

THE SACRED HEART

WINDOW



SPRING 2022

Praying together: At Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology we pray that we may continue to allow our hearts to be conformed to the Heart of Christ so that we may be instruments of healing, peace, and salvation. We also pray that those who study and work here or visit our campus will have an experience of God's reign taking root among us and be drawn into its life giving grace. – *Very Rev. Raúl Gómez-Ruiz SDS, Ph.D.*



*Bishop Coerver of the
Diocese of Lubbock
presides at Holy Mass
with the Rite of Institution
to the Ministry of Lector.
See pages 6-7.*

Preparing evangelizing disciples



Greetings from the President-Rector of Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology!

We at Sacred Heart are blessed, from the million dollar Lilly Pathways grant, to our developing relationship with the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, and our collaborations with religious communities, dioceses, and lay groups across the country. The seminary is thriving and full of life.

How can we serve you? We know our graduates go out to minister in a constantly changing world, so we have many specialized pathways to meet those needs:

- **Later vocations?** We have over 40 years of experience forming, reaching out and connecting to later vocations.
- Seminarians who need **English?** We have a robust English & Culture Studies program and an Accent Modification program, all within the rich liturgical life of the seminary. We have an immigration specialist and marketing team to help you in your work!
- Seminarians who will be ministering to **Hispanics?** We have a Hispanic Preparation for Ministry Program.
- Seminarians that need **advanced work**, a B.A., or a certificate program? We offer the M.Div. and also an advanced M.Div./M.A. track, Pre-Theology, B.A./M.Div. track, Certificate in Priestly Studies, and Bridge programs (from English to Theology). **We anticipate offering a Pontifical degree by the Fall of 2023.**
- Need a **propaedeutic year program** for prospective seminarians? Contact me to join our first cohort.
- Need a strong **lay formation** program? Our Cor Unum Master's is a cohort model that includes spiritual and pastoral formation, building a strong network of lay ministers. We can bring that to dioceses in hybrid formats.

More than 30 bishops and religious superiors entrust their seminarians to us, with some religious commuting from local houses and over 70 seminarians from all over Wisconsin. **Our hallways are filled with the sound of community, the chapel with prayer, and the dining hall with laughter.** Please come for a visit or contact us for a discussion about how we can be of service to you.

Our mission:

Preparing evangelizing disciples through specialized formation to conform our world to the Heart of Christ

In the Heart of Christ,
Very Rev. Raúl Gómez- Ruiz SDS, Ph.D.





Tailoring specialized formation

Envisioning Seminary Formation

The Very Rev. Raúl Gómez-Ruiz SDS, Ph.D., the Rev. Tom Knoebel, and Dr. Paul Monson attended the symposium in Rome entitled, “Toward a Fundamental Theology of the Priesthood,” February 17-19, 2022. The symposium was organized by Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops, and included an address by His Holiness, Pope Francis. The symposium explored ministerial priesthood rooted in the priesthood of all believers conferred at baptism.

Lilly Endowment’s Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative

Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology has received a grant of nearly one million dollars from Lilly Endowment Inc. to provide exemplary specialized formation for a universal Church. The grant is being made through Lilly Endowment’s Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative. Sacred Heart is one of 84 theological schools that received a total of more than \$82 million in grants through the second phase of the Pathways initiative. It is a three-phase initiative designed to help theological schools across the United States and Canada prioritize and respond to the most pressing challenges they face as they prepare pastoral leaders for Christian congregations both now and into the future.

Sacred Heart will realign its structures in order to provide improved specialized formation. As the grant proposal outlined: “Today, the Catholic Church is experiencing rapid change due to globalization, lack of vocations, and the need for increased lay involvement and priests who excel at multi-parish leadership, in response to what Pope Francis calls “not... an epoch of change, but a change in epochs.” Creating specialized formation that includes intentional experiential learning components for identified affinity groups will better meet seminarians where they are and also better prepare them for their future ministries.”

The three main components are as follows:

- 1** Affinity groups or cohorts of seminarians that build on specialized experiences, and provide stronger support.
- 2** Annual toolboxes for clerical and lay ministers. Initial funds helped to underwrite a Pastor’s Toolbox for new priest pastors, in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and Leadership Roundtable. (See the article on page 12 for more information.)
- 3** Expansion of the successful Cor Unum Master’s program for laity, which uses a cohort model and provides not only academic formation, but also spiritual and pastoral formation as well. This program will be run in dioceses that do not have seminaries offering substantive formation programs for lay ministers.

Inspiring hearts and minds

Dehon Lecture

On Wednesday, February 9, 2022, Sacred Heart held its Spring Dehon Lecture. The lecturer, Br. Guy Consolmagno SJ, spoke on the topic, "Covid, Faith, and the Fallibility of Science." The respondent, Fr. James Kurzynski, followed Br. Guy's talk with his input on the topic. Both speakers presented thought-provoking dialogues that captivated the audience. To watch the Dehon Lecture recording, visit: www.shsst.edu/dehonlecture.

Day of Recollection

The Most Rev. William Wack, CSC, Bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee, led our Day of Recollection on Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022. The topic was "Leave all things behind; I am doing something new."

The first reflection focused on clearing away old ways of thinking and acting. God continually calls us to turn away from sin and focus anew on Him. We all feel weighed down by past hurts, disappointments, and sins. How do we let go of that? How can we begin to move on?

The second reflection emphasized the beautiful passage from the Book of Revelation: "Behold, I make all things new" (Rev. 21:5). Our God promises to bring renewal to all of creation—and to each of us individually—again and again. How is this possible? Where do we see evidence of this renewal in our lives?

The day included Solemn Morning Prayer, Mass, Confession and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Ministry of Lector

In an important step for seminarians before ordination, the Most Rev. Robert M. Coerver, S.T.L., M.S., Bishop of Lubbock, instituted the following seminarians to the Ministry of Lector during the all-school Mass on Wednesday, March 9, 2022: John Akau, Diocese of Honolulu; Daniel Christe, Diocese of Saginaw; Robert Dodson, Diocese of Belleville; Daniel Dunn, Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau; and Randy Recker, Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee.

Bishop Coerver presented each seminarian a book of Scripture, telling them "Take this book of holy Scripture and be faithful in handing on the word of God, so that it may grow strong in the hearts of his people." Bishop Coerver gave an inspiring homily encouraging the men to help people encounter Jesus Christ, and to help conform hearts to the Heart of Christ.





Celebrating interculturality

Meet a Seminarian: Deacon Simon Muema, SDS

Deacon Simon, a seminarian with the Society of the Divine Savior, recently wrote a reflection on "Celebrating Interculturality." Deacon Simon has been in the United States for 15 years and at Sacred Heart for six years. Commenting on the diversity in the USA, he wrote:

"My time at Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology helped me to appreciate our seminary community where many seminarians, priests and missionary sisters come from all over the world: Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe. They all form the part and parcel of this great seminary community. My encounter and sharing with diverse brothers and sisters from different cultures has enriched my Salvatorian vocation. Our charism is rooted in proclaiming Our Divine Savior and making Him known in all the parts and cultures of the world. I look forward to ministering in our Salvatorian parishes in the USA which are diverse.

When these different cultures meet, study and share together, a third culture with greater power full of embracing, kindness and inclusivity is at work. All these can lead, redeem and reveal a beauty of each individual culture which shows a beauty of honoring God's creativity."

Deacon Simon will be ordained a priest on May 28, 2022. Please keep him and his ministry in your prayers!

The Lux Center Spring Lectures

The Lux Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies was honored to have Fr. Dennis McManus present the 2022 Lux Lecture: "An Unfinished Reform of the Rites of Paul VI: Eliminating Anti-Judaism in the Roman Rite." All seminarians attended the morning lecture, which was so engaging that the discussion continued in classrooms throughout the day.

In 2021, Fr. McManus was appointed Senior Research Fellow at Georgetown University to investigate the Vatican Archives and the question of Pius XII and the Holocaust. He has served as the delegate for Jewish Affairs for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops since 2010. He has also served as Associate Director of the Secretariat for the Liturgy at the USCCB.

Thank you, Fr. Dennis, for sharing your time and experiences with Sacred Heart!
Learn more about The Lux Center at www.shsst.edu/theluxcenter.

English and Culture Studies

Fr. Max Schindler, SCJ, held a Zoom meeting with English and Culture Studies (ECS) students and faculty to present information and answer questions about the war in Ukraine. Fr. Max was a student in our ECS program years ago, and we appreciated his time to speak to current students!

There are currently 20 students in Sacred Heart's English and Culture Studies program. For more information, see www.shsst.edu/ecsp.

Living with gratitude

Heart of Christ Award

In gratitude for his service and support, the Board of Directors of Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology (SHSST) awarded the Heart of Christ Award to Bishop Robert M. Coerver, S.T.L., M.S., of the Diocese of Lubbock.

At the dinner following Mass on March 9, 2022, Board Chair Dr. Barbara Anne Cusack presented the Heart of Christ Award to Bishop Coerver. The award recognizes an outstanding contribution by a collaborator that supports our vision “To Conform Our World to the Heart of Christ,” as well as the Dehonian idea of bringing love where it is most needed. Dehonian is another name for the Priests of the Sacred Heart, of which the seminary is an apostolate.

In Dr. Cusack’s remarks, she highlighted how Bishop Coerver was instrumental in convening a series of “Collegial Sharing Among Brother Bishops” gatherings at Sacred Heart. Bishops have been under great stress from the pandemic as well as clerical abuse scandals, declining vocations, tensions within the church, and ministering in an increasingly secular society. They possess authority but often with little peer support. These gatherings, convened by Bishop Coerver, helped to provide support and promote open dialogue about important issues bishops face. Participants of the 2019 and 2021 gatherings all expressed their gratitude to meet fellow bishops, share their challenges and discuss possible ways forward. Expenses were generously covered by a grant from the Erica P. John Fund.

Vice Rector elected U.S. Provincial Superior

As an apostolate of the Priests of the Sacred Heart, we are grateful to share the news that on January 14, 2022, the Very Rev. Vien Nguyen, SCJ, was elected as the 16th provincial superior of the US Province of the Priests of the Sacred Heart (Dehonians). He was installed on February 2, 2022, with the new Provincial Council.

Fr. Vien, 48, was serving as Vice Rector and Assistant Professor of Scripture Studies at Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology in Hales Corners, WI. He professed his first vows in 1997 and was ordained to the priesthood in 2004. In 2018 he earned a doctorate from the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in Berkeley, CA. He also earned a Th.M. and S.T.L. from Santa Clara University, and an M.Div. from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

Before pursuing post-graduate studies, Fr. Vien served in parish ministry and in formation. He served on the faculty of SHSST since 2018. He has published in a wide variety of theological and professional publications, including the *Review of Biblical Literature*, *Journal of Biblical Theology*, and *The American Journal Of Biblical Theology*.

The SCJ Election Assembly elected the following as the members of the new Provincial Council: Fr. Greg Schill, Fr. Rafael Querobin, Fr. Jack Kurps, Br. Duane Lemke, and Dn. David Nagel.

We thank the former Provincial Superior, Fr. Ed Kilianski, for his service, and wish the new council members many blessings in their ministries.

—Mary Gorski, Communications Director at the US Province of the Priests of the Sacred Heart



Reaching out with resources

Toolbox for New Priest Pastors: May 15–20, 2022

We are happy to collaborate with one of our sponsors, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, to host a Toolbox for New Priest Pastors, facilitated by the faculty of Leadership Roundtable, hosted at Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, May 15–20, 2022. The toolbox is designed to help new and soon to be priest pastors with a variety of leadership skills. The fee of \$1,911 covers programs, food and lodging. Contact Laura Engel of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee for questions and registration: Engell@archmil.org, 414-769-3354.

Preaching Conference



Sacred Heart held the fourth annual Preaching Conference January 3–5, 2022. The conference topic was “The Power of Passionate Preaching While Presiding at the Funeral Rites”. Six speakers participated in the conference throughout the three days. The speaker topics ranged from “The Homilist: Messenger of Hope and Healing to Those Who Grieve” to “Honoring the Journey: A Collaboration of Hospice Nurses, Caretakers and Clergy.” To read all of the speaker topics and biographies, and view two of the talks, visit www.shsst.edu/preachingconf.

www.shsst.edu | 414-425-8300

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