



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.

### **Award**

- ❖ **Timothy P. Fortin, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Philosophical Theology, as previously reported, was awarded a spring 2020 resident fellowship at the University of Notre Dame by the Program for Constitutional Studies, to complete his book, *The Metaphysics of Sexual Difference*. The fellowship included a stipend of \$15,000. This fellowship was renewed for fall 2020, with an additional stipend of \$15,000.

### **Speaking Engagements**

- ❖ **Reverend Pablo T. Gadenz, S.S.L., S.T.D.**, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, with Auxiliary Bishop Richard Henning of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY, serves as co-host of the "Living Word" television talk show series, on the *Catholic Faith Network* (operated by the Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY, and reaching television audiences in the New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut area). This series focuses on the biblical foundations and

themes of the liturgical year. Father Gadenz taped three episodes of this series at St. Patrick's Cathedral, NYC, on October 2, 2020. The three episodes, which will be aired beginning in Advent, are as follows:

- "Advent," to be aired from November 29-December 19, 2020.
- "Christmas," to be aired from December 20, 2020-January 9, 2021.
- "The Gospel of Mark," to be aired from January 10-30, 2021.

❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology, was interviewed on the *Logos(ish)* podcast, hosted by several Methodist ministers, Reverend John Hoin and co-hosts, on November 4, 2020. The topic of [the interview](#) was Dr. Morrow's book *Seeking the Lord of Middle Earth: Theological Essays on J.R.R. Tolkien*.

## Special Events

❖ ICSST sponsored a virtual celebration of the Tenth anniversary of the Center for Diaconal Formation, on September 26, 2020. The celebration honored the Center for its ten years of service to the Archdiocese of Newark and the Dioceses of Metuchen, Paterson, and Trenton, and the 110 men who have completed their formation and have been ordained, as well as the 55 men currently in formation. NBA referee Deacon Steve Javie, a 25-year veteran of the league, served as the featured speaker. Inspiring personal remarks and testimonials from deacons, candidates, their wives, priests, Seminary faculty, and seminarians rounded out the evening. Live presenters included **Dianne M. Traflet, J.D. '88, S.T.D.**, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Administration, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, and Director, Institute for Christian Spirituality; **Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly, S.T.L., Ph.D.**, Rector/Dean; **Deacon Andrew E. Saunders, M.A. '08**, Director

of the Center for Diaconal Formation and Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology; and **Gregory C. Floyd, M.A. '04**, Assistant Director of the Center for Diaconal Formation. The pre-recorded portion of the evening included testimonies or comments from Cardinal Tobin, priest professors, deacons, wives of deacons, diaconal candidates in formation, and seminarians. Music was provided by seminarians **Matthew Gonzalez** and **Andrew Lee** and by **Gregory C. Floyd** and his son **Gregory P. Floyd, Ph.D.**, Director of the Center for Catholic Studies, Teaching Fellow in the Core Curriculum, and Adjunct Professor of Theology. Nearly 300 people registered for the event, including guests. Viewers hailed from as far away as California, Arizona, Illinois, Texas, Indiana, Kentucky, and Guam. The celebration can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wxgJ9RdBfcl&feature=youtu.be>

- ❖ ICSST's Center for Diaconal Formation co-sponsored with the Archdiocese of Newark an online morning of reflection on Saturday, October 10, 2020, for Inquirers/Aspirants of the Archdiocese of Newark. The morning was led by **Dianne M. Traflet, J.D. '88, S.T.D.**, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Administration, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, and Director, Institute for Christian Spirituality. The subject of Dr. Traflet's presentation was Father Walter Ciszek's classic spiritual work *He Ledeth Me*. Thirty men and a number of their wives attended.
  
- ❖ ICSST's Center for Diaconal Formation co-sponsored with the Diocese of Paterson an online pastoral formation session on Saturday, October 17, 2020, for deacon candidates and their wives. The morning was led by **Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of

Pastoral Theology. The subject of Dr. Manning's presentation was "Introduction to Pastoral Theology." Ten candidates and a number of their wives attended.

- ❖ The Seton Hall University Catholic Studies Program and Center, the Department of Religion, Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, the Institute for Communication and Religion, and the University Core, co-sponsored an online panel discussion on the topic of Pope Francis's new encyclical on human fraternity and social friendship, *Fratelli Tutti – All Brothers*, on October 19, 2020. **Joseph P. Rice, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, served as a faculty panelist, presenting on the topic "The Gift of Self: From *Gaudium et Spes* to *Fratelli Tutti*." Approximately 55 people virtually attended Dr. Rice's presentation.
  
- ❖ Seton Hall University 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 *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. 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 ICSSST, 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.

- ❖ 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, **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology, presented “Theological Biblical Interpretation: On Moving Forward by Looking Behind,” based on his two recently-published books: *Modern Biblical Criticism as a Tool of Statecraft* (co-authored with Scott Hahn, Ph.D.) and Dr. Morrow’s more recent book, *Liturgy and Sacrament, Mystagogy and Martyrdom*. Dr. Morrow delivered this presentation on October 27, 2020. Approximately 60 people virtually attended.
  
- ❖ ICSST sponsored a livestreamed lecture by visiting scholar **Eduardo J. Echeverria, Ph.D.**, Professor of Philosophy and Systematic Theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, MI. Dr. Echeverria’s lecture titled “The Dialogue of Religion and the Question of Truth: The Necessity of Inter-Religious Apologetics,” was held on October 28, 2020. **Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly, S.T.L., Ph.D.**, Rector/Dean, offered remarks and a blessing. Fifty-three people attended. Forty-three people, including ICSST resident seminarians, attended the lecture in person, in the Seminary’s Chapel of Christ the Good Shepherd. Ten people virtually attended.

## Mission and Service

- ❖ **Reverend Mariusz Eugene R. Koch, C.F.R., M.Div., M.A.**, Associate Spiritual Director:
  - For Fatima Day, celebrated Mass, delivered a talk on Our Lady, and led a procession, at Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine, Doylestown, PA, on July 13, 2020. Approximately 200 people attended.
  - With Franciscan novices, participated in a pilgrimage walk in honor of Our Lady, to Blue Army Shrine, Washington Township, NJ, on August 8, 2020. Father Koch also celebrated Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Approximately 30 friars attended.
  - Celebrated Mass and served as homilist for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brotherhood of Hope, New Brunswick, NJ, on September 14, 2020. Approximately 20 people attended.
  - Facilitated a Day of Recollection for the Little Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, at St. Joseph Home, Woodbridge, NJ, on September 23, 2020. Father Koch celebrated Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation and delivered three talks on the topics “Poverty,” “Chastity,” and “Obedience.” Approximately 30 sisters attended.
  
- ❖ **Reverend Frederick L. Miller, S.T.D.**, Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology, composed a special “Novena to the Mother of God for the Nation,” offered for unity and truth amid challenges facing the United States in advance of the 2020 United States election. *EWTN Global Catholic Network* broadcast the novena’s prayers daily from September 29 through October 7, 2020, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. *EWTN Global Catholic Network* is the largest religious media network in the world. Its 11 global TV channels are broadcast in multiple languages 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to over 300 million television households in more than 145 countries and territories. *EWTN* created a special

eBook to help individuals and their family and friends to participate in this important devotion. The free eBook is available in [English](#) and in [Spanish](#).

## Off-Campus Course

- ❖ **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Moral Theology, presented a two-parted *Spotlight on Morality* catechetical formation course (six hours combined) for all catechists and religion teachers of the Archdiocese of Newark. The course covered the entire moral portion of *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* and was conducted via Zoom on August 18 and 19, 2020. Approximately 50 people participated.

## Publications

- ❖ **Reverend Monsignor Thomas G. Guarino, K.H.S., S.T.D.**, Professor of Systematic Theology:
  - Co-authored and signed a statement titled [“On Public Officials and Public Office.”](#) published by the ecumenical group Evangelicals and Catholics Together (ECT) on the website of the journal *First Things*. (September 8, 2020).
  - Published an article on the website of the journal *First Things*: [“The Battered Priesthood.”](#) (November 5, 2020).
- ❖ **Reverend Pablo T. Gadenz, S.S.L., S.T.D.**, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, published a book: [Ewangelia według św. Łukasza](#). Poznań, Poland: W Drodze, 2020. This is the Polish edition of Father Gadenz’s commentary on the Gospel of Luke: Pablo T. Gadenz, *The Gospel of Luke*, Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture (Grand Rapids, MI:

Baker Academic, 2018). The translators are Grażyna Gomola and Aleksander Gomola. The URL linked to the book's title above is for a 24-page excerpt of the book, which is available at the book's webpage on the publisher's website:

[https://www.wdrodze.pl/opis,2027,Ewangelia\\_wedlug\\_sw\\_Lukasza\\_Katolicki\\_Komenta\\_rz\\_do\\_Pisma\\_Swietego\\_.html](https://www.wdrodze.pl/opis,2027,Ewangelia_wedlug_sw_Lukasza_Katolicki_Komenta_rz_do_Pisma_Swietego_.html)

- ❖ **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, and **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Moral Theology, together with Thomas Marlowe, Ph.D., Professor in the Seton Hall University Department Mathematics and Computer Science, published an article in conference proceedings: “Three Perspectives on Catholic Social Teaching and Implications for Technology.” *Proceedings of the World Multi-Conference on Systemics, Cybernetics, and Informatics: WMSCI 2020* Volume 3 (September 17, 2020): 114-19.
- ❖ **Reverend Frederick L. Miller, S.T.D.**, Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology, published a magazine article: [“Saint Thérèse of Lisieux: Doctor of Divine Love.”](#) *Homiletic & Pastoral Review* (September 22, 2020).
- ❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology, published the following:
  - A book: [Liturgy and Sacrament, Mystagogy and Martyrdom: Essays in Theological Exegesis.](#) Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, October 13, 2020.
  - Three book reviews:
    - Article-length review of Andrew Jones’s book *Before Church and State*: “Once There Was No Church and State: Re-Envisioning the Social Order in Light of Thirteenth-Century History.” *Nova et Vetera* 18, no. 3 (2020): 991-1015.



- Review of *Jesus Interpreted: Benedict XVI, Bart Ehrman, and the Historical Truth of the Gospels*, by Matthew Ramage. *Heythrop Journal* 61, no. 6 (2020): 1071-73.
- Review of *Biblical Criticism in Early Modern Europe: Erasmus, the Johannine Comma and Trinitarian Debate*, by Grantley McDonald. *Heythrop Journal* 61, no. 6 (2020): 1067-69.

## Conferences, Meetings, and Symposia

❖ **Reverend Pablo T. Gadenz, S.S.L., S.T.D.**, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, as a consultant and one of nine participants, participated in the following video conference calls of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Subcommittee on the Translation of Scripture Text. On these two-hour calls, the subcommittee worked on reviewing the revision of the New Testament of the *New American Bible*:

- September 7, 2020.
- September 24, 2020.

Father Gadenz’s service as a consultant also includes extensive work between meetings, reviewing the revision of the New Testament of the *New American Bible*.

❖ **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, presented the following:

- At the 24<sup>th</sup> World Multi-Conference on Systemics, Cybernetics, and Informatics: WMSCI 2020, sponsored by the International Institute of Informatics and Systemics, and conducted virtually, from September 13-16, 2020:
  - “Three Perspectives on Catholic Social Teaching and Implications for Technology.”  
Invited peer-reviewed paper, presented on September 14, 2020, and co-authored with **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Moral Theology, and

Thomas Marlowe, Ph.D., Professor in the Seton Hall University Department of Mathematics and Computer Science.

- “Reconceiving Cybernetics in Light of Thomistic Realism.” Invited plenary keynote address, presented on September 14, 2020. John T. Laracy, Ph.D., served as Father Laracy’s co-principal investigator.
  - “A Novel Approach to Cybersecurity Based on Systems Theory.” Invited research report, co-presented with Thomas Marlowe, Ph.D., Professor in the Seton Hall University Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, at the New Jersey Cybersecurity 2020 Conference, sponsored by Seton Hall University and conducted virtually, on October 16, 2020. Approximately 300 people virtually attended the presentation by Father Laracy and Dr. Marlowe.
- ❖ **Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, presented “‘Classics’ as Carriers of the Catholic Intellectual Tradition for Postmodern Society.” Paper, at *The Catholic Intellectual Tradition: Challenges and Opportunities for the Catholic University in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, virtual conference hosted by Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT and funded by the Lilly Foundation. Seton Hall University, along with Sacred Heart University and the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, co-sponsored the conference, which was held from October 29-31, 2020. Dr. Manning delivered his presentation on October 31, 2020. Twenty-seven people virtually attended Dr. Manning’s presentation.

## Other Scholarly and Professional Activity

- ❖ **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, refereed a paper for the peer-reviewed *Journal of Psychology & Theology*, in August 2020.

❖ **Reverend Monsignor Gerard H. McCarren, S.T.D.**, Spiritual Director and Associate Professor of Systematic Theology, completed the online “Biomedical Responsible Conduct of Research Course,” administered by Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI), with which Seton Hall University has membership, on September 10, 2020. Monsignor McCarren completed this course in connection with the dissertation committee on which he serves as a reader, for the Ph.D. in Health Sciences program in the Department of Interprofessional Health Sciences and Health Administration, School of Health and Medical Sciences.

❖ **Reverend Monsignor Thomas G. Guarino, K.H.S., S.T.D.**, Professor of Systematic Theology, served as the *ensor librorum* for a doctoral dissertation in philosophy awarded by the *Università della Santa Croce* in Rome, Italy, in October 2020.