



JOHN PAUL II HEALING CENTER  
*Transformation in the Heart of the Church*

## Winter Seminarian Program Tallahassee, FL January 5-9, 2015



This past week, we were delighted to welcome 9 seminarians and 2 priests to our winter seminarian retreat, which was held at the St. John Neumann Center in Tallahassee, Florida. All 11 attendees came from the great state of Texas (3 different dioceses); many of them knew each other from Seminary. The majority of these men will be ordained this coming year. Bart, Ken and I, who led the conference, were inspired by their faith and pursuit of holiness.

The theme of the Conference, “Holy Desire: The Path to Freedom” is best summed up in these words from St. Augustine (quoted by Pope Benedict XVI in *Spe Salvi*): “The entire life of a good Christian is a Holy Desire”. As we all know, not all of our desires are holy, but underneath even our impure desires we can discover our desire for God and human love. In order to grow in holiness and freedom, we must allow our impure desires to be purified and our hearts to be transformed. Through a combination of teaching, group sharing, demonstrations, healing prayer, Reconciliation, Eucharistic celebrations, sharing meals and relaxing, all of us grew in our desire for God, holiness and for brotherly communion.

Here are a few of the comments from the attendees:

"During the retreat, my encounter with God through prayers and contemplation helped me be aware and so convicted that the Father's desire to heal me is far greater than my desire to get healed. This awareness allowed me to have the freedom to let him lead me into the areas where he wanted me to be healed and where I knew I needed much healing. At the end of the retreat, I recognized the deeper desire of my heart toward this divine love and of a deeper interior freedom to want to love others with the same love that I have received from the Father."

*"I am immensely grateful for the ministry of the John Paul II Healing Center. This week allowed me to go deeper into the healing experience that God is leading me through so as to encounter His immense love for me as a Beloved Son. In addition to new insights and deeper understanding, this week helped me to integrate much of my seminary formation. It was especially meaningful to experience this encounter along with priests and other seminarians who are seeking to be vessels of the Father's love."*

*"The retreat was an environment of love and safety that allowed me to be vulnerable and encounter the perfect love of the Father. A love that continues to transform me in order that I can hopefully fulfill by desire to become a vessel of encounter for others in my future priestly ministry."*

As you hear in their comments, these men have their hearts set on receiving and transmitting the Father's love. They are going to make awesome priests! They inspire us in the workings of the Holy Spirit as He brings "Transformation in the Heart of the Church."

Thank you all for your prayers and support that enable us to serve on the front lines.

Blessings,  
Bob, Bart, Ken and the rest of the JP II Healing Center team