

The deacons gather with Abp. Sambí and Fr. Bradley Schaeffer, SJ, rector of the Weston Jesuit Community. Front, l-r: Quan Tran, SJ, Vicente Chong, SJ, Thomas Kenny, SJ, and Cyril Whitaker, SJ. Back, l-r: Christopher Hadley, SJ, Brian Christopher, SJ, Abp. Sambí, Roger Osborne, SJ, and Fr. Bradley Schaeffer, SJ.



# *Diaconate Ordination*

On Saturday, October 11, 2008, at St. Ignatius Church in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, the Apostolic Nuncio to the U.S., Archbishop Pietro Sambí, the pope's ambassador in this country, ordained seven Jesuits deacons, with many of their families and friends in attendance. It has become a common practice for the diaconate ordination to take place where the young men pursue their theological studies

and for them to return to their home provinces for ordination to the priesthood.

In the Roman Catholic Church, deacons are ordained to assist the bishop and his priests as ministers of the word, of the altar, and of charity. They are authorized to proclaim the Word of God, to preach, and to preside at the sacraments of baptism and marriage and at the rite of Christian burial.



Mr. Thomas Kenny, SJ, a member of the New England Province, with Archbishop Sambí, his parents and family.





## *Campion Health Center Receives Five Stars*

Campion Health Center has been named to *U.S. News & World Report's* Honor Roll for America's Best Nursing Homes. Of the more than 15,000 facilities inspected in the United States, Campion is one of only 27 nursing home facilities to be named to the Honor Roll. In December 2008, the federal government's Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released its own rating of America's nursing facilities, and Campion was one of only 33 in the nation to receive its perfect five-star ranking. The federal government applies four yardsticks in assessing nursing homes: overall excellence, nurse staffing, quality measures of individual care, and the results of annual audits conducted by each state's department of public health.

"These awards recognize the extraordinary skill, dedication and compassion each member of our team brings to the ministry of Campion Center, which is to provide the members of the Jesuit community excellent care within our religious community. Each doctor, nurse, aide, housekeeper, maintenance worker, member of the dietary staff, activities assistant, chaplain, social worker, and administrative assistant is a vital part of our team, and I am grateful to each one of them. These awards also are a tribute to the generosity of our numerous benefactors whose gifts to the New England Province of the Society of Jesus make possible our ministry to these sick and elderly Jesuits. We remember them at each daily liturgy," said Fr. Paul Holland, SJ, rector of the Jesuit Community.

Campion Health Center has 34 skilled nursing beds and 36 rest home beds for the retired and infirm Jesuits. Campion Center is also a residence for Jesuits who remain active in teaching and parish ministry, a Renewal Center for retreats, conferences and spiritual direction, and a Tertianship center for the training of recently ordained Jesuit priests.

## *New Deacons to Be Ordained*

Three other New England Province Jesuits will be ordained to the diaconate this year as well, two of them in Canada and the third in London.



**Mr. Michael Davidson, SJ**, will be ordained a deacon on April 18, 2009, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Toronto, Canada, by the Most Rev. Richard J. Grecco, auxiliary bishop of Toronto. Born in Kingston, Jamaica, Michael entered the Jesuits in 1997 and is pursuing theological studies at Regis College and the University of Toronto.

**Mr. Rohan Tulloch, SJ**, also hails from sunny Jamaica. He entered the Society of Jesus in 2000 and is now studying theology in Canada at Regis College and the University of Toronto. He will be ordained a deacon, together with Michael Davidson, SJ, on April 18 and he expects to be ordained to the priesthood next year.



**Mr. Charles Gallagher, SJ**, is studying theology at Heythrop College and the University of London. Born in Boston, he was raised in New York and Massachusetts. His ordination as deacon will take place at the British Jesuits' London parish, Farm Street Church, Mayfair, U.K., on May 2, 2009, and he will be ordained a priest in 2010.



# Seeking and Finding God in All Things

by Mr. Eric M. Studt, SJ

One important grace of my novitiate was that, through prayer and the time I spent working in El Paso and Jamaica, I came to see Christ in the poor. I pronounced first vows in August 2008 and was missioned to Munich for my First Studies assignment, which includes learning German and working toward a degree in philosophy.

The hope is that, by studying philosophy in Germany, I will acquire a greater facility at reading the great German philosophers in their original language. Due to the new context in which I find myself, I now feel Christ calling me to look for him not so much in the poverty of others, but in my own poverty as a foreign scholastic struggling to learn a language while being completely immersed in that language and culture. I have become completely dependent on others when it comes to doing basic things for myself and expressing simple needs, wants, and feelings. This poverty is a daily source of frustration and exhaustion, but also of tremendous grace.

I came to Munich with enough German with which to greet people, introduce myself, and to say something pleasant about the weather, presuming the weather was indeed pleasant. The remainder of my conversation consisted of a tight grin that attempted to stave off the blank expression that would unfailingly expose my bewilderment. I threw in short, insignificant filler statements such as, “Ach so,” “genau,” and “interessant.”

I have been touched by the constant and eager willingness of Jesuits here to help me with whatever I need, from essential things to simple acts of kindness. On my second day, the rector spent the morning helping me register my new place of residence at the police station. When the weather started to turn cold, an older Jesuit offered me a warm sweater.



Eric Studt with his family after professing perpetual vows on August 16, 2008.

Sometimes, however, I just want to do things for myself, with sometimes embarrassing results. The best example of this was my recent attempt to buy airline tickets on a German website. Because I did not entirely understand what I was reading, I checked a box and accidentally donated over 150 euros to a non-profit that is lobbying against carbon emissions! Luckily, I was able to reduce the donation substantially.

As my German improves, I am increasingly able to interact with those around me. Now my Jesuit brothers are showing the depth of their charity as they listen patiently and attentively as I slowly

piece together sentences.

With the help of grace, these conversations and all my experience in this fantastic city are becoming less causes of frustration and more occasions for gratitude. I am grateful for this opportunity to be stretched and formed and to experience the Society of Jesus in this different cultural context. “*Gott suchen und finden in allen Dingen*. Seeking and finding God in all things.”

*Eric M. Studt, SJ, is in the first of three years of philosophy studies at Berchmanskolleg at the Hochschule für Philosophie in Munich, Germany. The Hochschule, an international center for Jesuit education in Europe, has 350 students, including 10 Jesuit scholastics, from Germany, Austria, the United States and Vietnam.*

# Jesuit Alumni/ae in Congress



The Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) reports that among the 535 members of the 111th U.S. Congress, 51 of them, or more than 9 percent, are alumni/ae of Jesuit institutions.

There are 11 Jesuit alumni/ae in the Senate and 40 in the House of Representatives. Among the top leadership, both the majority and minority leaders in the House of Representatives, Congressmen Steny Hoyer (D-MD) and John Boehner (R-OH), respectively, the Senate Assistant Majority Leader, Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL), and the Chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and Special Assistant to the Speaker, Congressman Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), are all Jesuit alumni.

Of these 51 alumni/ae, 33 received graduate or professional degrees from Jesuit universities. There are 15 Jesuit institutions represented by alumni/ae in the U.S. Congress. Georgetown University has the most alumni/ae with a total of 18, followed by Boston College with seven, and College of the Holy Cross and Fordham University with four each.

“With the many challenges facing our nation, we are happy that our Jesuit college and university alumni/ae are leading the congressional response to them,” said AJCU President Fr. Charles Currie, SJ. “Our graduates, who have dedicated their lives to the highest levels of public service, have been educated at institutions that place great value on academic excellence, competent leadership and compassionate service. We are proud of our Jesuit alumni/ae who continue to represent us with distinction and inspire us with their commitment to lead and serve.”

Many graduates of Jesuit institutions also serve in local and state governments. The following is a list of the Jesuit college and university alumni/ae in Congress in New England:

## UNITED STATES SENATE

**Senator John F. Kerry** (D-MA), Elected 1984, J.D. Boston College (1976)

## UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Representative Michael Capuano**, (D-MA), Elected 1998, J.D. Boston College (1977)

**Representative William D. Delahunt**, (D-MA), Elected 1996, J.D. Boston College (1967)

**Representative Paul W. Hodes**, (D-NH), Elected 2006, J.D. Boston College (1978)

**Representative Stephen Lynch**, (D-MA), Elected 2000, J.D. Boston College (1991)

**Representative Edward J. Markey**, (D-MA), Elected 1976, B.A. Boston College (1968), J.D. Boston College (1972)

**Representative Peter Welch**, (D-VT), Elected 2006, A.B. College of the Holy Cross (1969)

*The article was adapted from text from the AJCU and we thank Melissa Collins Di Leonardo, director of communications, for her assistance.*

*The full list of the Jesuit alumni/ae in Congress is available on the AJCU website: [www.ajcunet.edu](http://www.ajcunet.edu)*

## More Alumni in the Political Arena

Jon Favreau, 2003 alum of College of the Holy Cross, has been extensively profiled recently, in light of his role as President Barack Obama’s head speechwriter.

President Bill Clinton’s press secretary Dee Dee Myers, at the time the first woman and youngest person to become

White House press secretary, is currently a political commentator on the cable news network MSNBC and has been a commentator on PBS’s *To the Contrary*. Myers is a graduate of Santa Clara University.