



News Release

Contact: Sandra Soliz
713-906-7912
solizs@stthom.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FR. WILLIAM KELLY AWARDED ‘CLERGYMAN OF THE YEAR’
AWARD BY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

HOUSTON (Feb. 8, 2007)— Rev. William “Bill” Kelly, UST assistant professor of theology for 22 years was awarded the “Clergyman of the Year” award by the Knights of Columbus for the Galveston-Houston Diocese on Friday, January 26, 2007 at the Stafford Civic Center.

For the past six years, he has worked two jobs, one as a UST professor and the other as the pastor of St. Anthony de Padua in Danbury, Texas, Kelly said.

The Knights of Columbus have held an annual clergy appreciation banquet to present the “Clergyman of the Year” award to three priests and one deacon for 23 years, said Duke Marasigan, president of the Knights of Columbus for the Galveston-Houston Diocese. The winners are nominated based on four qualities: service to parish, service to community, service to Knights of Columbus and their parish and the extra way the nominator presented the case.

Marasigan said Kelly’s nomination included his extensive experience and devotion to his parishioners and community in Danbury, Texas and testimonials about “the good Fr. Kelly and his works,” Marasigan said.

“I was just gratified that other people thought I was doing a good job,” Kelly said remembering his initial reaction to receiving the award.

“We are appreciative that the Knights of Columbus have selected Fr. Bill Kelly for such a well-deserved award,” UST President Robert Ivany said. “His selection honors not only his dedication but the university, its faculty and the theology department.”

more

University of St. Thomas/Fr. Kelly/2222

The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic men's fraternal organization whose main principle is charity with 114 councils in the archdiocese and 52 of those belonging to the Galveston-Houston chapter.

####