



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SEMINARY  
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

## *Faculty & Administration News (FAN)*

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First issued in November 2009, [Faculty & Administration News \(FAN\)](#) is a quarterly publication of [Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology \(ICSST\)](#). This newsletter highlights the most recent professional accomplishments and service activities of ICSST's faculty and administrators.

Click the hyperlinks to explore the work of our faculty and administrators.

### **Awards, Grants, and Honors**

- ❖ In February 2021, Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, under the leadership of **Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly, S.T.L., Ph.D.**, Rector/Dean, **Dianne M. Traflet, J.D. '88, S.T.D.**, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Administration, and Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, **Reverend Christopher M. Ciccarino, K.C.H.S., S.S.L., S.T.D.**, Associate Dean for Seminary and Academic Studies and Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies, and **Michael F. Burt**, Senior Director of Seminary Advancement, applied for and was awarded a Phase 1 grant, in the amount of \$50,000, in connection with the *Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative* of the Lilly Endowment. ICSST currently is working on a Phase 2 implementation grant, of up to 1 million dollars; the proposal is due August 2, 2021.

❖ **Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor and Chair of Pastoral Theology:

- Was awarded a Lilly Faculty Fellows Program grant in the amount of \$8,000, by the Lilly Foundation, for the period July 2022-June 2023. The Lilly Foundation notified Dr. Manning of this award on February 21, 2021. These start-up funds were awarded to each team participating in the fellowship program to inaugurate a Lilly Faculty Fellows Program on its own campus. Each team will participate in a two-year program that includes four conferences, with the first being virtual and the remainder being in-person. Individual Fellows also will be given a \$4,000 award for participation. Additionally, the Lilly Fellows Program will cover all the travel expenses for the four conferences.
- Was named a Lilly Faculty Fellow, a recognition bestowed by the Lilly Foundation, on March 4, 2021. The Lilly Faculty Fellows Program is a program for mid-career faculty leaders across the disciplines to engage the intersections of Christian thought and practice with the academic vocation. This initiative will: refresh and enliven a sense of calling for participants as people of faith, as teachers, and as scholars; provide a space for creative exploration of how Christian thought and practice intersect with the academic vocation; and provide funds for Fellows to develop and pilot Faculty Fellow programs on their own campuses.

❖ **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Moral Theology, was honored as a distinguished Seton Hall University faculty member, having been named Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology's Researcher of the Year, in the Spring 2021 semester. Dr. Anderson was chosen among researchers of the year for Seton Hall schools and colleges as the Seton Hall University Researcher of the Year. This award was bestowed at a virtual ceremony on March 26, 2021.

## Media Contributions and Interviews

- ❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology, was interviewed by Dr. Scott Hahn on the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology podcast *The Road to Emmaus*, discussing a book Dr. Hahn and Dr. Morrow co-authored: *Modern Biblical Criticism as a Tool of Statecraft 1700-1900*, a defense of Scripture study from the heart of the Church. The interview, which took place in summer 2020, is available at <https://stpaulcenter.com/audio/the-road-to-emmaus/converted-by-scripture/>
  
- ❖ **Reverend Pablo T. Gadenz, S.S.L., S.T.D.**, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies:
  - Was a guest (via Skype) on the [Catholic Faith Network](#) Telethon on February 28, 2021 (for an approximately 10-minute segment beginning at 5:00 p.m.). The host of the show, Monsignor James Vlaun, interviewed Auxiliary Bishop Richard Henning of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY (present in the studio) and Father Gadenz (via Skype) regarding the *Catholic Faith Network* TV series *Living Word*, which Bishop Henning and Father Gadenz co-host. *Catholic Faith Network* is operated by the Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY, and reaches television audiences in the New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut area.
  - Taped three episodes of the *Living Word* show at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, NYC, on April 9, 2021. The *Living Word* show focuses on biblical foundations and themes. The three episodes taped in this session are on “Acts of the Apostles and the Church,” “Pentecost and the Holy Spirit,” and “Corpus Christi and the Eucharist.” The shows are scheduled to air later in spring and summer 2021. These three new episodes add to the six episodes taped in 2020. Episodes can also be viewed at <https://www.catholicfaithnetwork.org/watch-living-word>

## Special Events

- ❖ ICSST's Center for Diaconal Formation co-sponsored with the Archdiocese of Newark an online session on February 15, 2021, for the current class of inquirers of the Archdiocese of Newark and their wives. **Gregory P. Floyd, Ph.D.**, Director of the Center for Catholic Studies at Seton Hall University, and Teaching Fellow for the Core Curriculum, led the session. The title of Dr. Floyd's presentation was "Love of Wisdom. Love of God. (Philosophy for Deacons)." Twenty-nine inquirers and twelve wives virtually attended.
  
- ❖ ICSST faculty were among the panelists for the online live panel discussion *Celebrating St. Joseph*, sponsored by Seton Hall University's Department of Catholic Studies, as part of the annual *Archbishop John J. Myers Lecture Series on Law, Society, and Faith*, on February 18, 2021. Panelists explored St. Joseph's faithfulness in his everyday life and fulfillment of his commitments as a path to sanctity. **Ines A. Murzaku, Ph.D.**, Professor and Director of the Catholic Studies Program, moderated the discussion.  
**Reverend Frederick L. Miller, S.T.D.**, Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology, considered the Church's teaching on Mary's Perpetual Virginity in light of the true matrimonial bond of Mary and Joseph. Father Miller's presentation prompted attendees to consider the role of the Holy Spirit, who strengthened Joseph in his chaste marital love for Mary and filled him with a real paternal love for Jesus. **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology, presented "St. Joseph as Universal Father and Ordinary Worker: A Theological Look at Pope Francis' *Patris Corde*," focusing on St. Joseph's fatherhood and the sanctification of labor and ordinary life. Approximately 60 people virtually attended the panel discussion.

- ❖ ICSST’s Center for Diaconal Formation co-sponsored with the Diocese of Paterson an online pastoral formation session conducted via Microsoft Teams on February 20, 2021, for deacon candidates and their wives. **Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor and Chair of Pastoral Theology, led the session. The title of Dr. Manning’s presentation was “Christian Anthropology: Implications for Pastoral Ministry.” Topics included suffering, preferential treatment of the poor, and Church teaching on body and soul in the context of cremains. Eleven candidates and four wives virtually attended.
  
- ❖ ICSST’s Center for Diaconal Formation hosted renowned speaker and author **Reverend Jacques Philippe** for a virtual presentation delivered from Father Philippe’s home outside of Paris and broadcast as a YouTube premiere event on February 27, 2021. Father Philippe, whose works such as *Time for God*, *In the School of the Holy Spirit*, and *Interior Freedom* are considered classics of modern Catholic spirituality, spoke on the subject of “Spiritual Fatherhood: A Call to All Men,” designed for priests, deacons, seminarians, religious brothers, and lay men involved in pastoral work. Hosted by **Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly, S.T.L., Ph.D.**, Rector/Dean, and **Gregory C. Floyd, M.A. ’04**, Assistant Director of the Center for Diaconal Formation, the event began with a prayer to St. Joseph and ended with a Q&A session. More than 600 men virtually attended, from Ireland, Canada, and across the United States—including Idaho, Minnesota, Iowa, Tennessee, Maryland, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey. Father Philippe’s presentation can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xTzFcG3Bc1A>. The video has received more than 750 views.

- ❖ ICSST sponsored a Lenten reflection series, *Praying the Stations of the Cross in the Year of St. Joseph*, featuring video reflections offered each weekday from Monday, March 1 through Friday, March 19, 2021 (the Feast of St. Joseph), by **Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly, S.T.L., Ph.D.**, Rector/Dean, and **Dianne M. Traflet, J.D. '88, S.T.D.**, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Administration, and Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology. The series was coordinated by **Diane M. Carr, M.A. '07**, Coordinator of Graduate and International Services. **Michael F. Burt**, Senior Director of Seminary Advancement, created graphics, and seminarians **Matthew Gonzalez** and **Ju Huyn (Andrew) Lee** of the Archdiocese of Newark performed the background music. The **Teaching, Learning, and Technology Center (TLTC) team at Seton Hall University** filmed and edited the video series. 1,946 people subscribed to the mailing list for this series. The video reflection webpage (<https://www.shu.edu/theology/lent-video-reflection-series.cfm>) has received more than 9,414 visits lasting, on average, 22 minutes.
- ❖ ICSST's Center for Diaconal Formation co-sponsored with the Diocese of Paterson an online pastoral formation session conducted via Microsoft Teams on Saturday, March 13, 2021, for deacon candidates and their wives. **Deacon Thomas P. Shubeck, Ph.D.**, Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology, led the session. The title of Deacon Shubeck's presentation was "Pastoral Counseling and Guidance." Ten candidates and three wives virtually attended.
- ❖ ICSST's Center for Diaconal Formation sponsored "Diaconal Service: Parish, Diocese, Community," an online event for men considering becoming deacons, and their wives, conducted via Microsoft Teams, on March 13, 2021.

**Deacon Andrew E. Saunders, M.A. '08**, Director of the Center for Diaconal Formation and Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology, delivered a presentation on the relationship of the deacon to the priesthood and the laity. This was followed by a panel of deacons speaking about the varieties of service they render, both in the parish and beyond. Twenty-nine men and ten wives virtually attended.

- ❖ ICSST and The Lay Centre at Foyer Unitas, Rome, co-sponsored *In the School of St. Joseph: Spiritual Reflections in Disquieting Times*, a series of reflections inspired by Pope Francis's letter on the saint, "[Patris Corde](#)," which he released when he inaugurated the Year of St. Joseph on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2020. The reflections, as well as insights into sacred art depicting St. Joseph, were published bi-weekly and sent via email to those who registered. Featured writers included

**Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly, S.T.L., Ph.D.**, Rector/Dean,

**Dianne M. Traflet, J.D. '88, S.T.D.**, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Administration, and Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, and

**Joseph Cardinal Tobin, C.Ss.R.**, Archbishop of Newark. The series began on the Feast of St. Joseph, March 19, 2021, and concluded on the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, May 1, 2021. Monsignor Reilly's reflection on "St. Joseph – The Silent Witness" was published on March 19, 2021, and was sent to 127 registrants. Dr. Traflet's reflection on "St. Joseph – The Power of Vulnerability" was published on April 2, 2021, and was sent to 169 registrants.

For more information, visit <https://www.shu.edu/theology/news/new-series-of-reflections-on-st-joseph-begins-mar-19.cfm>

❖ ICSST sponsored [\*“That All May Be One”: Catholic Models of Inclusion by the Light of the Love of God\*](#), a virtual roundtable discussion conducted via Microsoft Teams, on April 15, 2021. Dedicated to the “Love of God,” this event was part of April’s *Celebrate Love Month* at Seton Hall University. **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Moral Theology, served as event co-organizer, promoting, recording, distributing, and moderating the event. **Joseph P. Rice, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, served as event co-organizer, proposing the theme, title, description, speakers, and format of the event, and inviting the speakers. The four presenters and the topics on which they spoke were:

- **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Moral Theology: Moderator, and Introduction.
- **Gregory Y. Glazov, D.Phil. (Oxon.)**, Professor and Chair of Biblical Studies: “A Scriptural Model of Inclusion.”
- **Anthony C. Sciglitano, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Religion and Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology: “A Eucharistic Model of Inclusion.”
- **Joseph P. Rice, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology: “Catholic Models of an Inclusive Economy.”

Each presenter spoke for approximately seven minutes, after which a roundtable discussion commenced, including questions from the live audience. Twenty-seven people virtually attended the event live via Teams, and an additional 80 people viewed the event recording on YouTube. The event can be viewed online at YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/uSjfgUbnHVw>, or via the ICSST Facebook page.



- ❖ The Seton Hall University Core, Catholic Studies Program and Center, Department of Religion, and Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology are co-sponsoring a *Scholars' Forum in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition*, conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams. As part of this forum, **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, co-presented with **Reverend Paul Haffner, S.T.D.**, Adjunct Professor of Catholic Studies and the Core, on their recent book, [\*Stanley Jaki Foundation International Congress 2015\*](#) (Gracewing, 2020), on April 21, 2020. Sixteen people virtually attended.
  
- ❖ ICSST's Center for Diaconal Formation sponsored "A Journey of Accompaniment." Morning of reflection for wives of applicants to the permanent diaconate in the Archdiocese of Newark, conducted online on April 24, 2021. **Dianne M. Traflet, J.D. '88, S.T.D.**, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Administration, and Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, served as facilitator. Twenty-four women virtually attended.
  
- ❖ ICSST's Center for Diaconal Formation, in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Newark, sponsored "Living the Sacraments of Matrimony and Holy Orders: Balancing Family and Ministry." Session for aspirants for the permanent diaconate for the Archdiocese of Newark, and their wives, conducted via Microsoft Teams, on May 8, 2021. **Deacon George and Mrs. Joan Carbone** presented a combination talk-testimony about their journey to George's ordination as a permanent deacon for the Archdiocese of Newark. The presentation focused on the need to find balance among marriage, family life, and Holy Orders, not only in general but particularly during the years of formation. Forty-one men and women virtually attended.

## Mission and Service

- ❖ **Reverend Pablo T. Gadenz, S.S.L., S.T.D.**, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, **Gregory Y. Glazov, D.Phil. (Oxon.)**, Professor and Chair of Biblical Studies, and **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology, became editors of a new series, *Verbum Domini*, with The Catholic University of America Press. The series, whose first volumes should be published in the coming year, aims to provide books useful for seminary courses in Scripture and related theological disciplines. The series was developed in 2020 and formally approved in 2021. The extensive work of Father Gadenz, Dr. Glazov, and Dr. Morrow thus far involved: helping to create the series and have it approved by The Catholic University of America Press; helping to select and review books that would be part of the series; helping to solicit and form the editorial board of the series; and soliciting authors for future volumes to be considered for the series.
  
- ❖ **Ellen R. Scully, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Undergraduate Theology:
  - Served on the following SHU planning committees:
    - Planning committee for *Learn and Become Who You Are: Virtue and Friendship in a Virtual World*, an online Seton Hall University Faculty-Student Panel on the Catholic Mission of the University in a Hyflex Environment, on October 21, 2020. SHU Campus Ministry, the Catholic Studies Club, the Center for Catholic Studies, the Core Curriculum, the Department of Religion, the Institute for Communication and Religion, and Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology co-sponsored this panel. Panelists discussed creative ways to support the Catholic Mission of the University in a remote learning environment. Results of the panel discussion will inform campus initiatives in support of the Catholic Mission.

**Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, served on this panel as a faculty representative of ICSST, presenting “Remaining Rooted in Mission.” **Joseph P. Rice, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, served on this panel as a representative of the Catholic Studies faculty, presenting “Leading by Example: Living the Dignity Formula of John 13.” Approximately 40 people virtually attended the panel discussion. Planning took place from July through October 2020.

- Planning committee for the series *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton’s Remarkable Legacies: Celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mother Seton*. The planning committee arranged for three University events commemorating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mother Seton’s death:
  - Student panel on the theme *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton: A Real Woman of Her Time—A Daughter, Wife, Mother, and Friend*, conducted online on March 16, 2021.
  - Faculty panel on the theme *The Power of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton’s Example for Today*, conducted online on March 23, 2021.
  - Presentation by invited guest speaker, Kathleen Sprows Cummings, of the University of Notre Dame: “Elizabeth Ann Seton: The Most American Saint?,” conducted online on April 20, 2021.

Dr. Scully arranged for ICSST to serve as a co-sponsor of these events, which were sponsored by the Catholic Studies Department. Planning took place from January through April 2021.

- As a *Censor Librorum* for the Archdiocese of Newark, reviewed “Dignity and the Death Penalty” for Paulist Press. Dr. Scully completed three reviews of the manuscript between July and October 2020. She granted the *Nihil Obstat* on October 29, 2020.

❖ **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Moral Theology:

- Delivered a series of presentations on various aspects of Catholic morals, for the Sisters in formation for the Missionaries of Charity – Contemplatives, in Plainfield, NJ. Each session included both teaching and discussion, for approximately one hour per session.

The sessions were held on the following dates:

- September 8, 2020. Seven women attended.
  - September 22, 2020. Seven women attended.
  - October 6, 2020. Seven women attended.
  - October 29, 2020. Seven women attended.
  - November 10, 2020. Seven women attended.
  - November 19, 2020. Seven women attended.
  - December 1, 2020. Seven women attended.
  - December 15, 2020. Seven women attended.
  - December 22, 2020. Seven women attended.
  - January 5, 2021. Seven women attended.
  - January 28, 2021. Seven women attended.
  - February 9, 2021. Seven women attended.
  - March 2, 2021. Seven women attended.
  - March 16, 2021. Six women attended.
  - March 30, 2021. Six women attended.
- For the Catholic Young Couples Initiative sponsored by the Archdiocese of Newark, for Catholic married and engaged couples under age 40:
    - With ICSSST alumnus **Reverend Andrew J. DeSilva**, created, co-organized, and facilitated “St. Valentine and Cana.” Father DeSilva led a wine tasting and facilitated

a faith/marriage-based evening including breakout discussions. The event was conducted online, on February 14, 2021. One hundred twenty people virtually attended.

- With **Brian and Eniola Honsberger**, created and co-organized an evening discussion of food of the Nigerian culture and Catholic faith. Brian is an Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology at ICSSST, and Eniola is an ICSSST alumna. The event was conducted online, on March 28, 2021. Thirty-two people virtually attended.
  - Served as guest presenter for an in-service day for staff and faculty of Bergen Catholic High School, Oradell, NJ, on March 12, 2021. Dr. Anderson spoke on the topic “Why We Teach.” The day included two 40-minute presentations by Dr. Anderson, followed by facilitated group discussion among approximately 50 staff and faculty.
- ❖ **Eric M. Johnston, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Undergraduate Theology, served as one of two facilitators for a four-part reflection series on [\*Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love\*](#), a pastoral letter against racism, issued by the Catholic bishops of the United States. This series, conducted virtually via Zoom, was sponsored by the African-American, African, and Caribbean Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Newark, and included events on October 28, November 11 and 18, and December 2, 2020. In his role as facilitator, Dr. Johnston organized the events, planned the presentations, and guided the community discussions. Approximately 30 people virtually attended each event.
- ❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology, presented the following:
- “What Is Catholicism.” Live webinar introducing Catholicism, for the *Dive Into Your Faith This Lent* lecture series, sponsored by Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Scotch

Plains, NJ. Dr. Morrow's presentation, which focused on Catholicism in the context of salvation history in the Old and New Testaments, took place on February 23, 2021.

Approximately 80 people virtually attended. The presentation was streamed live on Facebook and is available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrtU-2yVn5A&feature=youtu.be>

- Live webinars for Church of the Presentation, Upper Saddle River, NJ. One hundred four people registered for this series:
  - [“The Jewish Passover Roots of the Eucharist, Part I,”](#) on March 18, 2021. This session was shared as a monthly assignment for the parish's Faith Formation students and families, and included reflection questions supplied by Dr. Morrow.
  - [“The Jewish Passover Roots of the Eucharist, Part II,”](#) on March 25, 2021.
- [“Evidence for the Resurrection.”](#) Online webinar on the historical evidence for Jesus's resurrection, for the Aquinas Institute at Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, on March 29, 2021. Approximately 40 people virtually attended.

❖ **Reverend Mariusz Eugene R. Koch, C.F.R., M.Div., M.A.,** Associate Spiritual Director:

- Facilitated *Renewal In Christ*. Lenten Parish Mission, for All Saints Parish, Millville, NJ, from March 5-8, 2021. Father Koch celebrated Mass and delivered a homily daily, in addition to presiding at evening Holy Hour, presenting a conference, and celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Approximately 75 people attended each day.
- Facilitated a Morning of Recollection for the staff of Array of Hope, in Old Tappan, NJ, on March 24, 2021. Father Koch presented a conference on the topic “Courage in Christ,” celebrated Mass and delivered a homily, and celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Approximately eight people attended.

- ❖ **Reverend Monsignor Gerard H. McCarren, S.T.D.**, Spiritual Director and Associate Professor of Systematic Theology:
  - Preached one of the nights of a novena to St. Joseph on the topic “St. Joseph as Father,” at St. Philomena Parish, Livingston, NJ, on March 12, 2021. A total of approximately 325 people attended (approximately 75 in person and approximately 250 via livestream).
  - Presented a daily conference to the Community of St. John (religious brothers and religious sisters), on the Passion of Christ, approached through the lens of St. Paul’s writings. Monsignor McCarren delivered a conference on each of six consecutive days of Holy week (Monday, March 29 through and including Saturday, April 3, 2021), at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Orange, NJ. Approximately 12 people attended each conference.
  
- ❖ **Joseph P. Rice, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, presented “The Family as a School of the Presence of God.” Live webinar, for the *Dive Into Your Faith This Lent* lecture series, sponsored by Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Scotch Plains, NJ, on March 16, 2021. One hundred ninety-two people virtually attended. The presentation was streamed live on Facebook and is available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMNPWgV3ouY>
  
- ❖ **Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor and Chair of Pastoral Theology:
  - Served as moderator for “Contemplative Pedagogy: An Introduction.” Discussion sponsored by the Seton Hall University Center for Faculty Development and conducted online via Microsoft Teams, on March 17, 2021. Several faculty who are participating in a Contemplative Pedagogy Faculty Leadership Seminar during the Spring 2021 semester

spoke about why they have chosen to engage this pedagogical approach, how they currently engage this practice, and how it positively impacts them and their students. This moderated discussion included time for open Q&A. Eight people attended the discussion live on Teams, and a recording of the discussion was made available to those who were unable to attend.

❖ **Timothy P. Fortin, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor and Chair of Philosophical Theology, presented the following:

- “Rival Theories of Sexual Difference: Is Dialogue Possible?” Virtual presentation, conducted via Zoom, for [the Austin Institute for the Study of Family and Culture](#), on March 24, 2021. Dr. Fortin’s presentation explored the fundamental presuppositions and positions of three rival theories of human sexual difference: The Thomistic, Evolutionary, and Post-Structuralist. Having summarized the conclusions and foundations of each school of thought, Dr. Fortin reflected on how often unheeded foundational differences account for much of why we too often talk past each other, seeming to inhabit different worlds, when speaking of sexual difference. Forty-five people virtually attended. Dr. Fortin’s presentation is available at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Thk4xdn21Xk&t=4454s>

Additionally, although Dr. Fortin remained available for an extra half-hour after his March 24 presentation, many questions from attendees remained. Therefore, the organizers of the event requested that Dr. Fortin return to answer the remaining questions. Dr. Fortin participated in this follow-up Q&A session on April 12, 2021.

- A talk in Italian, titled “*Differenze Sessuali: Versioni Contrastanti*,” to a group of university students, graduate students, and young professionals, on April 13, 2021. This



presentation, conducted online via Zoom, was sponsored by the group “Wisdom of Faith,” based in Rome, Italy. Approximately 25 people virtually attended.

- ❖ **Gregory Y. Glazov, D.Phil. (Oxon.)**, Professor and Chair of Biblical Studies, presented “The Victory-Giving Meaning of Writing Poetry After Auschwitz.” Virtual presentation, sponsored by the Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish-Christian Studies, a community-outreach program of the Jewish-Christian studies graduate program at Seton Hall University. The event, which was co-sponsored by the Center for Catholic Studies, the Catholic Studies Program, and the Department of Religion, took place on March 25, 2021. Dr. Glazov’s presentation focused on his recent and grant award-winning research on the use to which Jewish and Catholic thinkers put Scripture when trying to wrestle with the events and meaning of the Holocaust. Dr. Glazov presented on his research in detail and then took the audience through a reading of three poems by Czeslaw Milosz, Paul Celan, and Primo Levi, to shed light on each poet’s employment of biblical passages, themes, motifs and allusions as they try to wrestle with their holy writings in the face of catastrophe. Fifty-seven people virtually attended.

## **Publications**

- ❖ **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, published a journal article: [“An Evaluation of Two Realist Philosophical Approaches for Rigorous Interdisciplinary Communication.”](#) *Journal of Systemics, Cybernetics, and Informatics* 18, no. 1 (February 16, 2021): 184-96.

- ❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology, published two book reviews:
  - Review of *The Last Days of the Kingdom of Israel*, co-edited by Shuichi Hasegawa, Christoph Levin, and Karen Radner. *Heythrop Journal* 62, no. 2 (2021): 367-68.
  - Review of *Secularism and Hermeneutics*, by Yael Almog. *Review of Biblical Literature* (April 2021).
  
- ❖ **Reverend Monsignor Thomas G. Guarino, K.H.S., S.T.D.**, Professor of Systematic Theology, published a chapter in a volume: “Analogy and the *Analogatum Princeps* at Vatican II.” In [\*The Center is Jesus Christ Himself: Essays on Revelation, Salvation, and Evangelization in Honor of Robert P. Imbelli\*](#), edited by Andrew Meszaros, 95-108. Washington, DC: The Catholic University of America Press, April 2, 2021.
  
- ❖ **Dianne M. Traflet, J.D. ’88, S.T.D.**, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Administration, and Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, published a magazine article: [“Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton: Resilience and Faith in the Face of Daunting Hardship: Part II.”](#) *Seton Hall Magazine* (April 19, 2021). This article is part two of two.

## Conferences, Meetings, and Symposia

- ❖ **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, served as an invited panelist for the online conference *Jaki, Science, and Chesterton*, sponsored by Seton Hall University’s Catholic Studies Program and Department, the G. K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture, and the Department of Physics, in collaboration with the Stanley Jaki

Foundation. Eighty-nine people virtually attended the conference, which was streamed online via Zoom on March 10, 2021. The conference was moderated by **M. Alper Sahiner, Ph.D.**, Professor and Chair of the Department of Physics, and facilitated by **Jose L. Lopez, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Physics. Seton Hall University is proud to have been home to Reverend Stanley L. Jaki, O.S.B., who was a world-renowned author, physicist, philosopher, and theologian. The scholarship of Father Jaki, who attained the rank of Distinguished University Professor of Physics at Seton Hall, focused on the intersection of science and faith, which is found in the pursuit of Truth. The panelists in this discussion, which honored the tradition and spirit of Father Jaki's research and ministry, explored the ways in which G. K. Chesterton's philosophy correlated with Father Jaki's own, tracing the two philosophers' focus on dialogue and realism. The panelists, sharing from their own areas of expertise, discussed the interdisciplinary nature of the work of Jaki and Chesterton and applications of their thought to challenges we face today. In his presentation, "Seer of Science: Benedict XVI," Father Laracy discussed Father Jaki's 1986 book, *Chesterton, A Seer of Science*, in light of the ongoing problem of the presumed conflict between the principles and methods of the empirical sciences and the doctrines of the Christian faith, in addition to the possibility that Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI is a contemporary "seer of science."

- ❖ Seton Hall University has inaugurated a Hildebrand Project University Circle under the aegis of the Department of Catholic Studies. Students, faculty, alumni, friends, and members of the community are welcome to join the discussion. **Joseph P. Rice, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, serves as the organizer of the study circle, as well as moderator for the meetings. The Hildebrand project is the world's leading organization dedicated to the presentation and exploration of the thought and witness of Dietrich von

Hildebrand. The organization is dedicated to the translation, dissemination and study of the work of Dietrich von Hildebrand, an important 20<sup>th</sup>-century Catholic philosopher whom Adolf Hitler once called “the most dangerous man in Germany,” because von Hildebrand insisted on teaching the importance of love, the permanence of values, and the dignity of the human person in the face of Nazi totalitarianism. The Seton Hall University Hildebrand Circle discusses texts, mainly from von Hildebrand, but also from others engaged in similar ethical and philosophical inquiry (for example, Pope St. John Paul II, Max Scheler, and St. Edith Stein). The discussions aim to introduce ideas from the texts into a positive dialogue with our everyday experience. In the Spring semester, three one-hour meetings to discuss the following short texts from von Hildebrand and Pope St. John Paul II on the themes of love, happiness, and fidelity took place, meeting the threshold standard for the official establishment of the circle:

- Dietrich von Hildebrand, “The Happiness of Love,” on April 7, 2021 (12 participants).
- Karol Wojtyła (Pope St. John Paul II), “The Family as a Communion of Persons,” on April 14, 2021 (15 participants).
- Dietrich von Hildebrand, “Faithfulness,” on April 21, 2021 (8 participants).

University circles are designed to have between 5-15 members. Between 8-15 people attended each meeting, as indicated above. Thus the conditions have been satisfied for establishing the circle at Seton Hall.

❖ **Joseph P. Rice, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, was an invited presenter at a symposium on the topic *Homo Curator: The Ethics of Consumption*, sponsored by the Las Casas Institute of Blackfriars Hall, at the University of Oxford, England, as part of the celebration of the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Blackfriars at Oxford. This private symposium,

which was conducted online via Zoom from April 19-21, 2021, featured presentations by 12 scholars from Europe, Asia, Australia, and the United States. Dr. Rice participated on a panel with **Sister Laura Sarota Baritz, O.P.**, of Hungary, whose doctoral studies focused on an alternative ethics model based on virtue ethics, and **Dr. Stefano Zamagni**, President of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences. Dr. Rice's Las Casas Institute symposium paper, "A Deeper Humanity: The Family as the School of an Inclusive Economy," allowed him to further explore issues on which he has previously presented and published internationally: the ethics of globalization, of marriage and the family, and of the experience of conscience as related to self-constitution. The papers presented at this symposium are scheduled to be published in a volume by Springer, as the sixth volume of the Las Casas Institute's *Virtues and Economics Series*.

## Other Scholarly and Professional Activity

- ❖ **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, peer-reviewed a paper for the *Journal of Systemics, Cybernetics, and Informatics*, in March 2021.
  
- ❖ **Timothy P. Fortin, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor and Chair of Philosophical Theology, is serving as a dissertation committee member for a doctoral candidate at Teachers College, Columbia University, NYC. The candidate's dissertation topic is "An Integrated Life: Catholic Education of Girls for Motherhood." The defense of the dissertation proposal was held on April 26, 2021. Dr. Fortin read and reviewed the proposal, and with the other philosopher on the committee will help to guide the candidate for the philosophical aspects of her work.

❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology, served as a panelist for the Seton Hall University Center for Faculty Development’s *Lunch and Learn* workshop series, speaking on “Research in a Pandemic Year—Lessons from the 2020 Researchers of the Year,” via Microsoft Teams, on May 5, 2021. Approximately ten people attended the workshop live on Teams, and a recording of the workshop was made available to those who were unable to attend.