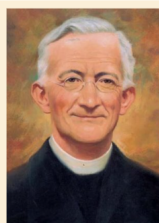




September 12, 2025 • *The Sacred Heart Window*
Bi-weekly News of Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology

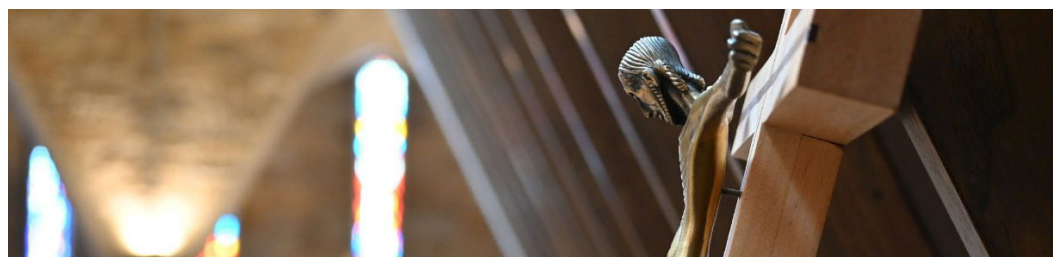


Dehonian Spirituality

“The Blessed Virgin Mary was there on the road to Calvary and at the foot of the cross. She is our model. Let us imitate her in our faithfulness, in our devotion to Jesus.”

– Leo John Dehon, SCJ, *Crowns of Love for the Sacred Heart II*, 2nd Mystery, 3rd Meditation

Announcements



A Grand Achievement

Sacred Heart is honored to announce a major milestone in our academic history; it has received official confirmation from the Dicastery for Culture and Education that approved affiliation with the Faculty of Theology of the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. This affiliation will be through the Institutum Theologiæ Sint Unum, a new canonical entity that will allow qualified students to receive the Gregorian’s ecclesiastical Baccalaureate in Theology (known commonly in the United States as the “S.T.B.”). The Dicastery’s decree specifies that the affiliation will be ad quinquennium experimenti gratia, that is, for a standard five-year period.

Sacred Heart now stands as the only American seminary to enjoy an affiliated institute that can offer the Gregorian's pontifical Baccalaureate in Theology. This degree will be offered in affiliation with the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome's premier pontifical university. As a school that can trace its roots to St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, the Gregorian has weathered suppressions, confiscations, and wars. Sacred Heart can now become part of a tradition that has educated some of the best minds of the Catholic Church. This affiliation strengthens Sacred Heart's mission as one of the nation's largest theologates in service of the universal Church. Sacred Heart is now able to bridge American and Roman standards in theological education, in collaboration with the institution that inspired Fr. Dehon's priestly vocation and passion for the intellectual life.

Thank you to the faculty and staff of both institutions who worked tirelessly to bring this opportunity to fruition.



Day of Recollection

On Wednesday, September 10, Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology held its first Day of Recollection of the semester, a time set aside for prayer, reflection, and renewal.

The speaker was Fr. Michael Simone, SJ, Pastor of the Church of the Gesù in Milwaukee. He offered a talk titled *"The Autumn Rains Cover Them with Joy: Pastoral and Spiritual Wisdom from the Psalms."* Drawing from Psalm 84:6-8, Fr. Simone reflected on the imagery of pilgrimage, resilience, and God's sustaining presence in times of trial.

He emphasized how the psalm's vision of travelers finding strength through valleys of dryness can inspire the Church today, encouraging perseverance, trust, and joy even amid challenges. His insights invited the community to see the Psalms not only as ancient prayers but as living words that continue to speak to the heart of Christian discipleship.

The day provided Sacred Heart's community an opportunity to pause amid the busyness of the semester, to pray together, and to be renewed in spirit through the wisdom of Scripture.



The Hebrew Calendar and The Jewish High Holy Days

On Wednesday, September 3, Liran Gerassi, Director of The Lux Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies, opened the school year with the Lux Center's first talk. After a short meet-and-greet, he presented a lecture titled **"The Hebrew Calendar and The Jewish High Holy Days."**

Liran highlighted the differences between the Hebrew and Gregorian calendars, walked the participants through the major holy days of the Jewish year, and focused especially on the meaning of the upcoming High Holy Days. He emphasized the deep connection between the Jewish people and the Land of Israel - reflected in the Bible, in the Holy Days, in the rhythms of the seasons, in traditions, and in Jewish prayer. His presentation offered both historical background and contemporary insights, helping participants better understand the spiritual depth and ongoing significance of these sacred observances.



ECSP Milwaukee Outing

On Wednesday, September 3 ECS students explored downtown Milwaukee with local guide Chris Ponteri, followed by a guided tour of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. The group attended midday mass at Milwaukee's oldest Catholic church – Old St. Mary's – and then had lunch at the historic Pfister hotel's lobby lounge. The Pfister's artist-in-residence, Sacha Kinens, a Thiensville-based figurative oil painter who has exhibited her work nationally, led the group on a private tour of the Pfister's extensive collection of Victorian art, which is the largest hotel-owned collection of Victorian art in the world.



Faculty Publication

It is Sacred Heart's pleasure to announce a recent faculty publication by Dr. Michael J. Mazza, Lecturer in Pastoral Studies:

- Mazza, Michael J. "A Solution to a Kafkaesque Clerical Conundrum." *First Things*, August 25, 2025.

The online article can be found [here](#). The essay distills much of Dr. Mazza's work on canon law and clerical sexual abuse for a more popular audience.

Congratulations, Dr. Mazza!

Looking Forward

2025-2026 School Year

Sep 12 Vaccine Clinic

Oct 01 Multi-Cultural Mass
Oct 07 Bagels with Lux
Oct 06-Oct 10 Fall Break
Oct 17 ECS Culture Fair
Oct 22 Ministry of Acolyte
Oct 23-Oct 24 Sacred Heart Symposium
Oct 31 Board of Directors Meetings
Nov 05 Day of Recollection (Seminarians Only)
Nov 12 Candidacy to Holy Orders
Nov 26-Nov 28 Thanksgiving Break
Dec 05 Last Day of Classes
Dec 09 Exam Days
Dec 12-Jan 11 Christmas Break
Dec 12 Christmas Evening Social
Jan 06-Jan 08 Preaching Conference
Jan 13 SHSST Residential Students Return
Jan 14-Jan 18 SHSST Residential Seminarian Retreat
Jan 20 Classes Begin
Jan 22 Christian Unity Evening Prayer
Feb 03 Bagels with Lux
Feb 18 Day of Recollection/Ash Wednesday (All School)
Mar 01-Mar 08 Spring Break
Mar 03 Bagels with Lux
Mar 11 Ministry of Lector
Mar 11 Board of Directors Meetings
Mar 22 Spring Lux Center Public Lecture
Mar 23 Lux Center Morning Lecture
Mar 25 Faculty & Staff Development
Mar 26-Mar 27 Faith & Culture Workshop
Mar 30-Apr 06 Easter Break
Apr 07 Bagels with Lux
Apr 08 Easter Lunch & Student Council Employee Appreciation
Apr 22 Day of Recollection (Seminarians Only)
Apr 29 Employee Recognition & Diaconate Promises
May 05 Bagels with Lux
May 06 Administrator & Graduate Dinner
May 08 Last Day of Classes
May 08 Commencement
May 13 Faculty Council Dinner
May 18 May Session Begins
May 19 End of Year Celebration
May 20 Board of Directors Meetings
Jun 19 May Session Ends



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