



September 18, 2026 • *The Sacred Heart Window*

The Sacred Heart Window: 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



Annual Dehon Lecture

On September 16, Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology was pleased to welcome Bishop José Ornelas Carvalho, SCJ, as the presenter for our annual Dehon Lecture on September 16. His presentation, “The Heart of Jesus and the Heart of Mary: Source and Inspiration for the Life and Mission of the Church,” invited members of our seminary community to reflect more deeply on the spirituality of the heart and its implications for Christian life and mission.

For Bishop Ornelas, the heart has long served as a physical and spiritual reference point for “feelings, aspirations and relationships.” Drawing from the relationship between the hearts of Jesus and Mary, he emphasized that “The heart of Mary is a maternal expression of the heart of Jesus.”

Bishop Ornelas' visit also carried a special connection to the history of SHSST and the Priests of the Sacred Heart. His last visit to the seminary was in 2013, when he was serving as Superior General of the Priests of the Sacred Heart.

Reflecting on the years that followed, Bishop Ornelas recalled that his next assignment was to be in Angola. Having spent two years serving in Mozambique as a seminarian, he had hoped to return to mission work. Yet, as he noted during his lecture, "The path ahead is often different than we expect."

That openness to where God leads was reflected in the heart of his presentation. Bishop Ornelas explained that the spirituality of the Heart of Jesus directs our attention to the human person of Christ, with the heart serving as a symbol of His love and total self-giving for humanity.

"The proposal of the heart of Jesus is not only a poetic-theological idea," he said. "It is a call to the constant renewal of our communion as sons and daughters, as brothers and sisters in Christ."

Following the morning lecture, Dr. Julie Newberry, Assistant Professor of Scripture Studies at SHSST, and Fr. John Baumgardner, Vice Rector of St. Francis Seminary and Director of Human Formation for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, served as respondents and offered their reflections and questions from the lecture. The evening concluded with a question-and-answer session, giving the SHSST community an opportunity to engage more deeply with Bishop Ornelas' reflections.

We are grateful to Bishop Ornelas for returning to Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology and for sharing his reflections on the Heart of Jesus and the Heart of Mary. His message offered our community a meaningful opportunity to consider how the spirituality of the heart continues to shape our communion, formation and mission as the Church.



Dragons: A Roman Requiem Book Signing

On September 1, SHSST was pleased to welcome Fr. Joseph Carola, SJ, the seminary's new delegate from the Pontifical Gregorian University, for a special evening celebrating the publication of his historical novel, *Dragons: A Roman Requiem*.

As the new delegate responsible for Sacred Heart's affiliation for the STB, his visit provided an opportunity for members of the seminary community to meet him and learn more about his work and ministry.

The evening began with a special 5:15 p.m. Vespers. Following Vespers, students, seminarians, faculty, and staff gathered in the dining room for heavy hors d'oeuvres and fellowship.

At 6:30 p.m., Fr. Carola shared selections from *Dragons: A Roman Requiem*, offering attendees a glimpse into the historical fiction that explores the dramatic story of the Roman College, now the Pontifical Gregorian University, from its resurrection in the 1820s through its persecution following Italian unification in the 1870s.

The evening concluded with a book signing, giving members of the Sacred Heart community an opportunity to visit with Fr. Carola personally and have copies of his novel signed.



Day of Recollection

On Wednesday, September 9, Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology held its first Day of Recollection of the school year, offering the seminary community a special opportunity to pause from the demands of daily life and enter more deeply into prayer, reflection, and spiritual renewal.

The theme for the day was “The Canticle of the Creatures of St. Francis of Assisi,” presented by Rev. Patrick Greenough, OFM Conv. Through his morning and afternoon reflections, Fr. Greenough invited the community to reflect on St. Francis’ profound appreciation for God’s creation and the call to recognize the presence and goodness of God in the world around us.

The day began with Solemn Morning Prayer in Sacred Heart Chapel, followed by Father Greenough’s morning reflection. The community then gathered for Mass, continuing the day’s focus on gratitude for God’s creation.

Following lunch in community, Father Greenough offered an afternoon reflection, providing further time for contemplation on the truly amazing scope of our universe and the scale of God’s creation.

The Day of Recollection concluded with Solemn Evening Prayer and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. From beginning to end, the day provided the SHSST community with a meaningful opportunity to step away from the ordinary rhythm of seminary life, renew their relationship with God and his creation.



Faculty Publications

We are pleased to celebrate the recent publication of **Dr. Katherine Milco**, SHSST's Assistant Academic Dean and Associate Professor of Classics and Early Christian Studies, who recently edited and contributed a chapter to *"Teacher, Mother, Giver of All Good Advice": Essays in Memory of Judith Beall*, published by Gorgias Press.

The volume honors the life and scholarly legacy of Dr. Judith Beall (1945–2025), a longtime professor and former Director of the Religious Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee.

This book can be found at: <https://www.gorgiaspress.com/teacher-mother-giver-of-all-good-advice>

SHSST is also proud to announce a recent book chapter by **Dcn. Steve Kramer**, Professor of Pastoral Studies and Director of Homiletics:

- Kramer, Steven. "Evangelization from a Homiletic Professor's Perspective." In *Forming Priests as Animators of Evangelization*, edited by Deacon James Keating, et al. En Route Books and Media, 2026.

As well as a peer-reviewed article by **Dr. James W. Stroud**, Professor of Moral Theology:

- Stroud, James W. "Matters Necessary for Salvation and the Infused Habits." *Nova et Vetera* 24, no. 3 (2026): 1039-56.

Both publications are noteworthy. Dcn. Keating enjoys a national profile in priestly formation, and *Nova et Vetera* remains one of the premier Catholic journals in moral theology.

Congratulations, Dr. Milco, Dcn. Kramer, and Dr. Stroud!



September 2026

Dehonian Leadership Institute: Monthly Minute

A monthly series of quotes and reflections on leadership, based on the writings of Ven. Fr. Leo John Dehon, Founder of the Priests of the Sacred Heart

“St. Francis of Assisi used to say, ‘the perfection of government is contained in five words:

to love, to watch, to tolerate, to forgive, and to nourish.’

All these are summed up in the word, to love.”^[1]

This quote comes from Fr. Dehon’s guidance to superiors. Today, it provides leaders a five-step way to govern. This month, ponder how much you love, watch, tolerate, forgive and nourish those in your care.

Interested in learning more about SCJ-inspired leadership? Contact Monica Misey, Director of Dehonian Associates: mmisey@dehoniansusa.org.

[1] Dehon, SCJ, “A Small Directory for the Superiors of the Houses of the Priests of the Sacred Heart,” 11.

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Looking Forward

2026-2027 School Year

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



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www.shsst.edu | 414-425-8300

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