As we embrace Fall and see God's glory in the changing colors of the leaves and the beautiful sunsets, we are reminded of the beauty of TMI's work in fulfilling its educational and spiritual mission with our students. The successful achievement of this is made possible by your prayers and financial support. THANK YOU!

During this year we have had challenges with equipment and appliances that need to be repaired or replaced. These unexpected and expensive situations go beyond our annual maintenance budget. In order to “fix the hole in our bucket,” WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT MORE THAN EVER. We ask because we know you genuinely care about our ability to succeed. By faith we believe that the providence of God will meet our needs - so we thank you for your spirit of generosity and kind-heartedness.

For those who could not attend our LEGACY WORKSHOP this month, please feel free to contact us regarding estate planning and charitable gift giving. We welcome the opportunity to talk with you about a donation to TMI through a bequest, gift annuity or a trust. We take comfort from your support and prayers, and always remember you in our liturgies. May this fall bring you peace and much joy!

Nathaniel D. Greene

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Upcoming Events
SKILLS FOR SERVICE WORKSHOPS
Oct 13, Nov 10, Dec 8 Sign up today!

Save the Date - May 15, 2013
Grease
A Benefit Performance
Book, Music & Lyrics by Jim Jacobs & Warren Casey
Directed by Yeonae A.K. Johnson
Spokane Civic Theatre
1020 N Howard St
Spokane, WA 99201

Fall brings many changes in our land. It’s a good time to stop and reflect on our lives, especially on our quest to follow Jesus. Is the puzzle fitting neatly together? Are there areas that don’t have straight edges? Are we missing pieces that keep the picture from being complete? The silence of Taizé prayer, interacting with our students, and wisdom from our workshops can help us find a pattern of faith.

We invite you to join us to puzzle out God’s plan. We will continue to hold you in prayer, trusting that God holds all of us through all the changes of life.
**My Experience of TMI by Fr. Jim Lara**

Never in my wildest imagination did I ever think of getting a chance to do graduate studies, with a specialization and in a place of my own choice. I still wonder what I have done to deserve such a gift. I am well aware that with this very rare opportunity and privilege comes the responsibility to learn as much as I can that will be of optimal benefit to my diocese, which financed my studies. From a pastoral vantage point, I see my education as a response to a particular need in my newly established diocese, home to 1.1 million Catholics. It is the need for a systemic and comprehensive program of leadership formation for the laity, who are partners in the ministry of leading communities.

Where I would reside in Spokane was my first concern after receiving my letter of acceptance from Gonzaga University. I prayed to God for help in finding such a place, and found out that The Ministry Institute (TMI) was not only a residence for graduate students, but a place where priests, religious and lay leaders have a “sabbatical” experience, and that I was welcome to join their program while doing my PhD. So there I was, simply asking God to help me find a temporary residence in Spokane, and got more than what I asked for. How can I thank God enough? This is not just grace, this is super-grace!

Since 2008, The Ministry Institute has been my “home away from home.” But TMI is indeed more than a residence. From the chapel where we pray and discern the gentle and assuring voice of the Spirit, to the living room/library where we share our experiences of living in the United States, to the dining room where we share meals and strengthen our fellowship, to the kitchen where we experience cultural diversity through the sights, sounds and smells of our respective culinary heritages... TMI for me is “a holy ground” where I continually discover God as I journey with other graduate students from all over the world.

My experience in TMI is for me an experience of globalization. Having faith that I will “find God in all things” (a basic principle of Ignatian spirituality), the program refined my spiritual vision by giving me the opportunity to look at the world from the eyes of people from other cultures. As I see the world through different pairs of eyes, I get a clearer picture of God at work in the world and how I am to participate in that work.