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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

- ❖ **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Moral Theology:
 - Was notified in September 2021 that the American Academy of Religion has selected his book [Virtue and Grace in the Theology of Thomas Aquinas](#) (Cambridge University Press, 2020) as a finalist for the Academy's book awards for Excellence in the Study of Religion and Constructive-Reflective Studies. On November 9, 2021, Dr. Anderson will be presenting a lecture and book-signing, hosted by Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology in celebration of the publication of this book.
 - Was honored by Seton Hall University for his exceptional work in FY 2020-21, earning a faculty merit award bestowed at SHU's Faculty Convocation on September 10, 2021.

Publications

- ❖ **Reverend Monsignor John A. Radano, Ph.D.**, Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology, published a book chapter: “Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity.” In [*The Oxford Handbook of Ecumenical Studies*](#), co-edited by Geoffrey Wainwright and Paul McPartlan, 396-405. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, May 2021. The online edition of this handbook was published in March 2017. The print edition of this handbook was published in May 2021.

- ❖ **Reverend Monsignor Thomas G. Guarino, K.H.S., S.T.D.**, Professor Emeritus of Systematic Theology, published an article on the website of the journal *First Things*: [“Episcopal Coherence.”](#) (September 1, 2021).

- ❖ **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, published a book: [*Theology and Science in the Thought of Ian Barbour: A Thomistic Evaluation for the Catholic Doctrine of Creation*](#). New York, NY: Peter Lang, 2021. On December 1, 2021, Father Laracy will be presenting a lecture and book-signing, hosted by Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology in celebration of the Fall 2021 publication of this book.

Media Interview

- ❖ **Reverend Mariusz Eugene R. Koch, C.F.R., M.Div., M.A.**, Associate Spiritual Director, was interviewed by host Jim Havens for a podcast on the radio program *The Simple Truth*, on www.thestationofthecross.com, on October 6, 2021. Father Koch spoke on the topic [“Post-Abortion Healing for Men.”](#)

Special Events

- ❖ ICSST's Center for Diaconal Formation sponsored *Rediscovering St. Priscilla: A Courageous Woman's Impact on the Early Church*. Retreat for wives of deacons and wives of diaconal candidates, held at St. Magdalen de Pazzi Parish, Flemington, NJ, on Saturday, September 18, 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 retreat facilitator. The retreat explored the inspiring marriage of St. Priscilla and St. Aquila, and how they opened their home to St. Paul and other Christian leaders, accompanying them on a pilgrimage of faith and love. Retreatants considered such themes as friendship, courage, evangelization, and hospitality, as they learned of this great teacher of faith and what she might mean for us in this challenging time in the Church and society. Thirty women attended.

- ❖ ICSST, with SHU Catholic Studies and the Department of Religion, co-sponsored "Faith & Healthcare," a lecture and discussion led by Ms. Sarah Reddin, Senior Director of Ministry Formation-Mission Integration for Ascension Health, one of the leading nonprofit and Catholic health systems in the US. **Julie V. Burkey, D.Min.**, Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology, who initiated the program, served as co-host. The event was created to inform theology and religious studies students and alumni of opportunities for career positions within Catholic healthcare. It was conducted both in person and online via Microsoft Teams on October 6, 2021. Thirty-four people attended.

Mission and Service

- ❖ **Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Pastoral Theology, for the “Vine and Branches” initiative, which aims at welcoming new and returning faithful to parish life post-pandemic, is serving as an advisor to The Most Reverend Michael A. Saporito, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Newark, and Reverend Andrew Prachar, Pastor of Church of the Little Flower, Berkeley Heights, NJ. Dr. Manning began this service in June 2021.

- ❖ **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:
 - As *Censor Librorum* for the Archdiocese of Newark, in July 2021, reviewed the book *Grateful Living* by Leisa Anslinger.
 - Served as an invited speaker, presenting “An Introduction to the Gospel of Mark,” at Guardian Angels Parish, Edison, NJ, on July 29, 2021. Approximately 60 people attended.
 - Served as homilist at Seton Hall University’s Mass of the Holy Spirit, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on September 15, 2021.
 - Directed the permanent deacons’ retreat for the Eparchy of Paterson, NJ, at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, Huntington, NY, from September 17-19, 2021. Approximately 30 deacons attended in person and four attended virtually.
 - Offered the opening prayer at the College of Arts & Sciences annual Academic Assembly, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on October 6, 2021.

❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology, is serving as a member of the Local Economy Working Group at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Boonton, NJ.

The group considers how best to utilize parish resources to help the community and mobilizes parishioners to help serve the community. Dr. Morrow began this service in August 2021.

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

- Delivered a series of presentations on the Ten Commandments, for the Sisters in formation for the Missionaries of Charity – Contemplatives, in Plainfield, NJ. Each session included both teaching and discussion, for approximately one and a half hours per session. The sessions were held on the following dates:
 - August 16, 2021. Seven women attended.
 - August 31, 2021. Seven women attended.
 - September 9, 2021. Six women attended.
 - September 21, 2021. Six women attended.
- Served as guest speaker, twice presenting and answering questions for two sessions (four topics) on Catholic apologetics. This morning-long workshop was sponsored by and held at St. Paul Inside the Walls: The Catholic Center for Evangelization at Bayley-Ellard, Madison, NJ, on October 23, 2021. Thirty people attended.

❖ **Reverend Monsignor C. Anthony Ziccardi, S.S.L, S.T.D.**, Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies:

- Delivered a half-hour presentation on the Catholic Identity and Mission of Seton Hall University, to 17 new faculty members, at the University's New Faculty Orientation on August 24, 2021.
- Over six weeks in the Fall 2021 semester, for two hours each week, taught and led Seton Hall's *University Faculty Seminar on Mission*, conducted online via Microsoft Teams, from September 29-November 3, 2021. Nine people from Seton Hall University participated in this faculty development seminar.
- Served as guest speaker at the Communion Breakfast of the Rosary Altar Society of St. Peter Parish, Belleville, NJ. The event was held at The Chandelier, Belleville, NJ, on October 3, 2021. Monsignor Ziccardi's presentation focused on aspects of the figure of St. Joseph in the Bible. Seventy-two people attended.

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

- Offered a reflection on the topic "Living in Hope," at a meeting for priests of the Paterson Deanery of the Diocese of Paterson, held at St. Mary Church, Paterson, NJ, on September 14, 2021. Ten priests attended.
- Served as spiritual director at the Men's Day of Prayer and Healing for those suffering from abortion, in Paterson, NJ, on October 16, 2021. Lumina sponsored this event. Five men attended.

❖ **Reverend Paweł Tomczyk, Ph.D.**, Adjunct Professor of Moral Theology, presented "The Quest for Happiness: Introduction to Moral Theology." 90-minute online presentation on

the nature and purpose of Christian morality, for Assumption College for Sisters, Mendham, NJ, on September 15, 2021. Approximately 20 religious sisters virtually attended.

❖ **Reverend Monsignor Gerard H. McCarren, S.T.D.**, Spiritual Director and Associate Professor of Systematic Theology:

- Delivered a brief presentation on “Praying the *Gloria in Excelsis Deo* Yesterday and Today,” immediately prior to the performance of the Vivaldi *Gloria* in D Major RV 589 with the Holy Trinity Choirs and String Ensemble under the Direction of Pat Merlucci, for the *Holy Trinity Music Series 2021-2022*, at Holy Trinity Church, Westfield, NJ, on September 19, 2021. Approximately 75 people attended.
- Is serving as coordinator and principal seminar leader, doing most teaching for a six-week program of *Spiritual Direction Training for Priests*. The seminar, conducted under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Newark’s Office of Continuing Education and Formation of Priests, is offered in two identical sessions each week to accommodate priests’ schedules, with each participant attending one session per week. The sessions are being hosted by and held at Immaculate Conception Seminary, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, for 90 minutes each, on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, beginning on October 6, 2021, and ending on November 11, 2021. Ten priests are receiving this training in the art of spiritual direction, with a view toward being able to make spiritual direction more readily available to their brother priests.
- Offered the invocation at the twenty-eighth Monsignor John M. Oesterreicher Memorial Lecture, sponsored by SHU’s Institute for Judeo-Christian Studies, and conducted virtually via Zoom, on October 21, 2021. Thirty-nine people virtually attended.

❖ **Gregory Y. Glazov, D.Phil. (Oxon.)**, Professor of Biblical Studies, presented “Monsignor Oesterreicher’s Use of Scripture & Rabbinic Writings in Reflecting on the Shoah.” Twenty-eighth Monsignor John M. Oesterreicher Memorial Lecture, sponsored by SHU’s Institute for Judeo-Christian Studies, and conducted virtually via Zoom, on October 21, 2021. Thirty-nine people virtually attended.

❖ **Deacon Andrew E. Saunders, M.A. ’08**, Director of the Center for Diaconal Formation and Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology, served as the featured speaker at the annual convocation of permanent deacons of the Diocese of Trenton, NJ, held in Princeton, NJ, from October 22-23, 2021. One hundred four deacons and thirty-four deacons’ wives attended. The theme of the convocation was *Deacons: Heralds of the Gospel and Leaders of the New Evangelization*. Deacon Saunders delivered three presentations at the convocation:

- “Transformed and Nourished by the Eucharist.”
- “The Deacon’s Ministry Is Christ’s Ministry Flowing Through Us.”
- “Deacon: Icon of Christ the Servant.”

Conferences, Meetings, and Symposia

❖ **Reverend William M. McDonald, III, S.T.L.**, Associate Spiritual Director, Director of Pastoral Formation, and Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology, delivered a presentation titled “Stewardship: Revolutionary Spirituality for Priests,” at the International Stewardship Conference in Orlando, FL, in September 2021. Approximately 40 priests attended Father McDonald’s talk.

❖ **Reverend Monsignor Gerard H. McCarren, S.T.D.**, Spiritual Director and Associate Professor of Systematic Theology:

- Participated in the *Zoomin' with Newman* conference, sponsored by the Saint John Henry Newman Association, and conducted online via Zoom on October 8, 2021. Monsignor McCarren attended the session “A Standing Miracle: Don Briel’s Vision for Catholic Studies as an Enfleshment of Newman’s Collegiate and University Principles,” presented by Reverend Spencer Howe.
- As President of the Federation of Seminary Spiritual Directors, served as principal organizer of the Federation’s annual conference, conducted online via Zoom, on October 29, 2021. Monsignor McCarren enlisted conference speakers and conducted the optional session for new seminary spiritual directors. The Most Reverend John W. Flesey, S.T.D., retired Auxiliary Bishop of Newark and former Spiritual Director of Immaculate Conception Seminary and Director of the Archdiocesan Office of Continuing Formation of Priests, served as principal speaker. Bishop Flesey shared reflections on the value and fruits of spiritual direction on the basis of his many years of serving as spiritual director, especially for seminarians and priests. Reverend Daniel Hanley, S.T.L., from the Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations Secretariat at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, also served as a speaker. The Federation of Seminary Spiritual Directors includes spiritual directors at seminaries in the US and Canada. Approximately 45 spiritual directors virtually attended the conference, across four time zones in the US and Canada.

Other Scholarly and Professional Activity

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

- Peer reviewed a paper for the journal *Academia Letters* in August 2021.
- Served as a grant reviewer for the Dutch Research Council (NWO) - Division of Applied and Engineering Sciences (AES) in October 2021.

❖ **Ellen R. Scully, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Undergraduate Theology:

- Provided a solicited review of a proposed new book series for The Catholic University of America Press in August 2021.
- In October 2021, was appointed a member of the editorial board of a new series, *Patristic Theology*, from The Catholic University of America Press. Dr. Scully's responsibilities include considering book proposals in her area of expertise, recommending peer reviewers, and reviewing and approving manuscripts for the series.