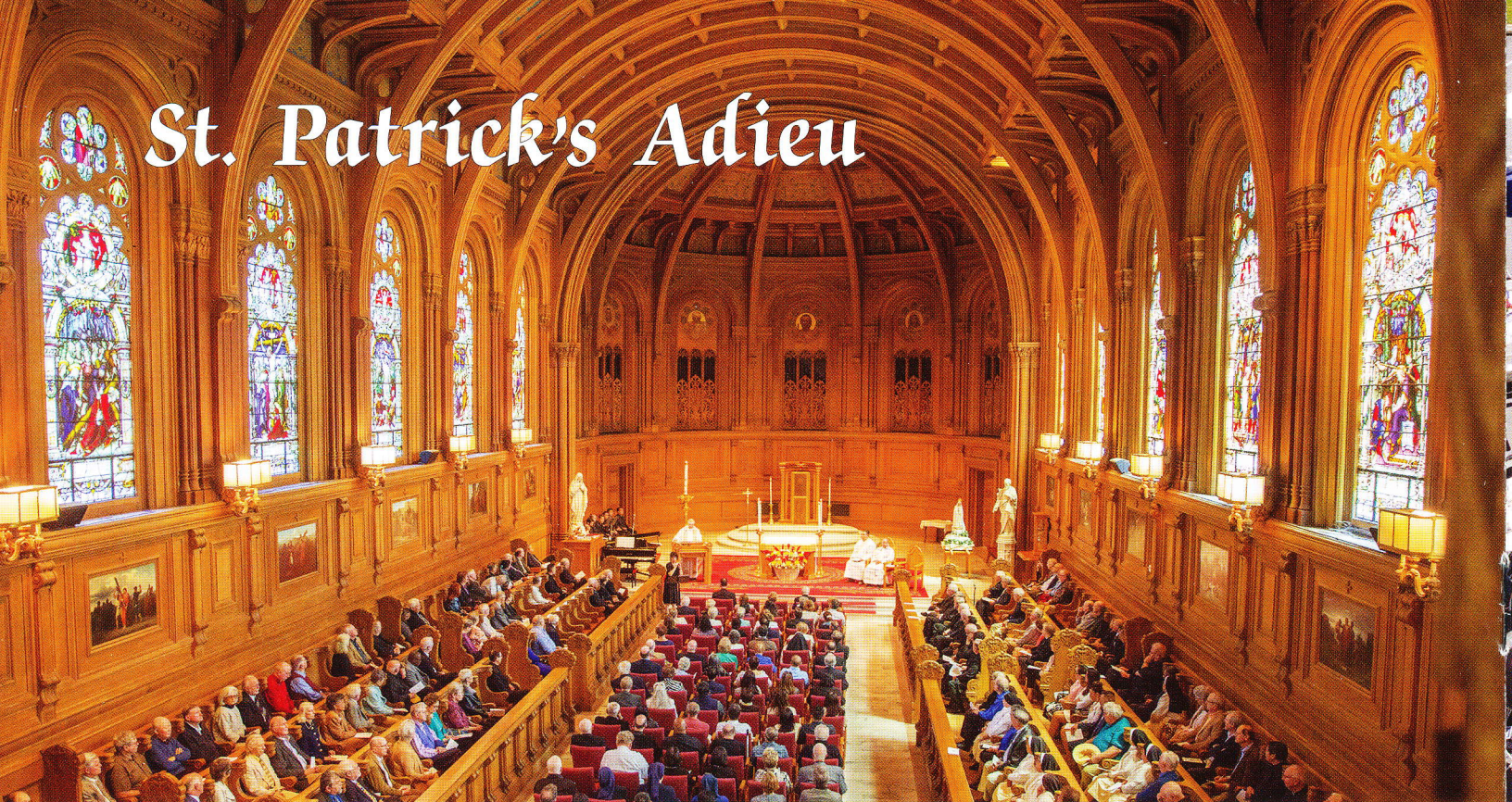


# St. Patrick's Adieu



Almost 500 friends and supporters joined the Sulpician Fathers at St. Patrick's Seminary & University on the morning of May 13, 2017. They gathered to celebrate our 118 years of service to the Church of the West Coast and to wish us farewell as we move on to the next phase of our mission. The event began in the Main Chapel with a Prayer Service presided by myself, Fr. Gladstone Stevens, the outgoing Rector.

Fr. John Kemper, our Provincial Superior, offered a beautiful reflection during the course of the Liturgy. He reminded all of us of the significant contributions made by the Sulpicians in shaping the Church of the Western region through the formation and education of its priests. Fr. Kemper illustrated the distinctively Sulpician character of this work by calling to mind three former rectors of St. Patrick's and the challenges they confronted. He made it clear that this Sulpician identity is what has allowed us to confront these challenges and that, unfortunately, we find ourselves unable, in the current climate of the Archdiocese, to maintain this historic tradition.

The prayer service included an original musical setting for the "Prayer of Father Olier." It was composed by two seminarians, Christopher Kanowitz and Timothy Donovan. They are now serving as priests in the dioceses of Reno and Orange, respectively. Their initiative, talent, and generosity embodied all that the Sulpicians have

tried to instill in those men entrusted to us over the last century.

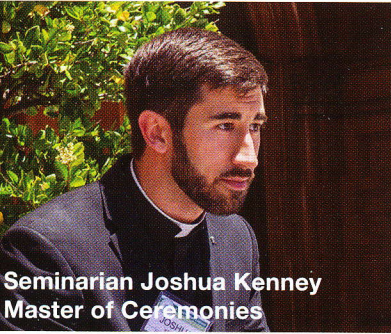
After prayer, a magnificent luncheon was served in front of the Seminary. We were privileged to hear from three different speakers. Mr. Donald C. Carroll of the St. Joseph Alumni Association, Fr. Robert McCann, and Deacon (now Fr.) Christopher Kanowitz each reflected on how the Society of St. Sulpice affected their lives. All used the occasion to express their profound gratitude for our presence and work.

While there was a sense of sadness and loss, the overall spirit of the day was one of hope. It was a time when we could say goodbye to our friends and acknowledge our good work with a dignity befitting the gentlemen of St. Sulpice. It was also an opportunity to recommit ourselves to our mission and to move towards that future God intends for us.

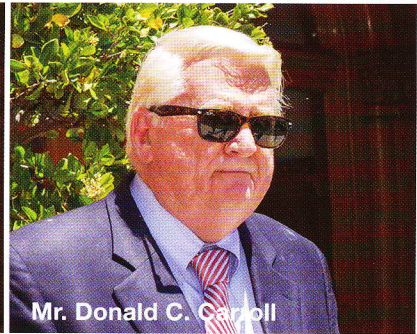
Thanks to all who made this event possible. This day would not have been possible without the hard work of a number of people. Carleen Kramer and Fr. Kemper coordinated from the East Coast and Leelamma Sebastian was crucial in organizing details at St. Patrick's. All of the Sulpician Fathers leaving this venerable institution would like to express our appreciation to all those who supported us in this difficult time.

Gladstone Stevens, PSS  
Rector of St. Patrick's (2014-2017)

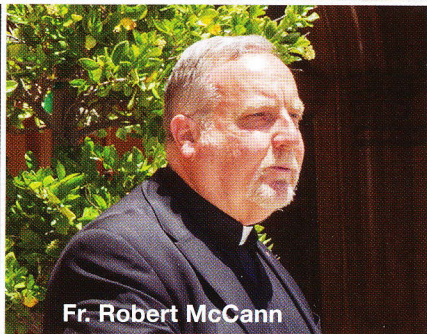




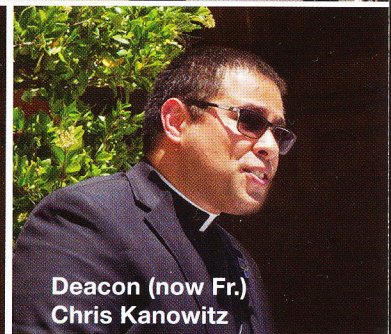
Seminarian Joshua Kenney  
Master of Ceremonies



Mr. Donald C. Carroll



Fr. Robert McCann



Deacon (now Fr.)  
Chris Kanowitz







Sulpicians at St. Patrick's, left to right: Jaime E. Robledo, PSS, Vincent D. Bui, PSS, Gladstone H. Stevens, PSS, Inniah Christy T. Arockiaraj, PSS, Paul A. Maillet, PSS, and Anthony J. Pogorelc, PSS.

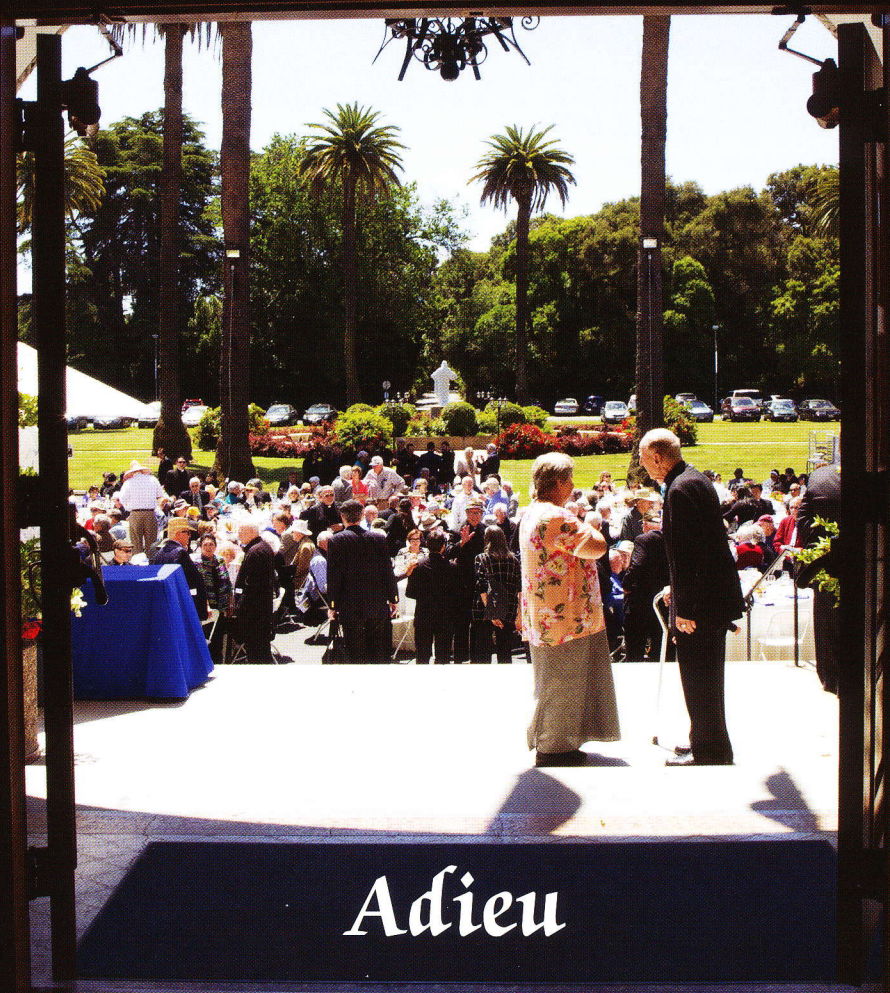






“The warm welcome of local professors, priests, lay women and men to form a comprehensive faculty, has achieved for over a hundred years an institution that has sent out for ordination over two thousand priests and forty-three bishops and one cardinal.”

—Fr. Robert McCann



*Adieu*