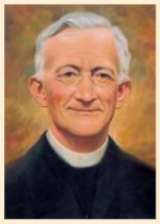


November 20, 2026 • *The Sacred Heart Window*
The Sacred Heart Window: News of Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology



Dehonian Spirituality

"Jesus took delight in the heart of St. Gertrude because he found there the same outpourings of love, of fidelity, of compassion, of devotion, that he had found in the midst of his friends at Bethlehem, Nazareth, Bethany, and the Cenacle, at Gethsemane, and on Calvary."

– Leo John Dehon, SCJ, Spiritual Directory, "Advice and Counsels: V"



Candidacy for Holy Orders

On November 11, three SHSST seminarians took an important step in their journey toward priesthood through the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders.

Congratulations to:

- Mr. Hai Nguyen, Seminarian for the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee
- Mr. Julio Valenzuela-Triana, Seminarian for the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee
- Mr. Donovan Trentin, Seminarian for the Diocese of Hamilton

The Mass was presided over by the Very Rev. Stephen Huffstetter, SCJ, President Rector, who also delivered the homily, reflecting on God's call and the importance of responding with faith, trust, and a generous heart.

The Rite of Admission to Candidacy marks a significant moment in a seminarian's formation, as the Church formally recognizes his intention to pursue Holy Orders.

We give thanks to God for these three men and continue to pray for them as they discern and prepare to serve God's people.

Congratulations, Julio, Donovan, and Hai!



Lux Talk

On November 11, Dr. Benny Bar-Lavi, Director of The Lux Center, spoke with SHSST’s residential seminarians on the question of whether Judaism is universalist or particularist. His presentation invited thoughtful reflection offering seminarians an opportunity to engage more deeply with Jewish theological perspectives.

The discussion reflects SHSST’s ongoing commitment to scholarly excellence and meaningful interreligious dialogue. By fostering opportunities to encounter

and learn from other religious traditions, SHSST seeks to strengthen understanding and build bridges between Catholic and Jewish communities.



Recent Publications

SHSST is pleased to announce a new scholarly publication by Dr. Benny Bar-Lavi, Director of the Lux Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies:

- Bar-Lavi, Benny. "Reason Revoiced: Cross-Confessional Appropriation and the Defence of Judaism in Joseph López's *El Mantenedor de la Verdad* (Amsterdam, 1708–1737)." *Studia Rosenthaliana* 52, no. 1 (2026): 1–34.

For more information click here: https://www.aup-online.com/content/journals/10.5117/SR2026.1.001.BARL

Thank you for your continued commitment to scholarship and for enriching our understanding of Jewish-Christian relations, Dr. Bar-Lavi! Congratulations on this publication!

It is also SHSST's pleasure to announce a new peer-reviewed publication by Dr. David Zettel, Assistant Professor of Philosophy:

- Zettel, David. "Albert the Great, Thomas Aquinas, and the Judge Who Puts to Death an Innocent Man." *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 100, no. 2 (Spring 2026): 237-263. https://doi.org/10.5840/acpq202691333

More information on this article is available here. Dr. Zettel has spent several years on this major publication, which has now appeared in one of the nation's most prominent philosophical journals. Congratulations, Dr. Zettel!

And finally, Dr. Michael Mazza, Assistant Professor of Canon Law, has recently published an article in an international Catholic news magazine:

- Mazza, Michael J. "Rome Excoriates Publisher of a 'Credibly Accused' List." *Catholic World Report,* Oct. 31, 2026. https://www.catholicworldreport.com/2026/10/31/rome-excoriates-publisher-of-a-credibly-accused-list/

The article engages a recent decision by the Roman Rota, one that will likely have a significant impact on dioceses across the country.

Congratulations, Dr. Mazza!

Looking Forward

2026-2027 School Year
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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