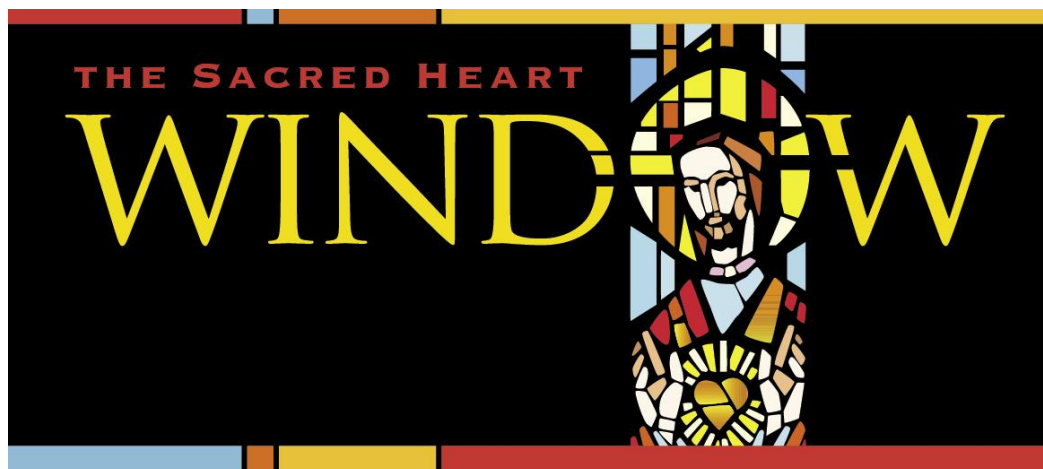
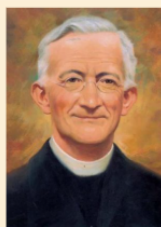




August 28, 2026 • *The Sacred Heart Window*

The Sacred Heart Window: News of Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology



Dehonian Spirituality

“Who better than Augustine has sung the love of God? ‘O God,’ he said, ‘is it possible for someone to know that you are God and not love you?’ No one has better spoken of the side of Jesus opened by the lance in order to let flow blood and water, symbol of the sacraments of the Church. He saw in the wounds of Jesus a refuge for our soul.”

– Leo John Dehon, SCJ, *The Year with the Sacred Heart*, August 28



A Blessed Beginning to the New Academic Year

The new academic year was commemorated on August 26 with the annual Holy Mass for the Opening of the Academic Year, entrusting the year ahead to the Lord and asking His grace and guidance for our community.

Following Mass, students and employees gathered for a joyful welcome dinner. The evening was filled with warm fellowship, lively conversation, and the joy of welcoming new members of our community. We were especially pleased to introduce our new students and employees and to begin the year together with gratitude, friendship, and faith.

As we embark on this new academic year, we pray that God may continue to bless our community.



Rectors Day: Who Are We?

The SHSST faculty and staff gathered for our annual Rector's Day on August 17, continuing an important tradition of reflection, conversation, and vision for the year ahead. President-Rector, Fr. Stephen Huffstetter, SCJ, led the morning session, with Dr. Patrick Russell joining him for the afternoon.

Last year, during his first year as rector, Fr. Steve invited the SHSST community to consider the question, "Who am I?" The reflection provided an opportunity for the community to learn more about his background, his beliefs, and the gifts and vision he would bring to his leadership of the seminary.

This year, Fr. Steve shifted the focus from the individual to the community with the question, "Who are we?" Together, the SHSST community reflected on who we are, not only as individuals, but also as an institution, and how those identities are connected.

The day invited participants to consider the values, experiences, gifts, and shared mission that shape the identity of Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology. The conversation also provided an important foundation for the seminary's upcoming strategic planning process. By looking honestly at who we are today, the community began to consider where God may be calling SHSST in the future.



SCJ Ordinations

Dr. Paul Monson, Academic Dean, attended the priestly ordinations of Fr. Long Nguyen, SCJ, and Fr. Hung Pham, SCJ, on Aug. 15, 2026. The ordinations took place at Vietnamese Martyrs Catholic Church in Houston, Texas. Dr. Monson also visited Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in downtown Houston, where another SHSST alumnus, Fr. Henry Nguyen, SCJ, serves as Parochial Vicar.

May the Lord bless these new priests abundantly, and may God continue to accompany them as they joyfully proclaim the Gospel and serve the People of God!



Celebrating Our English and Culture Studies Summer Program

On August 6, the English and Culture Studies Program gathered for a certificate ceremony and end-of-program social to celebrate and say farewell to the program's graduates.

This summer, we were blessed to welcome eight graduates from around the world:

- Rev. Paulo Bronzato Silva
- Rev. Danilo Leal de Souza
- Rev. Martín Mejia Mariscal, SX
- Rev. Marcus Silva
- Rev. Orlando Pires Neto
- Rev. Claudio Casorati Canepa
- Rev. Luís Alves Ferreira
- Dr. José Francisco dos Santos

While we are sad to see our graduates leave SHSST, we are grateful for the time we shared with them. Their presence enriched our community and reminded us of the truly global mission of the Church.



Faculty Publications and Promotions

Dr. Jeremy W. Blackwood has been promoted to the rank of Professor of Systematic Theology. This recommendation received approval from the Academic Dean and the President-Rector. The promotion recognizes Dr. Blackwood's thirteen years of service to SHSST and his exemplary record in theological research and seminary teaching.

Dr. Michael J. Mazza has received a full-time academic faculty appointment as Assistant Professor of Canon Law. This new appointment aligns with SHSST faculty needs for our new pontifical baccalaureate in theology (STB). It further recognizes Dr. Mazza's outstanding part-time teaching record in SHSST's classrooms alongside his unparalleled publishing profile in national and international journals. Dr. Mazza brings a rare competency in both civil and canon law to our faculty.

Congratulations Dr. Blackwood and Dr. Mazza and thank you both for your service to our community!

SHSST is also proud to announce two publications from over the summer by Dr. Michael J. Mazza, our new Assistant Professor of Canon Law:

Mazza, Michael J. "Should Priests be Labeled 'Unassignable'? Insights to be Drawn from Recent Jurisprudence of the Apostolic Signatura." *The Jurist* 82, no. 1 (2026): 61-90.

Mazza, Michael J. "Do Priests Have a Right to Remain Silent?" *Periodica de Re Canonica* 115, no. 2 (2026): 203-244.

Both publications appear in premier scholarly journals of canon law. Congratulations, Dr. Mazza!



SHSST is also happy to share the appointment of **Vicki Johnson and Maripat Zacher** as our new full-time, Instructors of English and Culture Studies.

After many years of serving SHSST as adjunct faculty, we are delighted with the opportunity to welcome them among the full-time faculty. Their new roles will benefit us as we redevelop and refine our ECS program, especially in its attention to the individual needs of each language student.

Congratulations, Ms. Vicki Johnson and Maripat Zacher and thank you for your dedicated years of service!

Looking Forward

2026-2027 School Year

- Sep 01** Book Reading and Signing
- Sep 7** Non-School Day; Employee Holiday
- Sep 9** Day of Recollection (All School)
- Sep 16** Dehon Lecture
- Sep 18** Alumni Gathering
- Sep 25** Vaccine Clinic
- Oct 07** Multi-Cultural Mas
- Oct 08** ECS Culture Fair- tentative
- Oct 12-Oct 16** Fall Break
- Oct 16** Mid-Term Break: Employee Holiday

Oct 23 Board of Directors Meeting
Oct 21 Ministry of Acolyte
Nov 02 All Souls Day
Nov 04 Day of Recollection (Seminarians Only)
Nov 11 Candidacy to Holy Orders
Nov 25-Nov 27 Thanksgiving Break
Nov 26 Thanksgiving Employee Holiday
Nov 27 Employee Holiday
Dec 04 Last Day of Classes
Dec 04 ECS Certificate Ceremony
Dec 05 SCJ Profession of Final Vows
Dec 07 Exam Day
Dec 08 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Non-School Day;
 Employee Holiday
Dec 10 Christmas Break Begins
Dec 11 Christmas Evening Social
Dec 23 Transferred All Saints Day Employee Holiday
Dec 24 Christmas Eve: Employee Holiday
Dec 25 Christmas Day: Employee Holiday
Jan 01 New Years Day: Employee Holiday
Jan 05-Jan 07 Preaching Conference
Jan 12 SHSST Residential Students Return
Jan 13-Jan 17 SHSST Residential Seminarian Retreat
Jan 15-17 New ECS Students Arrive
Jan 18 Classes Begin
Jan 18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Jan 20 Evening Prayer for Christian Unity
Jan 29 SFdSS Patronal Feast -No class day
Feb 10 Day of Recollection/Ash Wednesday (All School)
Feb 28-Mar 07 Spring Break
Mar 10 Ministry of Lector
Mar 10 Board of Directors Meetings
Mar 14 Fr. Leo John Dehon Birthday
Mar 19 Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Non-Class Day
Mar 22-Mar 29 Easter Break
Mar 26 Good Friday: Employee Holiday
Mar 29 Easter Monday: Employee Holiday
Apr 05 The Annunciation of the Lord (non-class day); MLK transferred holiday:
 Employee holiday
Apr 14 Diaconate Promises
Apr 21 Day of Recollection (Seminarians Only)
May 04 Feast Day: Solemnity of the Sacred Heart
May 05 Administrator & Graduate Dinner/ Commencement Rehearsal
May 07 Last Day of Classes
May 07 Commencement
May 10-11 Exam Days
May 10 Cor Unum Last Day of Classes
May 12 Vespers with Employee Recognition
May 17 May Session Begins
May 18 End of Year Picnic
May 19 Board of Directors Meetings

May 31 Memorial Day: Employee Holiday

Jun 7 Transferred Solemnity of the Sacred Heart: Employee Holiday

Jun 21 SHSST Summer Session Begins

Jun 22 ECS Summer Session Begins



YOUR SEMINARY: *Specialized formation for a universal Church*

Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology

www.shsst.edu | 414-425-8300

7335 S. Hwy. 100 | PO Box 429 | Hales Corners, WI 53130

An Apostolate of [*the Priests of the Sacred Heart*](#)

Connect with us!

Sacred Heart social media:



[Support Us!](#)

Connect with the Priests of the Sacred Heart!



poshusa.org