



JOHN PAUL II HEALING CENTER

*Transformation in the Heart of the Church*

## **Seminarian Summer Program Event Report Tallahassee, FL June 6-30, 2016**

This year's month long *Seminarian Summer Program* was an amazing experience from beginning to end. Combining with the *Restoring the Glory* retreat for week one, which focused on identity in Christ through the lens of the Theology of the Body, the 16 men in the program (including three priests), joined the 45 other participants for a very fruitful week!

Week two was a silent retreat led by Fr. Mitch Semar, from the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, and focused on the three stages of the spiritual life and Ignatius' Discernment of Spirits. (A special thank you to Fr. Mitch, and Bishop Fabre, for the gift of Fr. Mitch! His time, guidance and care in supporting these men was a blessing!)

Week three focused on personal healing and intimacy with God-with a particular focus on coming deeper into masculine identity and stirring their hearts as 'sons of the Father'. This teaching encouraged the men to allow Jesus to minister to their brokenness and sin.

The final week concluded with equipping for their pastoral ministry based in the 'I AM' model; a deeper activation of their spiritual gifts; and a journey into the deep heart of desire and purpose. Many of the men departed with a renewed sense of self and mission in their lives, all centered in Jesus Christ.



This year's program was certainly "International" in flavor, with participants from Kenya, Mexico, and Ireland. The others came from all across the US...California, Indiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oregon, Texas, and Washington State.

As a team, it was a particular joy to journey with these men over an extended period of time, to watch them encounter and experience God in new and deeper ways. It is also encouraging to see men that are truly in love with Jesus!



While the impact of the program was evident in the men's faces, it will also be felt in their home communities, their seminaries, and in the lives of the people they serve.

It is always a privilege to share some of the stories and feedback from the men...

*"My relationship with God the Father is much deeper. I am experiencing so much joy in my life, and compassion for those around me."*

*"My time was AWESOME and INSPIRATIONAL! I was also impressed about the quality of the speakers, the soundness of the theology and the humility of the team. My experience was beyond other types of conferences and retreats I have attended because of the emphasis that it is God who heals!"*

*"In this month long program...I was able to be my authentic self, and in the end, accept the gift of myself. I am starting to believe that I am a gift to this world. Praise God!"*

One of the priests spoke of having attended retreats all around the world, and that this program was perhaps the most profound of his life

One of the seminarians reported experiencing healing from a deep identity wound to his masculinity.

Two participants reported physical healing, one for a knee, and another for a shoulder.

Several of the men reported deeper encounters and releases of the Holy Spirit within their hearts.



We are grateful to the formators, pastors, bishops, spiritual directors, superiors and others who make it possible for men to attend this immersion experience, as well as the other events designed to help them live fully their vocation to the priesthood in intimacy with Jesus Christ. We also have deep gratitude for those of you who pray for the ministry. Thanks also, to all of our benefactors. Without your financial support, we simply would not be able to provide this experience.

May God bless each and every one of you!

JPII Healing Center Team