Havey, a development executive board member, carries a handful of small rosary beads in his pocket and gives them away quietly whenever he has a chance. Bert Hoffman, a long-time partner of the Jesuits, has written a book, *Letters to Paul* (available at Borders.com), in which he offers heartfelt reflections on the virtues and values he learned growing up Catholic in Chicago during the Great Depression. In addition to their evangelization efforts, Tom and Bert have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the poor through their support of Jesuit ministries.

It’s been edifying to profile the Province Priorities in *Partners* and to highlight the invaluable role lay collaborators and Jesuit friends serve in each ministry. The work of the Jesuits inspires many of us in the common priesthood. And the Jesuits are constantly grateful to those partners in the common priesthood who are both doing good works and making the good works of the Jesuits possible. It is a true partnership.

Sincerely,



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