

The Reverend George Heyman named president of St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry



Rev. Heyman

Rochester, N.Y., September 23, 2014 – The Reverend George Heyman has been appointed president of St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry effective January 1, 2015. He will succeed Sister Patricia Schoelles, SSJ, Ph.D., who is retiring from the position. The appointment was made by The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano, Bishop of Rochester, and St. Bernard's Board of Trustees.

Father Heyman has served as assistant professor and then associate professor at St. Bernard's since 2007. Previously in his career, he taught at Nazareth College, SUNY Binghamton, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, Syracuse University and the University of Rochester. In 2005, he received the Doctoral Dissertation Prize awarded by Syracuse University's College of Arts and Sciences. He is a member of Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, Theta Chi Beta Religion Honor Society and Delta Kappa Epsilon National Honor Society.

A priest of the Diocese of Rochester ordained in 1981, Father Heyman holds a doctorate in Religion from Syracuse University, a master of arts and a master of divinity degree from the former St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester, a master's degree in theology from Harvard Divinity School and a bachelor's degree from St. John Fisher College. His teaching interests have included Comparative Religions, Second Temple Judaism, Biblical Studies, Hebrew Bible, Synoptic Gospels, Historical Jesus Research, Religions of Greece and Rome, Biblical Hebrew, Biblical Greek, Early Christian Origins, and Religions of Late Antiquity.

Father Heyman, a native of Rochester, has ministered at parishes in Corning, Rochester, Wolcott, Ithaca, Sodus, Chili and Fairport.

"I am grateful to His Excellency, Bishop Matano, to Sr. Patricia Schoelles and to the Board of Trustees for their confidence and their overwhelming support," Father Heyman said. "St. Bernard's has been a vital part of my own education, my priesthood and my ministry since I first entered its doors in 1976. In the words of St. Paul, because 'the Lord has begun the good work' in gifting the Dioceses of Rochester, Syracuse and Albany with such an outstanding school of theology and ministry, I believe the Holy Spirit will 'carry it on to completion' (Philippians 1:6) as a vital resource educating, informing and inspiring laity and clergy alike for the Church today."

Sister Schoelles, who holds a master's degree and doctorate from the University of Notre Dame, taught at Nazareth College in Rochester for four years and then St. Mary's Seminary and the University in Baltimore for eight years before coming to St. Bernard's in 1993.

Under Sister Schoelles leadership, St. Bernard's established a new building and campus on French Road; began an extension site in the Diocese of Syracuse; greatly expanded services for students, including the use of regional video conferencing sites for classes; oversaw establishment of the Brennan-Goldman Institute for Catholic-Jewish Understanding and Dialogue at St. Bernard's, and maintained a highly praised and accredited graduate level program in formation for ministry for lay ecclesial ministers and deacons.

ABOUT ST. BERNARD'S

St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry educates and assists women and men in academic, ministerial, interpersonal, and spiritual formation for the purpose of serving the Church through diverse forms of lay and ordained ministries; theological scholarship; and Christian service in society.

The main campus is located on French Road in Pittsford; the school also offers classes in Syracuse and Albany.

St. Bernard's offers three master's degrees in theology and continuing education opportunities for those seeking professional training, personal enrichment or a deeper understanding of their faith.

For more information, visit www.stbernards.edu.