



Consortio

INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES ON MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

FALL 2005

Graduation 2005 – Cardinal Schönborn’s Homily

John Paul II and the Way to True Happiness

Dear Archbishop Schulte, dear Msgr. George Saraukas, dear priests and deacons, dear students and soon-to-be graduates, dear faculty, dear Board Members and friends, dear children (of great number!) and dear brothers and sisters. Tomorrow, the 18th of May would have been the 85th birthday of our Holy Father John Paul II, the one who gave birth to our Institute. It is a particular

The desire for happiness has no other way to true fulfilment than the Beatitudes. Happy are the poor in spirit, happy are the mourning, the peacemakers, the merciful, the persecuted.

privilege to commemorate him very specially in this Holy Eucharist, this celebration of the Divine Mysteries,

to give abundant thanks to the Lord for all he has given to the Church, the world, and in particular also to the Institute.

John Paul II had a work, the Feast of Divine Mercy, which he established on the 2nd of April, which became his birthday into eternal life. Whenever there will be one day, hopefully, the feast of a blessed John Paul II, it will be the 2nd of April because we celebrate the birthday into eternal life. Therefore we do not only pray *for* him, asking the Lord to be the reward of his life, but we pray *with* him in this Holy Eucharist, in the certainty that he is present with Christ, and for the Church with Christ, the Heavenly King. We can ask him to assist us and specially to assist the Institute in its purpose, in its work, because it is dear to his heart. We began this at

his demand and with his help we will continue.

Let me ask a kind of scholastic question and try to give a scholastic answer as is fitting for an academic institution. Why was John Paul II so attractive in his life and in a certain way even more in his death, in his dying, in his passing? It really was an amazing phenomenon that in the last weeks of his illness and in his final passing away in the light of the vigil of the Feast of Divine Mercy, the entire world was looking at him, was present with him. And there were so many who were not Catholics or Christians praying around him.

A first answer to this question would be an objection, in the way that St. Thomas gives an objection. This was a media event, blown up by the media. I give immediately my response to this objection. Nobody in the world gave an order to the media to come. They did not come

because a powerful Catholic commandment asked them to appear in Rome and transmit all of these events to the entire world. They came because they were attracted. Let us say in a more grassroots way that there was a market. It was attractive. 7,500 journalists had accreditation in Rome for these events. So something attractive happened. What was it?

Was it the fame of John Paul II? Yes, in a certain way it was the fame. He was truly famous in the whole world, but his fame made men listen. Was it propaganda? Did the Catholic Church manage to make him famous throughout the whole world?

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Cardinal Dr. Christoph Schönborn

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Cardinal Schönborn *continued*

Certainly the Catholic Church could not manage the footwork so well in order to make such a propaganda campaign for the Pope. There is certainly something more. Something behind which attracts, and I think the attraction is the desire of happiness.

At least in one country in the world it is written in the constitution that the pursuit of happiness is the supreme purpose of a great nation of the world. The pursuit of happiness is in each of us the most elementary desire. But was John Paul II an image of happiness? Was he, so to say, an icon, of the successful pursuit of happiness? Apparently not. For the last 10 years of his life, he was bent down by his sickness. His hip was aching. His beautiful, virile face was distorted by Parkinson's disease. In the end, he had even lost the magnificent voice which would be the desire of every Eastern Rite bishop to have had. Even this voice he had lost. Nothing attractive was in him, yet nevertheless he attracted and perhaps



attracted even more in his sickness in his last days.

What was the cause of this attraction? Let me try to give an answer. Probably it is the precise answer to the Gospel of today that we have seen in his last years and in his last months and weeks. As if God wanted to show the whole world that what he had proclaimed from the mountain in Galilee is truly the great charm of human happiness.

The desire for happiness has no other way to true fulfilment than the Beatitudes. Happy are the poor in spirit, happy are the mourning, the peacemakers, the merciful, the persecuted. Isn't it the true reason for the incredible attraction of Pope John Paul II, that he was really the icon of the Beatitudes? And that consciously or unconsciously - probably more unconsciously - people in the whole world felt that this is the way to

happiness. It does not depend on your material wealth, on your bodily beauty, on your bodily strength. It does not depend on how successful you are according to

human standards. Christ has given us the charter of happiness on the Mount of the Beatitudes.

I will never forget this moment on the 24th of March when the Holy Father was on the mountain of the Beatitudes with some hundred thousand young people from all over the world. The first successor of Peter after 2000 years came back to the place where Jesus had proclaimed the charter of happiness. And they had a very moving and funny scene. The deacon of the Byzantine rite went up to the pulpit after the blessing and tried to start to sing the Gospel, when suddenly the bishop showed up and pushed him aside and began with the most beautiful voice to sing and proclaim the Gospel

of the Beatitudes. I can understand him. Probably he thought that this is a unique occasion in my life to proclaim the Beatitudes, on the mount of the Beatitudes, in the presence of Peter. To proclaim to the world a charter of happiness in the great year of the Jubilee.

So we should now thank the Lord for what he has given to us, to the world, and to the Church in the ministry of John Paul II. We should never forget that he has given us this tremendous teacher of the true way of happiness. Not only through words, but even at the end through the silent sign of the Cross given on Easter Sunday. This was truly the sign of the new life the Lord wants us to share with Him. So let us now celebrate the Divine Mysteries, praying for the real founder of our Institute. Praying with him who is now present to the Lord and asking him to bless us and the way of the Institute. As the current Pope Benedict XVI, and at that time Cardinal Ratzinger, said from the window of the father's house, "Ci benedica Santo Padre", "Bless us Holy Father." That is our demand in this holy place. ✂

Cardinal Dr. Christoph Schönborn is the Cardinal Archbishop of Vienna and the Grand Chancellor of the International Theological Institute.

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An Active Summer for the ITI

Even when the academic year is over, activity on campus continues. In May, many ITI students as well as catechists from Germany and Austria took part in the Good Shepherd Catechesis training that was hosted by the ITI. The training focuses on catechizing young children.

In June and July, high school and college students from around the world came to the ITI for an intensive course on “The Study of Western Institutions”, taught by ITI professors and in association with the Phoenix Institute. The impact of these courses can best be sum-



Smiling Phoenix Institute students at ITI

marized by what one of the participants wrote us afterwards: “At the beginning and at the end of our stay in Gaming we could listen to great words which keep our spirit strong.

Every lecture of the professors was like flames in my mind burning up my intellect. My personal contact with the truth of the human being and God, which was given us by the professors... was very deep and exciting.”

While the campus held these summer courses, two of our seminarians continued their contemplative work of painting

the Byzantine Chapel.

Off campus, many of our students did volunteer work in their diocese. Some gave talks in their parishes on pertinent matters having to do with marriage and family. Ella Stefan-yan, from the country of Georgia, worked in a camp for the handicapped, as she does each summer. This camp gives a break, both spiritual and physical, for the parents and caretakers. Fr. Yuriy Kolasa from Ukraine went to visit the various marriage preparation centers which he had set up over the years in his position as head of the Commission for Marriage and Family in the Lviv Archdiocese. ✂



Ioan Gotia painting Byzantine Chapel

ITI Students Volunteer at World Youth Day 2005

Cologne, Germany saw 1.2 million people gather for the twentieth World Youth Day (WYD). ITI students and alumni were among the many volunteers who helped to make this day and the days preceding it a success.

The volunteer’s distinctive red clothing was a sign to pilgrims that they could ask for the help they were seeking. Our volunteers answered many and diverse questions, or pointed the way to an answer.

One group of ITI students served the physical needs of the pilgrims by working in catering. Since ITI is so international, this group could handle questions in almost any language.



Vesela Sadovska was part of Bulgaria’s WYD Liturgy Team.

Radko Blichar, from Slovakia, signed up as a volunteer and was asked if he could come a month early to work in the call center. They had only one native English speaker at that time, and so he was asked to help take the English calls. Many other ITI volunteers were pleasantly surprised to hear Radko’s voice on the phone when they called the office.

Josipa Gasparic, an ITI alumna, was asked to help out with adoration. Several churches in Cologne, Bonn and Düsseldorf held 24 hour adoration for the week preceding World Youth Day. Many young people who had never been to adoration were awed as they en-

tered a quiet church and saw people kneeling before Our Lord exposed in the monstrance. They felt drawn to this quiet space and poured out their hearts to Him.

Vesela Sadovska, from Bulgaria, was asked by her Bishop to be a representative. As part of the Liturgy Team for WYD, she met the Pope, was blessed by him, and had front row seats for every event! She was so pleased to be able to tell the Pope that Bulgaria loves him and is praying for him. ✂



Volunteers served pilgrims at World Youth Day

Introducing the International Theolo

Kraft der mir von Papst Benedikt XVI gegebenen Autorität verleihe ich Ihnen den Grad...

By the power given to me by Pope Benedikt XVI, I confer upon you the degree of...

With these words, Cardinal Schönborn, Grand Chancellor, conferred the degrees on the ITI class of 2005. The day started with the Byzantine Rite Liturgy to thank God for His blessings. Singing *Gaudeamus Igitur*, the



Class Speaker, Ioan Gotia

graduates then processed to the Baroque Library for the Commencement ceremonies. Continuing the theme of joyful thanksgiving, Ioan Gotia, from Romania, delivered the Class Speech. He spoke of the graces received at ITI – the graces that brought people from all corners of the world to study here. He challenged his fellow graduates to bring these

gifts back to their own countries, to bring forth fruit in the often arid and unwelcoming ground.

As the degrees were conferred, President Michael Waldstein introduced each graduate to His Eminence and the audience of Board Members, professors, relatives and friends. Then, Msgr. R. George Saraukas delivered an address that spoke to the heart of our mission (see pages 6 & 7). He was pleasantly surprised to be serenaded by our seminarians with the Byzantine hymn, *Many Years*. After the *Te Deum*, the formal ceremonies ended and the feasting began. ✂

Each graduate's name and country is followed by an excerpt from President Waldstein's personal introduction.

Master of Theological Studies on Marriage and the Family



Marie Healy
Czech Republic

Marushka is a person of tremendous intelligence and sweetness.

She will continue to fulfill her vocation of mother and wife, and hopes to serve the Church in the Czech Republic by translating philosophical and theological texts from English or German into Czech.



William Newton
United Kingdom

William will start his PhD at the JPPI Institute in Australia (Melbourne).

After six months, he and his family will return to us in Gaming where William will continue his PhD courses by correspondence.



Katherine Terekova
USA

Katie is the wife of our Greek Catholic Chaplain, Juraj

Terek. She does a lot for our community here. She is a great organizer, has tremendous cheer, and is also a good student. She will help and support her husband in his priestly ministry and serve Holy Mother the Church by promoting Christian marriage and the family.

Master of Sacred Theology with Specialization in Marriage and the Family



Isaac Block
New Mexico, USA

Isaac will work at the Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New

Mexico during the summer. Having been prepped to be a scholar, he wants to continue his theological studies towards a Licentiate and Doctorate.



Joseph Bolin
Pennsylvania, USA

We are happy that Joseph, who is an excellent student, plans to continue his studies at the

ITI for the Licentiate Degree. (STL)



Mario Coccia
New Jersey, USA

Mario had an excellent career in the pharmaceutical industry, but

decided that his love was theology and moved here with his wife and four children. He will continue his studies at ITI for the Licentiate. (STL)



Christian McTighe
New York, USA

Christian is entering la Grand Chartreuse in France as

a postulant. This is the chief monastery of the Carthusians who also founded the Kartause in Gaming.



gical Institute's Graduates of 2005

Licentiate in Sacred Theology with Specialization in Marriage and the Family



Robert Cassidy
Scotland, United Kingdom

Licentiate Thesis:
Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body as a

Call to Holiness and a Response to the Contraceptive Mentality

Robert - and you can tell where he is from as soon as he speaks - plans to work and begin part-time doctoral studies at the Margrate Institute in Birmingham, England.



Vasyl Chepelsky
Ukraine

Licentiate Thesis: *Unhealthy Self-Image and Its Influence on Marital Life*

Vasyl is a seminarian who wants to complete his training in hagiotherapy in Zagreb, Croatia. He wishes to open a center of spiritual help as well as helping with marriage and family. While doing this, he will continue his priestly formation.



Father Markus Christoph
Germany

Licentiate Thesis: *Bedeutung und Grenzen des Rechts auf Wahrheit nach Thomas von Aquin*

Fr. Markus' ministry is here in Lower Austria as a chaplain in Blindenmarkt. He works in particular with youth, which he will continue doing.



Vincent DeMeo
USA

Licentiate Thesis:
Toward a Theological Definition of 'Covenant'
Vince will

continue in the doctoral program of the Pontifical University of Regina Apostolorum in Rome. He will be working on his doctoral dissertation under the direction of Dr. Scott Hahn on the topic of covenant theology.



Stepan Dmytryshyn
Ukraine

Licentiate Thesis:
The Meaning of 'Love' in the Epistle to the Ephesians

Stepan, a seminarian, will work in Ukrainian Catholic University in the Institute of Family and Marriage. He will be responsible for pastoral projects that focus on the lives of young families and young people preparing for marriage.



Ioan Gotia
Romania

Licentiate Thesis:
Maria Mater Vitae in the Magisterium and the Byzantine Tradition

Ioan is entering the Seminary in Cluj to continue the formation he received as a seminarian in Gating. In the future, he hopes to continue with a doctorate in Byzantine Iconography at the Oriental Pontifical Institute in Rome.



Father Tomas Labanic
Slovakia

Licentiate Thesis:
Spiritual Marriage in St. John of the Cross

Father Tomas is a newly-ordained priest in the Eastern Rite who would like to work in a family center in Slovakia after he completes his doctoral studies at ITI.



Susan Waldstein
USA and Austria

Licentiate Thesis:
The Theological Significance of Natural Hierarchy
Susie, in addition

to taking care of her husband and homeschooling the children, is also teaching at the ITI. She would like to help design a home-schooling program for Austrian and German families as well as more home-schooling courses for English-speaking families. Her particular focus would be high school religion and history courses.

Honorary Doctorate



The Right Reverend Monsignor R. George Sarauskas, Ph.D.
Monsignor

Sarauskas served as Executive Director from 1990 to 2003 of the USCCB Office to Aid the Catholic Church in Central and Eastern Europe. See his Commencement address on pages 6 and 7.

Monsignor Sarauskas Awarded an Honorary

As part of ITI's 2005 graduation ceremonies, Dr. Waldstein introduced Monsignor George Sarauskas with these words: "It is a great honor and also a personal pleasure for us to award Monsignor R. George Sarauskas an honorary doctorate. Monsignor Sarauskas has a gift in the rare combination of his qualities. He exhibits a deep love for Christ, strength of personality, and a keen understanding of organization. In 1979, Monsignor Sarauskas was appointed a White House Fellow to serve as special assistant to the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs. He was assigned to the regions of Western, Central and Eastern Europe. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops then appointed Monsignor Sarauskas Executive Director of the Office to Aid the Catholic Church in Central and Eastern Europe. He served in that position from 1990 until 2003, during the crucial years of the fall of communism and the attempt to build a genuine society again after that fall."

Dr. Waldstein continued "Monsignor Sarauskas said that his fundamental intention in carrying out this work, in relation particularly to priests and bishops, was to give comfort and hope to the old generation of priests and bishops, many of whom had suffered torture. At the same time, he wanted to challenge the young to find new ways of living the Christian Faith or to proclaim the Gospel. Many of them are bringing their parents back to the Faith. The middle generation of Christians, between the young and the very old, was a generation where many had a practical loyalty to the communist system. This is the group, Monsignor says, that was the most

I think the Church is on a great adventure. We have the example and legacy of strength left to us by John Paul II.



Monsignor Sarauskas between ITI alumni Father Yuriy Kolasa and Father Josef Veresh.

complicated to deal with.

Because of this work, Monsignor Sarauskas has a particular preferential love for Greek Catholics. Since the purpose of ITI, according to the will of John Paul II, is in particular to serve the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, we found it most fitting to award Monsignor R. George Sarauskas an honorary doctorate."

Monsignor Sarauskas' Remarks

Your Eminence, Cardinal Schönborn, Dr. Waldstein, members of the Board of Trustees, faculty, students, staff and friends of the International Theological Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family.

I am most grateful for the honor you are bestowing on me. I accept it with pride and pleasure. And although I am honored to have my name on the Diploma, it really belongs to the Catholics of the United States, for their generosity and for the foresight of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The United States bishops took a unique interpretation of their guidelines in order to support ITI. But ITI is unique. It brings together a diverse faculty and student body,

especially from Central and Eastern Europe, at a remarkable point in history, the immediate post-communist era, to serve the mission of the Church, especially as it focuses on marriage and family life.

You come from many countries and cultures with your own history and traditions. Some of your borders touch each other and sometimes those borders, those histories, and those cultures were in conflict. But in this beautiful place, what brings you here becomes more important than where you are from. Here our common Catholic Christian faith is our glory, our mission and our consolation. Your various histories and cultures serve as a library of resources as you write the next several chapters of the post-communist Church in the modern world - and especially for the European and East European world.

This Institute will provide and equip the many young men and women, priests and religious who will lead the Church's work, especially as regards marriage and family life. The challenges are many: high divorce rates, abortion, broken homes, materialism, secularism, relativism, sexual permissiveness and



ry Doctorate for Service to the Church

even the very definition of family.

But, as our late, great Holy Father would constantly say - "Be not afraid."

As the bishop members of the U. S. Bishops' committee traveled throughout central and eastern Europe, they would frequently meet graduates of LCI and ITI (many of the first ITI graduates began at LCI). The bishops were impressed with the work that was being done by these young men and women, and their dedication and their commitment to the Church. The bishops commented frequently how helpful was the contribution of these Gaming graduates. The bishops also heard from the bishops of the various countries of the great social problems that they were facing, especially in developing a Catholic Christian view of family life.

So it was a fairly easy decision for the Bishops' Committee to support ITI in its mission and work. I trust that support will continue.

We know that not all that has come from the West has been helpful. Much of our mass culture is vulgar and tawdry. It is not a cause for pride. Unfortunately so much of it has been absorbed by Europe and eastern Europe. That is a cause for sadness.

A critical faculty must be developed that reaches for the good, the beautiful, the true, and rejects the bad, the ugly, the false. It is not mere nostalgia that longs for the restoration of a Christian culture, nor is it

a desire for the faded glories of the past. Christian truth and values continue to be the surest foundation for the culture of the future.

The faith and spirituality that you develop here will be essential. The courses, lectures and studies will equip you intellectually. The network of friends that you make will be a source of support and often will be a resource for you.

But you know, as we all know, that your dedication, and even your faith, will not overcome all obstacles. Your learning and intellectual development will not always win all arguments or solve all problems. And even friends will disappoint you. "Be not afraid."

The Church's work is ultimately that of the Holy Spirit. Be at peace. Your best efforts will not necessarily always succeed but they will be justified.

I think the Church is on a great adventure. We have the example and legacy of strength left to us by John Paul II. I believe that His

Holiness Pope Benedict, though a very different man, will continue to lead us with wisdom and courage. Yet ever, popes are instruments of the Holy Spirit.

I am grateful for having been able to play even a small part in this chapter of history and this Institute. I am particularly thankful that I was able to help

encourage the participation of Eastern rite Catholics in the ITI program.

I am now a pastor of a wonderful

parish in a suburb of Chicago. It is a parish of about 1900 families with a Catholic school of about 500 students. Please know that you, your work, your faith, your cultures – and even some of you as individuals – are spoken of frequently in my homilies. I am deeply thankful and proud of having had a small part in ITI, in your lives, and in the faith of the Church in Central and Eastern Europe.

I look forward to hearing about you as you teach, preach, think, analyze, and write great books. Catholic Christianity needs you and waits for your leadership.

The world is hungry for the Truth. The lie of communism hid the Truth for so many years in Central and Eastern Europe. In the West, the Truth is ridiculed by secularism and the arrogance of the Enlightenment. In America the Truth is subordinated to comfort and ease. The American Great Truth is success. All of these variations blaspheme the Truth – that real happiness is only with God. Learn the Truth and proclaim it.

Europe is going, and will continue to go through many permutations: political, social, economic and moral. Europe, like America, needs a Christian conscience. Who else will show it how to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God?

Thank you. Let us pray for each other. ✂



Cardinal Schönborn with a proud graduate's family.



The Cardinal awards honorary Doctorate

Dudaryk Boys Choir Visits ITI

The world famous Ukrainian National Boys Choir, *Dudaryk*, which has given performances in locations from the Moscow Opera House to Carnegie Hall, made a stop in Gaming and treated the ITI to a special performance. First they sang during the Divine Liturgy, the Byzantine Rite Mass. Immediately afterwards, they treated the congregation to a concert.

This was a special delight for ITI Master's graduate and current Licentiate student, Fr. Yuriy Kolasa, who sang with the choir when he was a boy. Fr. Yuriy said the seeds of his vocation to the priesthood were planted in him during his time with the choir. After the fall of communism in the Ukraine, the choir director took *Dudaryk* on a performance tour of the churches. Through singing the songs of the Church, Yuriy was drawn to the priesthood. During his time at the ITI, this yearning flowered and he was ordained after his graduation in 2001. ✂



Father Yuriy Kolasa (top left); Dudaryk sings at the ITI (top right and bottom)

2005 Fall Semester Calendar

Aug 30	Fall Semester Classes Begin
Sept 2	Friday Lecture: Cyrus Olsen, <i>"Balthasar on Theology and Prayer"</i>
Sept 23	Friday Lecture: James Leachman, OSB, <i>"Eucharistic Liturgical Theology"</i>
Oct 3-14	Short Course by Edward Hadas: <i>"A Philosophical Introduction to Economics as a Study of Man"</i>
Oct 4	Lecture: Lord David Alton - <i>"Imago Dei: Human Dignity from Conception to Natural Death"</i> and <i>"Christian Citizenship in a Hostile World"</i>
Oct 9-10	International Seminar Weekend
Oct 10	Board Meeting
Oct 24 - Nov 1	Semester Break
Nov 24-26	Visit of Bishop Hlib Lonchyna, Procurator of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church to the Holy See
Dec 12-16	Semester Final Exams
Dec 16	Fall Semester Ends

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