

Meet the New Novices

It is with particular joy that I introduce these four men who entered the Society at our bi-Province novitiate, Loyola House, on Saturday, August 19. Please keep these newest Jesuits in your prayers as they begin this all-important period of testing and formation. I might ask that you keep them in prayer especially during the month of January when they make their 30-day Spiritual Exercises retreat.

As mentioned by our provincial, Fr. Edward Schmidt, SJ, when he accepted the men into our Chicago Province, we are indeed grateful for the graces and blessings received from the Lord, especially in the area of vocations. I also appreciate your continued prayers for the Master “to send out laborers for his harvest” (Mt 9:38). —Fr. Pat Fairbanks, SJ



Matthew Dunch

York, Pennsylvania

Matthew, 22, received a BA in philosophy from the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. His academic interests range from Latin to English literature; he spent a term at Oxford University's Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Matthew, a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus, participated in the Six-Weeks-a-Jesuit program in Chicago.



Christopher Gagnon

Terre Haute, Indiana

Christopher, 21, studied theater at Indiana University in Bloomington. He served as music director and volunteered in the soup kitchen at St. Patrick Church in his hometown. He has also worked as a dental assistant in Bloomington. In his spare time Christopher enjoys reading and drawing.



Hung Nguyen

Cam Ranh, Viet Nam

Hung, 18, attended Loyola Academy in Wilmette, and is interested in engineering. He was a volunteer at the Vietnamese Catholic Community in Chicago and lived in a Boys Hope Girls Hope Community for three years. He has worked with youth groups through the Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Society.



Christian Wagner

Riedlingen, Germany

Chris, 35, studied in Germany and France and earned a doctorate in microbiology from the University of Basel in Switzerland. He has worked in drug development for GlaxoSmithKline and Abbott Laboratories and has taught biology at Loyola University Chicago. He is a jogger, hiker, and a swimmer.

Upcoming Vocations Events

For more information about
the Jesuits, please contact



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Come and See Weekend

When: February 9–11, 2007

Where: Cincinnati, OH

This weekend, for men between the ages of 18 and 35, provides an opportunity to learn more about the life and work of Jesuit Priests and Brothers. Presentations on the vows, formation, spirituality, and the apostolates of the Society of Jesus are part of the program as well as time to meet Jesuits and socialize with others considering the Jesuits. Each participant will live in a Jesuit community. The weekend is free of charge and runs from late afternoon on Friday until early afternoon on Sunday.