

Sacred Heart CONNECTION

SPRING 2021




Stepping Forward in Faith

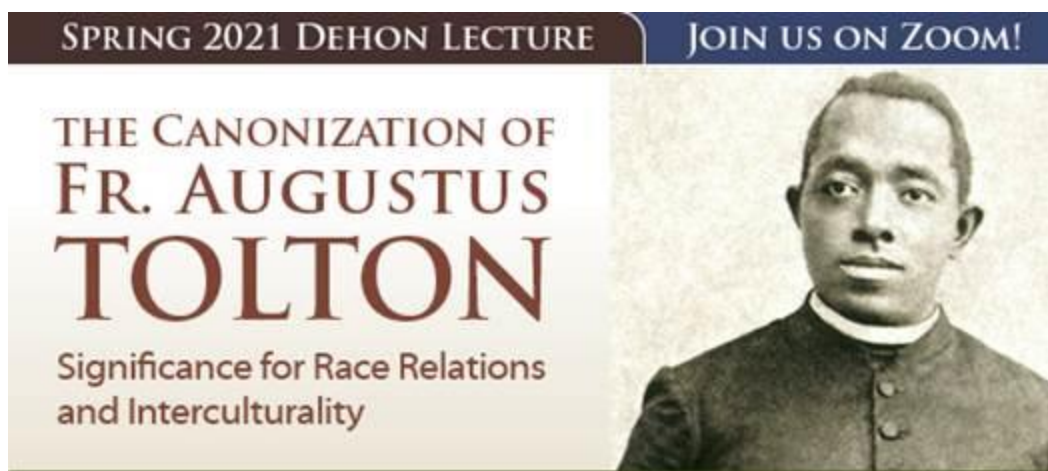
Greetings! With spring around the corner, we see many **signs of hope** and wanted to share some with you, our sponsors. It is wonderful to see the **students talking, laughing, studying and praying together**. **Renovations** are on schedule and we look forward to **state-of-the-art classrooms** and **new living quarters with private baths for seminarians**. We also continue to prepare for the sixth edition of the *Program of Priestly Formation (PPF6)*. Our collaboration with the **Pontifical Gregorian University** advances as well, the application was submitted on February 22, 2021. I encourage you to come for a visit! If you cannot travel yet, we have a **virtual tour** led by our Director of Music and Liturgy, Dr. Ben Stone: shsst.edu/videos. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, we at Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology are **grateful** for our blessings, and we step forward in faith and hope to pursue our vision: **Conform Our World to the Heart of Christ**.

Sincerely yours in the heart of Christ,
 The Very Rev. Raúl Gómez-Ruiz SDS, Ph.D.
 President-Rector
 414-529-6972, rector@shsst.edu

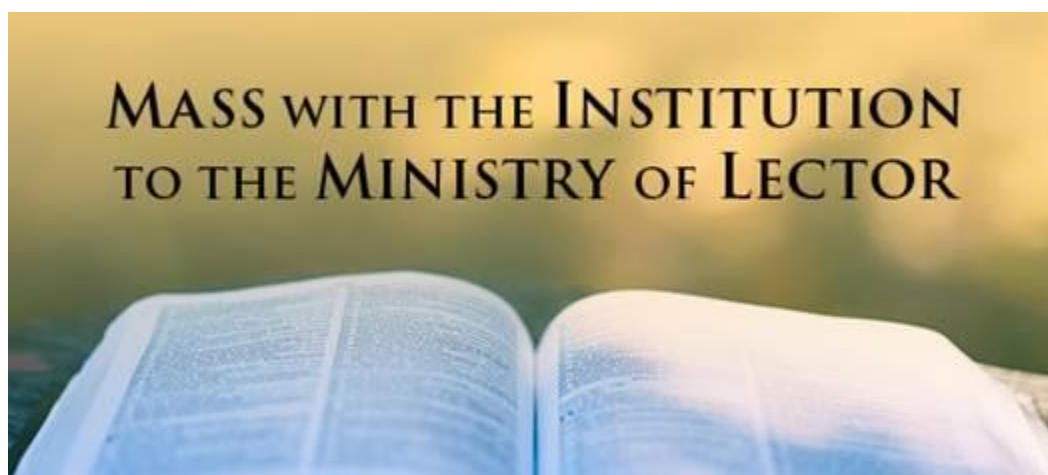
In this issue...



Dehon Lecture | Ministry of Lector | Renovations
Innovative Preparation for Proposed Changes in PPF6
Lux Center Public Lecture | Holy Land Fun and Fundraiser
Interculturality + Faith | The Parables Project



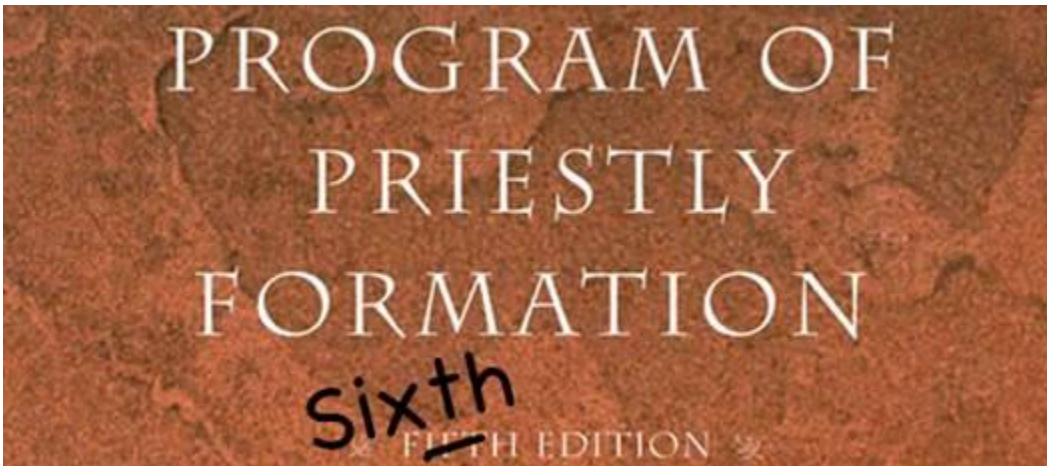
Please join us for our spring Dehon Lecture, March 17 via Zoom (students and faculty will be in-person). Visit shsst.edu/spring2021dehonlecture to register via Zoom, view the flyer, and read the biographies of Fr. Augustus Tolton and Bishop Joseph Perry from Chicago, Illinois. Read about past Dehon lectures here: shsst.edu/dehon-lectures.



The Ministry of Lector will be celebrated on March 10th. We are grateful to have Bishop Michael McGovern from Belleville, Illinois coming to preside. The Mass will be live-streamed; links will be posted on our website and Facebook accounts. Find more information here: shsst.edu/shsst-events-and-news.



Renovations are on schedule to be **completed by fall 2021**, with **state-of-the-art technology in classrooms** and improved **living spaces for seminarians including private baths**.



Innovative Preparation for Proposed Changes in PPF6: The sixth edition of the *Program of Priestly Formation* (PPF6) includes some **significant changes** we are thoughtfully reflecting on how to best adapt. One example is the **propaedeutic year**. This could be a **significant challenge** for rural dioceses or smaller religious communities where potential seminarians live far away from each other. **We can help fill that need** by offering a blend of events; in-person retreats at Sacred Heart followed by on-going formation virtually. By offering this to multiple dioceses, **we can create a community of men** during this important discernment process. **Please reach out to me personally** if you are interested: **414-529-6972** or rector@shsst.edu.



Sacred Heart houses the **Lux Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies** (shsst.edu/theluxcenter). Through lectures, field trips and seminary-hosted events, the Lux Center strives to strengthen the **living relationship** between Catholic and Jewish people. **Join us virtually** for our spring Lux Lecture at: shsst.edu/luxcenter-eventsandnews.



Every summer, **Scripture professor Dr. Patrick Russell** leads a group of seminarians and students to the Holy Land. Accompanied by a priest, the trip is a **spiritual pilgrimage**, following the footsteps of Jesus, and includes time at an **archeological dig**. Past travelers say this is a **transformative experience**. This year, alumni have gathered together to create a fundraiser for future Sacred Heart pilgrims; the virtual event on March 16th should be a lot of fun and support an important program. Find more information on the **Holy Land trip** here: shsst.edu/holy-land-expedition.



Being able to study English and culture **within a seminary environment** has many advantages for seminarians: **a rich spiritual life, community, and language skills specific to theological studies and future ministry.** Our long-standing and renowned program has advantages for our entire community as well, with an **intercultural population** that prepares everyone for **ministry in a diverse church.** Although visas have been difficult, laws are changing and we look forward to welcoming many who have been on our waiting list. Learn about our **English and Culture Studies program, Hispanic Preparation for Ministry program, ECS Accent Modification** and more here: shsst.edu/imp2.



Several faculty members at Sacred Heart are leading a fascinating national study examining effective strategies in preaching Jesus' parables. Called the Parables Project, this research effort is partially funded by a grant from the **Confraternity of Christian Doctrine** of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the **Catholic Biblical Association.** The goal is to determine the **preaching strategies** that productively unpack the parables' surplus of **meaning** and activate parishioners' **analogical imaginations,** thus increasing listeners' awareness of **Christ's presence** in their lives. Can you help us? We need input via

a survey by both clergy and laity: Go to parablesproject.org and **complete the clergy survey.**



YOUR SEMINARY

Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology

An Apostolate of the Priests of the Sacred Heart

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