

LEGACY FOR OUR MISSION:

For Our Children and the Future

BISHOP SIMON BRUTÉ COLLEGE SEMINARY HELPS BUILD RELATIONSHIPS FOR THE FUTURE

Young men enrolled in the Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary at Marian College in Indianapolis have the benefit of developing relationships with pastoral leadership majors who they may work with when they become parish priests. This is one of several advantages offered at this remarkable college seminary that is supported by proceeds from the *Legacy for Our Mission* campaign.

"Seminarians have the opportunity to interact with Marian students in general and those studying for lay leadership roles in particular. This allows the seminarians and these students to better understand each other's perspectives and in general to build respect for the ideal of collaboration," said Father Bob Robeson, rector of the college seminary.

Aaron Thomas, a seminarian and third-year college student, concurred. "Several of the students have a pastoral leadership major. It's a wonderful opportunity to interact with the future lay leaders of the Church who we may be working with at the parish level in the future."



"We, too, are pioneers with our seminary on a college campus. We are inspired by the innovative spirit and drive of this learned theologian and our patron, Bishop Simon Bruté."



"In addition, seminarians are exposed to a broad variety of activities, both academic and extracurricular, at Marian College. Inside the seminary, they have the opportunity to live and learn with their peers from across Indiana. And the college seminary has a huge advantage in being based at Indianapolis where it benefits from the guidance of Archbishop Daniel



Bishop Bruté Days is a retreat for young men considering the priesthood. Shown here are a seminarian and a high school student at lunch during the 2006 event.

Buechlein, a former seminary rector who is so dedicated to the growth of seminarians," Father Robeson said.

The college seminary provides an ideal environment to practice mission, sacrifice and generosity, particularly in response to the current shortage of priests. "We are seeing an increase in generosity, not only in the young men who give their lives to the priesthood, but in their parents, teachers, and benefactors who support them," Father Robeson said.

Both believe that having expanded facilities for the seminarians would be ideal. "Just as Jesus had to go away and spend time with his disciples, so we too must spend time in formation. It would be good if we could have separate facilities yet still be connected to the campus. This would help us establish our identity as seminarians and present a more positive impression to visiting seminarians," Thomas said. Father Robeson said he is working with the college to try to obtain expanded facilities on campus, in part to accommodate anticipated growth of the program.

The Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary opened in 2004 and Father Robeson was named as its first rector. "From the beginning, I saw this as God's work, something the Lord wanted from me," he said of his appointment.

With the help of ongoing funding from the *Legacy for Our Mission* campaign, the college seminary has more than doubled in size as the number of seminarians has increased from six to 14. Father Robeson anticipates enrollment will increase as young men of the archdiocese become more aware of the program through priests and seminarians. "More young men are becoming aware of the goodness and holiness and beauty of the priesthood and are becoming open to the possibility of a calling to this vocation at an earlier age than before."

It is appropriate that the college seminary be named after Bishop Bruté because he played a critical role in pioneering the training of seminarians in the early days of the Church in the United States, particularly in Indiana and Illinois, Father Robeson explained. "We, too, are pioneers with our seminary on a college campus. We are inspired by the innovative spirit and drive of this learned theologian and our patron, Bishop Simon Bruté," he said.

Legacy for Our Mission, the archdiocese's capital campaign, is guided by the principles of Christian stewardship and addresses the needs of archdiocesan ministries such as seminarian education. By contributing to the Legacy for Our Mission campaign through your local parish, a portion of your gift will be allocated to future ministry needs and distributed to efforts such as the Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary.

Please visit the new online home of the *Legacy for Our Mission* campaign at www.archindy.org/legacy. It can also be accessed at www.LegacyforOurMission.org