



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**

- ❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate 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 2020 semester.

### **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, served as co-host of the new "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 March 2, 2020. The three episodes are as follows:

- “The Lenten Season: Part I” (covers the beginning of Lent).
- “The Lenten Season: Part II” (covers Holy Week).
- “The Easter Season” (covers the Easter season, and began airing after Easter).

All three shows are available for viewing online at the following website:

<https://www.catholicfaithnetwork.org/living-word>. Future shows are currently planned to cover the Advent and Christmas seasons.

❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology:

- Was interviewed on Facebook Live by Jason Shanks, President of *Our Sunday Visitor* Institute, on the topic of “Spiritual Communion,” on April 6, 2020. Approximately 300 people viewed [this interview](#).
- Was interviewed by John DeRosa on [episode 93](#) of *The Classical Theism Podcast*, on the historical evidence for Jesus’s resurrection. The interview took place on April 27, 2020.

❖ **Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, served as a guest speaker on the topic “Five Tips for Finding God Amidst the Coronavirus Crisis,” for the “Seize the Day” radio show, hosted by Gus Lloyd, on the SiriusXM Catholic Channel (channel 129), on April 14, 2020. At least 500 people listened to this interview, which aired on national radio twice.

## Special Event

❖ ICSST sponsored a Lenten reflection series featuring weekly video reflections by ICSST faculty and administrators. The series was created and coordinated by **Diane M. Carr, M.A. '07**, Coordinator of Graduate and International Services. **Michael F. Burt**, Senior Director of Seminary Advancement, assisted in facilitating the series and created the video graphics; **Thomas P. Palanza**, seminarian of the Diocese of Fall River, MA, designed weekly reflection journals to accompany each video; and seminarians **Bryan Bangs** of the Diocese of Fall River, MA, and **Matthew Gonzalez** and **Ju Hyun (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. ICSST was the first campus partner to collaborate with the TLTC team in the newly-created, self-serve green space designed set, open to the University. More than 1,200 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 3,500 visits lasting, on average, 15 or more minutes. Featured video reflections included the following:

- Welcome Video on Registration Thank You page, by **Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly, S.T.L., Ph.D.**, Rector/Dean.
- February 26, 2020 reflection, by **Reverend William M. McDonald III, S.T.L.**, Associate Spiritual Director and Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology: “The First Word: ‘Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.’”
- March 2, 2020 reflection, 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 Second Word: ‘Amen, I say to you, today, you will be with me in Paradise.’”
- March 9, 2020 reflection, by **Reverend Mariusz Eugene R. Koch, C.F.R., M.Div., M.A.**, Associate Spiritual Director and Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology: “The Third Word: ‘Woman, behold, thy son! Son, behold, thy mother!’”
  - March 16, 2020 reflection, by **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology: “The Fourth Word: ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’”
  - March 23, 2020 reflection, by **Reverend Monsignor Gerard H. McCarren, S.T.D.**, Spiritual Director and Associate Professor of Systematic Theology: “The Fifth Word: ‘I thirst.’”
  - March 30, 2020 reflection, by **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Moral Theology: “The Sixth Word: ‘It is finished.’”
  - April 6, 2020 reflection, by **Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly, S.T.L., Ph.D.**, Rector/Dean: “The Seventh Word: ‘Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.’”

## Mission and Service

- ❖ **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:
  - Served as an invited speaker for the Fall 2019 section of the Seton Hall University course ARTH 3101: *Art and St. Peter’s*, on September 12, 2019.
  - Presented “Transitioning to Major Seminary: Academics.” 1-hour presentation to the Seniors of St. Andrew’s Hall College Seminary, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on February 18, 2020.

- ❖ **Reverend Mariusz Eugene R. Koch, C.F.R., M.Div., M.A.**, Associate Spiritual Director and Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology:
- Preached on the theme “Priesthood of Jesus,” at the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination for Reverend Miroslaw Krol, at Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish, Harrison, NJ, on October 5, 2019. Approximately 150 people attended.
  - Facilitated *The One Thing Necessary*. Retreat day for the Franciscan Sisters, in Parsippany, NJ, on December 7, 2019. Father Koch delivered three talks, celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and presided at Benediction. Approximately 60 Sisters attended.
  - Facilitated an Advent Day of Recollection for the Sisters of St. John, in East Orange, NJ, on December 13, 2019. Father Koch delivered talks on Advent themes, and celebrated Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Six Sisters attended.
  - Facilitated an Advent Morning of Reflection for the Felician Sisters, in Lodi, NJ, on December 14, 2019. Father Koch delivered a talk on the theme “Vocation” and celebrated Mass. Approximately 60 Sisters attended.
  - Facilitated *The Love of God for Us*. Retreat for the Little Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, in Cherry Hill, NJ, from February 14-15, 2020. Father Koch delivered three talks, celebrated Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and presided at Benediction. Approximately 50 Sisters attended.
  - Facilitated a retreat on the theme “Forgiveness,” for Rutgers University alumni, with the Brotherhood of Hope, at Christian Retreat Center, Basking Ridge, NJ, on February 22, 2020. Father Koch delivered a talk and celebrated Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Approximately 100 people attended.
  - Delivered a Eucharistic reflection on the topic “Christ Among Us,” at the Archdiocese of Newark Men’s Conference, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on February

- 29, 2020. Additionally, Father Koch led the Eucharistic procession and served as a confessor at the conference. Approximately 1,000 men attended.
- Facilitated *Reflection on Priesthood*. Camden Diocese Priest Convocation, at Holy Family Parish, Sewell, NJ, on March 5, 2020. Father Koch delivered two talks, celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and presided at Eucharistic Adoration. Approximately 60 priests attended.
  - Facilitated *Return to Christ*. Day of Recollection for associates of the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal, in Atlantic City, NJ, on March 7, 2020. Father Koch delivered a talk, celebrated Mass, delivered a homily, celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and presided at Benediction. Approximately 100 people attended.
  - Facilitated *Passing on the Faith*. Evening for parents, at Immaculate Conception Parish, Somerville, NJ, on March 10, 2020. Father Koch delivered a talk, presided at Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, and celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Approximately 25 people attended.

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

- Served as confessor at an Advent Penance service for Holy Trinity School, Westfield, NJ, on December 10, 2019.
- Served as confessor at an Advent Penance service for St. Peter Parish, New Brunswick, NJ, on December 10, 2019.
- As *Censor Deputatem*, in April 2020, reviewed the 2021 Paulist Press *Ordo*, which is distributed to most US dioceses for use in church sacristies.

- ❖ **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Moral Theology, presented the following:
  - “Names of God.” Presentation, as part of an Advent evening of reflection for men, at Koinonia Academy, Plainfield, NJ, on December 17, 2019. Approximately 50 men attended.
  - A series of presentations on the Virtues, for the Sisters in formation for the Missionaries of Charity – Contemplatives, in Plainfield, NJ. Approximately eight women attended each presentation. The presentations were held on the following dates:
    - January 14, 2020.
    - January 28, 2020.
    - February 11, 2020.
    - February 25, 2020.
  - “End-of-Life Issues.” Two presentations, one and one-half hours each (including Q&A), on making decisions in end-of-life situations. The presentations were held at St. Mary’s Byzantine Catholic Church, Hillsborough, NJ, on March 13, 2020. A total of approximately 100 people attended.

- ❖ **Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly, S.T.L., Ph.D.**, Rector/Dean:
  - Presided at an Easter Sunday Sunrise Mass, at 6:30 a.m. on Easter morning, April 12, 2020. The Mass was livestreamed on ICSSST’s Facebook page, from the third-floor chapel of Immaculate Conception Seminary. One thousand eight hundred people viewed this Mass. The video recording remains available at <https://www.facebook.com/halltheology/videos/1137079766636502/>

- Presided at Divine Mercy Sunday Evening Prayer, livestreamed on ICSST’s Facebook page, from the Seminary’s Chapel of Christ the Good Shepherd, at 5:30 p.m. on April 19, 2020. Eight hundred seventy people viewed this Evening Prayer. The video recording remains available at <https://www.facebook.com/halltheology/videos/620156088539757/>

## Publications

- ❖ **Víctor Velarde-Mayol, M.D., Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, published a journal article: “*Intencionalidad e Inmaterialidad en Santo Tomás de Aquino*” (“Intentionality and Immateriality in Thomas Aquinas”). *Sapientia* 74, issue 243 (2018): 7-45.
- ❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Professor of Undergraduate Theology, published the following:
  - A book, co-authored with Scott W. Hahn: [\*Modern Biblical Criticism as a Tool of Statecraft \(1700-1900\)\*](#). Steubenville, OH: Emmaus Academic, 2020.
  - Two book reviews online:
    - Review of *Scriptural Authority and Biblical Criticism in the Dutch Golden Age*, co-edited by Dirk van Miert, Henk Nellen, Piet Steenbakkens, and Jetze Touber. *Review of Biblical Literature* (March 2020).
    - Review of *Senses of Scripture, Treasures of Tradition: The Bible in Arabic among Jews, Christians, and Muslims*, edited by Miriam L. Hjälms. *Review of Biblical Literature* (April 2020).



- ❖ **Reverend Monsignor Robert J. Wister, Hist.Eccl.D.**, Professor of Church History, published two newspaper articles:
  - [“The Archdiocese of Newark and Immigration: Filipino Immigration.”](#) *The Catholic Advocate* 69, no. 3 (March 11, 2020): 8-9. (Seventh in a 9-part series).
  - [“La Arquidiócesis de Newark y la Inmigración: La Segunda Ola de Migración Hispana.”](#) *New Jersey Católico* (Marzo/Abril 2020): 8-9.
  
- ❖ **Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, published the following:
  - A journal article: [“Teaching Contemplatively for Unified Hearts and Communities.”](#) *Religious Education* (March 16, 2020). This article was initially published online; print publication is pending.
  - A web article: [“Five Tips for Finding God Amidst the Coronavirus Crisis.”](#) Seton Hall University website (April 2, 2020).
  
- ❖ **Reverend Lawrence B. Porter, K.H.S., Ph.D.**, Professor of Systematic Theology and Director, Turro Seminary Library, published a magazine article: [“Running in the Bible: Its Implications for the Christian Life.”](#) *Homiletic & Pastoral Review* (March 20, 2020).

## Conferences, Meetings, and Symposia

- ❖ **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology:
  - At the 23<sup>rd</sup> World Multi-Conference on Systemics, Cybernetics, and Informatics, sponsored by the International Institute of Informatics and Systemics, and held in Orlando, FL, from July 6-9, 2019, delivered the plenary keynote address (with Dr.

- Thomas Marlowe): “Philosophy and Second-Order Cybernetics as a Second-Order Loop: Lonergan’s Epistemology, Ontology, and Methodology,” on July 9, 2019. Approximately 50 people attended.
- Served as a faculty panelist for the *Coronavirus Panel Discussion*, organized by Dr. Cosimo Antonacci, as part of Seton Hall University’s online [2020 Petersheim Academic Exposition: “Share, Honor, Unite.”](#) At this panel discussion, held on April 23, 2020, Father Laracy spoke on the topic “Science and Faith in Time of Pandemic.” Approximately 120 people viewed the panel discussion, via Microsoft Teams.
- ❖ **Reverend Pablo T. Gadenz, S.S.L., S.T.D.**, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, as a consultant and one of ten 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 calls, the subcommittee worked on reviewing the revision of the New Testament of the *New American Bible*:
- Two-and-a-half-hour call, on March 25, 2020.
  - Two-hour call, on March 30, 2020.
  - Two-hour call, on April 13, 2020.

## Other Scholarly and Professional Activity

- ❖ **Ellen R. Scully, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Undergraduate Theology, presented a paper, “Some Hermeneutical Issues in the Catholic Study of Patristic Theology as Seen through the Case Study of Gregory of Nyssa’s Mixture Christology,” to a group of five colleagues in Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology’s faculty scholarly

collaborative group, *Amplificamus*, in ICSST's Lewis Hall, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on February 13, 2020.