

Men's Basketball Reflects on First Season, Looks Toward Next Year



The Celt's Men's Basketball team held their own on the hardwood after a 25 year hiatus, finishing 10-15 with a strong season ending performance over Arlington Baptist College, to the tune of 83-45. From the first game and win against Wiley College (66-63), October 31, to their final victory, Coach Todd Smith and his team acknowledge their accomplishments and look toward the year ahead brimming with confidence and enthusiasm.

"My goal this season was to build a sound foundation with quality student athletes, that could lead the way for future athletes in the sport and in the classroom," Smith said. "We were all rookies this season, myself included. We learned valuable lessons and grew with every game throughout the season."

Every member of the team brought their will to win, skill and their athletic ability to the home court and road games, etching their contributions on the score board. Smith said. This dedication yielded victories in seven of their last eight games and five consecutive wins.

Guards Melvin Roberts and Travis Lampley started the season off with a collaborative 35 points to add to the team's first win. The end of the season saw Roberts and Lampley average for 12.3 and 11.9 points per game, respectively, with sizeable contributions from Tristian Grounds, Kosi Nwosu, Jeremy Lewis and Bryan Kaase. Lampley led the team in rebounds with a season average 5.2 rebounds, followed by Anthony Medina with 4.2 and Kwosi Nwosu with 2.2. Lampley also led with a season average of 5.1 assists followed by Medina's 2.2. View the complete story online at www.stthom.edu.

MicroCredit Expands Lending Opportunities to Turkey Over Spring Break

The University of St. Thomas MicroCredit Program is once again expanding their reach across the world to try to alleviate poverty by educating students and empowering individuals. The student-run group has been invited by the Institute for Interfaith Dialogue to spend spring break, March 11-21, in Istanbul, Turkey.

MicroCredit students plan to collaborate with the Turkish nonprofit organization, Kimse Yok Mu, or "Helping Hands." This organization conducts a series of charitable activities and is about to start a program call "Returning Home." In this program they will provide financial assistance as well as education and professional opportunities to single mothers who lack the resources to provide for their families, and whose children are placed under temporarily government care. The program also provides economic support, education and meals to children while the mothers learn a wood craft trade.



Look out for MicroCredit donation based fundraisers on campus throughout March.

UST Hosts Commission to Lay Initial Framework for School of Nursing

The University of St. Thomas is moving forward to lay the framework for the proposed School of Nursing. UST hosted the Commission for the Design of Catholic Nursing Education for the 21st Century on the UST campus from Feb. 23-24.

The commission met to draft a conceptual plan for the UST nursing program that manifests the tradition of Catholic nursing education and service and the goal to prepare effective nurse leaders. These nurse leaders will be trained to provide patient care focused on healing practices in the 21st century health care environment.

This special commission is composed of prominent nurse scholars in healing, recognized leaders in Catholic nursing education and scholars in the liberal arts, science, theology and philosophy. Commission dialogue was facilitated by Dr. Phyllis Beck Kritek, an internationally known nursing scholar. She is a former faculty member in the Program for Health Care Negotiation and Conflict Resolution at Harvard School of Public Health, a program she helped create. She is the author of *Reflections on Healing: A Central Nursing Construct*.

Four pillars are proposed as the foundation for curriculum development: the knowledge base of nursing as a professional discipline; learning as a mutual process of discovery; self-discovery and expansion of consciousness; and nursing as a healing ministry. The commission was charged to propose a vision, mission and philosophy for the school to guide curriculum development; a conceptual framework based on the integration of the four pillars and a mapping of the programs at the baccalaureate and masters levels.



Philosophy Professor Navigates ‘Good and Evil Actions’ in New Book



The Catholic University of America Press has published a book by Dr. Steven J. Jensen, *Good and Evil Actions: A Journey Through Saint Thomas Aquinas*. Jensen is an associate professor of philosophy at the University of St. Thomas. The book will be available in April 2010.

Modern philosophy has long dismissed the traditional moral notion that some actions are inherently good or evil, claiming rather that actions lack clear boundaries and have no set nature, whether good, evil, or anything else. We might expect to find resources to rebut these consequentialist assertions in the perennial philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas. Unfortunately, the analysis of the moral species within Aquinas confounds even the most resolute. Thomists are far from unanimity on the very questions of the issue. In *Good and Evil Actions*, Jensen navigates a path through the debate, retrieving what is of value from each interpretation. Intention receives its proper due, while leaving room for physical causality and teleology. Jensen provides a novel explanation of self-defense and develops a much needed account of the dignity of the human person.

In his foreword, the late Ralph McInerny, longtime professor of philosophy and medieval studies at the University of Notre Dame, praises the book as “a remarkable compendium of the status questions of a large number of prickly issues associated with Thomas Aquinas’s theory of human action, a fair look at proposed solutions, and finally Jensen’s own best thought on the matter.”

Lenten Lectures Continue to Examine Catholic Liturgy Through March



St. Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1787) celebrating Mass (Carlow Cathedral, Ireland) (Photographer: Andreas F. Borchert)

Upcoming Lenten Lectures

The University of St. Thomas Department of Theology will host the Lenten Lecture Series on Wednesdays during Lent throughout March. The lectures will be held at 7:30 p.m., in Scanlan Room, Jerabek Center. The series presents selected topics concerning the liturgical system of the Catholic Church.

Augustine, Liturgy, and the Word: March 3

Dr. Christopher Evans, will present, "Augustine, Liturgy, and the Word," on March 3.

St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430) is one of the greatest figures in Western Christian theology. His vast writings have been the object of thoughtful reflections and thorough investigations throughout every century since his death. This lecture will explore St. Augustine's theology of divine inspiration, particularly as it relates to his understanding of the Word of God in the liturgy. Of interest here is how the liturgy provides him with the one context in which the biblical writings can be experienced and understood under the same inspiration in which they were written. Augustine thus offers us a beautiful depiction of how the liturgy provides the necessary occasion for the Holy Spirit's work in believers to make the Word of God come alive.

Development of the Divine Office: March 10

Dr. Paul Hahn, chair of the UST Theology Department, will present, "The Development of the Divine Office," on March 10.

The early Church did not just worship its Lord through the sacraments; it also developed a system of daily prayers. These became known as the "Divine

Office" or the "Liturgy of the Hours."

From its roots in Judaism to its enlargement under the Benedictines and its compilation as the medieval "breviary," this system of prayers was been integral to the liturgy of the Church. Most recently, the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s mandated a revision of the Divine Office and urged greater participation in it by the laity.

The Eastern Rites: March 17

Fr. Leon Strieder, will present the fifth Lenten Lecture about "The Eastern Rites," on March 17.

Can you breathe with both lungs? Our liturgical heritage is greater than Roman Catholic. Not only are there Eastern rites, 22 different juridical entities which are in union with Rome, not to mention all the various Orthodox Churches, but there are two Non-Roman western rites, Ambrosian (Milan) and Mozarabic (Spain) which are celebrated. These rites have not only a richness of ritual but also of theology and spirituality which should help our own Roman Catholicism. Come for an overview of these rites.

Marionite Liturgy: March 24

Fr. Milad Yaghi will present the sixth part of the Lenten Lecture series, a celebration of the Mass, as done by Maronites, March 24.

The Maronites are the only Eastern Rite completely in union with Rome and as ancient. Their liturgy flows from Antioch and was nourished by the great monks of the hills of Lebanon. Fr. Milad, from Our Lady of the Cedars Maronite Catholic Church, will both explain and celebrate this liturgy so we might grow in holiness and peace.

Upcoming Events



Tony Melendez Concert

Born without arms, guitarist Tony Melendez will perform a concert with his feet, at 7 p.m., Saturday, March 6, in Jerabeck Athletic Center. The Concert will be coupled with Adoration and Reconciliation. Tickets are \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door. For more information, call 713-525-3149.



Music Program Concerts

Join the Music Program as they host two concerts in the month of March. The University Singers Concert will be held at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 9, in the Chapel of St. Basil. The Faculty Chamber Recital takes place Tuesday, March 23, in Cullen Hall. Both concerts are free and open to the public. For more information, call 713-525-3159.



Traditional Irish Music Concert

Join the Center for Irish Studies for Irish music concert with performances by well-known Irish musicians Paddy Keenan, Tommy O' Sullivan, and Sliabh Notes, at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 10, in Jones Hall. Tickets are \$15 for adults, and free for students with ID. For more information, call 713-525-3592.



Gaudi's Sagrada Familia

Crossroads Cultural Center-Houston will present, "Gaudi's Sagrada Familia: Through the Sculptor's Eyes," a lecture by Etsuro Sotoo at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 10, at Cullen Hall. Sotoo is a sculptor currently working on the famous Spanish architect Antoni Gaudi's unfinished masterpiece, the basilica of the Sagrada Familia, in Barcelona. For more information, call 713-823-2263.



B.K. Smith Lecture

The History Department will present the B.K. Smith Lecture in History featuring Dr. Joel W. Martin, distinguished professor at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, at 7:30 p.m., March 11, in Cullen Hall. The topic will be "Native Americans, Christianity and the Reshaping of the American Religious Landscape." Lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, call 713-525-3192.



St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Join the Center for Irish Studies for a traditional St. Patrick's Day celebration at 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 17, in the Chapel of St. Basil. His Eminence Daniel N. Cardinal DiNardo will celebrate the Mass, followed by a traditional Irish brunch. Cost of the brunch is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. RSVP by Monday, March 8. For more information, or to RSVP call 713-525-3592.

Happiness Project Calls for Reflection, not Resolutions

Counseling & Disability Services created an outreach program to encourage the UST community to think about improving their overall quality of life, without resorting to New Year's resolutions clichés.

Inspired by Gretchen Rubin's new book, *The Happiness Project*, Counseling and Disability Services asked students, faculty and staff: "What makes you happy?" The UST community wrote their responses on 4x6 note card, which are displayed in Crooker Center.

The project began Feb. 2, and will continue until the end of March. People can still contribute by writing their own happiness cards at the Counseling and Disability Services office, on the second floor of Crooker.



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