



View



A Weekly Publication of the University of St. Thomas Office of Public Affairs

Vol. 3 No. 9 March 26, 2007



Way of the Cross: A Time to Reflect

Reflect on Christ's suffering on Good Friday, April 6 by making a spiritual pilgrimage during the "Way of the Cross," beginning at 10 a.m.

The "Way of the Cross" is celebrated by Catholics around the world as a way to symbolically join in the suffering Jesus experienced when he died on the cross.

This is the first year UST is participating in the national event. It is free and open to the public.

This event will reflect on Good Friday readings of the Gospel of Matthew chapters 26 and 27, with each station reflecting an aspect of Matthew's

writing of the Passion.

Participants will walk five stations starting at the Chapel of St. Basil, down West Alabama to Montrose and returning to the Chapel.

Meditations will be led by Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza, who retired as leader of the Galveston-Houston Archdiocese in 2006.

The event is co-sponsored and organized by UST's Campus Ministry, Communion and Liberation and the Young Adult Office of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

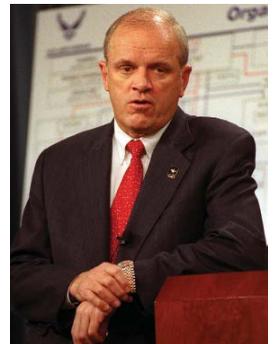
For more information contact Sr. Maura Behrenfeld at 713-525-3588.

Former Secretary of Army Speaks at UST

The Center for International Studies will host Thomas E. White, former Secretary of the Army, at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, March 29, in the Ahern Room, Crooker Center. White will speak on "Decision Making in Peace and War." It is free and open to the public.

White became the 18th Secretary of the Army on May 31, 2001. He was responsible for all matters relating to army manpower, personnel, reserve affairs, installations, environmental issues, communications, financial management and acquisition of weapons systems and equipment.

White began his public service career as an army officer after graduating from West Point. He was commissioned in the U.S. Army in 1967 and rose to the rank of brigadier general in 1990. His military career included two tours in Vietnam and service as Commander of the 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment; Commander of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, V Corps; and executive assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. For more information, contact Diana Garcia at 713-525-3530.



UST Globalization Course Spans the Globe

A cutting-edge course on globalization at St. Thomas that will reach classes around the world has redefined the term.

Through an Internet-based platform, students and professors from nine universities internationally will study, teach and exchange their views in a rigorous, 14-week course that promotes international understanding and interaction in the search for answers to problems that require cooperation among all countries.

The fact that the more than 150 students who are expected to register and 12 faculty members who are participating in the fall class will be viewing and discussing the same issues from the vantage point of their highly diverse cultures gives the course its vigor and validity, says Dr. Pierre Canac, associate professor of economics and finance in the Cameron School of Business.

"If all the students participating were foreign exchange students visiting the United States, they couldn't contribute their unique viewpoints in the same manner because they would be influenced by the American culture," Canac said. "It's that subtle difference that's important — we want them to express themselves from their own experiences in their own countries."

Canac and Dr. Gustavo Wensjoe, associate professor and director of the Center for International Studies, designed the original course, "Globalization and Regional Integration," which first

crossed the academic boundaries of economics and international studies for both undergraduate and graduate students and also the boundaries of four countries in 2003. The course was offered again in the fall of 2005 with 116 students from five universities in different countries participating.

Dr. Ravi Srinivas, associate professor of Environmental Science and director of the Master of Liberal Arts program, will teach a module on global environmental policy, and Dr. Beena George, assistant professor, will address management information science as part of the course.

All reading materials for the course, which includes issues in economics, political science, law, philosophy, psychology, science and management information science, will be posted online in English and Spanish. Students aren't required to be bilingual, but a basic understanding of both languages will enhance their learning experience, Canac said.

The classes are team-taught by faculty members from the nine participating universities. All are members of the International Consortium of Universities of St. Thomas Aquinas, or ICUSTA, which was founded in 1993 to unite Catholic institutes of higher education that are inspired by the life, work and tradition of St. Thomas Aquinas, said Dr. Joseph McFadden, UST president emeritus, who co-founded the organization with the president of the Universidad Santo Tomás in Chile.

Texas Job Fair

The Texas Job Fair will be from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 27 at the University of Houston, Campus Recreation and Wellness Center. Visit www.stthom.edu/career.



Joseph Mikolaj to Perform in Opera at Rice

UST junior voice major **Joseph Mikolaj** will play the role of Dick McGann in Kurt Weill's opera "Street Scene" in the Wortham Opera Theater at Shepherd School of Music at Rice University.

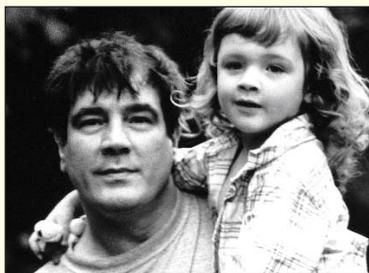


"Street Scene" is based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning play of the same name by Elmer Rice. Set in the late 1940s, the opera tells the story of a community of people living in a lower-middle class brownstone in New York and their search for love. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 26 and Tuesday, March 27. General admission is \$10; students and senior citizens, \$8. For tickets, call 713-348-8000.

Guinan Chapel Gets New Name and New Look



The Guinan Hall Chapel will have a new name, to be announced at the same time the student mosaics, created for the altar, will be unveiled. All are invited to the naming ceremony and unveiling at 12:45 p.m. Thursday, March 29, in the chapel on the third floor of Guinan Hall.



Exonerated Man Speaks

Kerry Max Cook, a wrongfully-convicted prisoner, who spent more than 20 years on death row, will speak at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27, in the Ahern Room, Crooker Center. It is free and open to the public.

Cook was convicted for the rape and death of a 21-year-old neighbor in 1977. He served 20 years in a Texas prison until his conviction was overturned.

Cook has recently written a book, *Chasing Justice*, detailing the story of his wrongful conviction, the widespread prosecutorial abuses that led to his imprisonment, and his battle to prove his innocence. In 1999, long-overlooked DNA evidence was tested, and it linked another man to the rape and murder for which Cook had been convicted.

Paul Nugent, a well-known Houston-based defense attorney who helped free Cook from death row, will participate in the evening's presentation.

The event is sponsored by the University of St. Thomas Social Justice Committee and the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty.

For more information, contact Dr. Trish Vandiver at 713-525-3197.



Mosaics Uncovered

Enzo Aiello, artist and instructor in the medium of mosaics, will discuss the ancient art of Roman mosaic and its current practice at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 27, in Jones Hall, 3910 Yoakum. The lecture will conclude with a question-and-answer session and will include a demonstration of cutting marble into mosaic *tessere*, a type of tile. The lecture is co-sponsored by UST's English and Art History Departments, the Catholic Studies Program and Our Lady of Walsingham Institutes of Catholic Cultural Studies. The event is free and open to the public.

Aiello teaches at the Academia Delle Belle Arti in Ravenna, Italy, amid the mosaic treasures in that city's Byzantine basilicas and baptisteries that are cited on UNESCO World Heritage Lists. With more than 20 years of experience as a professional mosaic artist, including time at the renowned Vatican Mosaic Studio, he also runs Studio Aiello in Rome, where he teaches and executes commissions for new mosaics of his own design for clients across Europe and the United States.

For more information, contact Dr. Kerry MacArthur at 713-525-3176.



Stories from a Sacred Land

Archaeologist Caimin O'Brien will give a lecture titled "Stories from a Sacred Landscape, from Pagan Country to Christian Ireland," at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 29, in Cullen Hall. It is free and open to the public; seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

O'Brien will cover the arrival of Christianity in Ireland and its impact on the existing beliefs of the Irish in pre-Christian Ireland. He will explore how Christianity affected the art, architecture and folklore of Ireland over the last 2000 years, and will address whether the Irish gave up their pagan beliefs and adopted Christianity or if they adapted Christianity to their existing pre-Christian rituals and beliefs.

O'Brien is an archaeologist with the Archaeological Survey of Ireland, which is a section of the National Monuments Service of the Irish Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

The lecture is co-sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies Cultural Outreach Forum, Program in Archaeology, the Friends of Archaeology, The Irish Society and the Irish American Cultural Institute.

For more information contact Lori Gallagher at 713-525-3592.

St. Augustine Hall Program Unites Faith and Daily Life

A freshman residential program at St. Augustine Hall that focuses on the dialogue between faith and reason and the unity of faith and daily life will begin this fall with renewed vigor under the direction of the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist with a team of Resident Assistants and peer mentors. Students selected for the St. Augustine Living/Learning Community will stay in the apartment-style housing next door to Clare Hall (currently the Colquitt Apartments), that will become the residence of five Franciscan Sisters. The students will be able to access a meeting room, the director's office and the Franciscan chapel from the Augustine Hall courtyard.

Instead of the specially designed two-credit courses in philosophy taken by residents in past years, participants will take a paired course in the fall, taught by two of the Basilian Fathers, as well as the freshman Odyssey course required of all freshmen. Both the "Philosophy of the Human Person," taught by Fr. Anthony Giampietro, and "Teachings of the Church," taught by Fr. Joseph Pilsner, are three-credit courses that fulfill core requirements.

In the spring, participating students will take another three-credit course in multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural learning – "Mapping the Catholic Cultural Landscape." These courses are offered under the auspices of Catholic Studies.

"The Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist look forward to being engaged with more of our UST



students and with the Basilian Fathers, as we build on the foundations previously laid for the St. Augustine Hall program," Sr. Paula Jean said. "The integration of faith and reason, of faith and life, was a priority for Pope John Paul II and remains one for Pope Benedict, and so is a focal project for all of us here at UST. Most of the details still need to be worked out for the program," she said, "but it is an exciting plan, and we are happy to be so intimately involved."

The one-year program is open to all academic majors and members of all faiths. A weekly Mass and discussion of issues touching collegiates' daily lives will serve to integrate academic learning, excursions into the art centers of Greater Houston, leadership training and community service.

A variety of service projects will help students develop diverse skills, enlarge their experiences, and provide for leadership training. Service projects within the Houston metropolitan area will be coordinated through Catholic Charities. Students will also have opportunities to lead and serve at UST through Campus Ministry.

The program has evolved over

the six years since its inception in 2001. Augustine Hall was originally created as a true model of a living-learning community with a live-in faculty presence. The program stalled due to a staffing shortage, despite the efforts of Dr. Terry Hall, associate professor of philosophy and director of the Honors Program, who for the past two years took on the teaching component as an overload. Hall can no longer continue the specialized teaching due to his many other duties.

The work of the Franciscan Sisters will again enable UST to realize this mission. They will develop assessment standards and select candidates in collaboration with Academic Affairs and Student Affairs/Enrollment Management. "The Franciscan Sisters are a bright spot at our University," said Dr. John Hittinger, vice president for Academic Affairs. "This is a good example of how to achieve the Catholic mission by making it possible for students to live a life of unity and light."

Star View is published by the Office of Public Affairs as a means of informing the UST community about University and campus news.

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