FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 22, 2006

Center for Irish Studies at the University of St. Thomas Presents David O’Brien on “The Role of Irish Americans in the History of American Catholicism”

WHAT: The University of St. Thomas’ Center for Irish Studies and The Irish Society present David O’Brien on “The Role of Irish Americans in the History of American Catholicism.”

WHEN: 7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 30. Reception to follow the lecture.

WHERE: University of St. Thomas
Scanlan Room, Jerabeck Center, 4000 Mt. Vernon
Parking: Moran Center, 3807 Graustark at West Alabama

BACKGROUND: David O’Brien is Loyola Professor of Roman Catholic Studies at the College of the Holy Cross, a four year Jesuit liberal arts college, where he has served for over 35 years. He has written six books on the history of American Catholicism and has written widely on Catholic social thought and action. He holds seven honorary degrees and was awarded the Theodore M. Hesburgh CSC Award for Distinguished Service to American Catholic Higher Education by the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities. In 2005, he received the Marianist Award from the University of Dayton for Contributions to American Catholic Intellectual Life. He is a Past President of the American Catholic Historical Association and has served on numerous committees of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and his home diocese of Worcester, Massachusetts.

For his talk, O’Brien will concentrate on three episodes: (i) the formation of the American Church under John Carroll and his immediate successors; (ii) the Americanist Crisis of the late 19th Century; and (iii) the experience of the Second Vatican Council.

COST: Free and open to the public.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Lori Gallagher at 713-525-3592.

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