Dear friends,

Christianity has a lot to do with the physical. Water washing over a baby in baptism, oil anointing the forehead of a person who is ill, bread broken among friends, wine shared. Could God be in these? Could God use “the stuff” of our world to speak to us? To tell us that He is present and with us? — as present as bread broken and sweet smelling oil? Is He trying to tell us something by using the physical things of our lives?

And what about Christmas? What is the Lord trying to tell us by this old story of a woman in labor and a man who protects her and an infant born at a most inopportune time? A time when nothing seems to be going right? Could the Lord of the universe, this billion-year old universe, be saying to us: “Yes I am in this— and it is really a beautiful story; and I am in your story too when things don't go right and everything seems wrong? Yes, I am close, I am here!”

I heard a woman once say that maybe God came to us as a little baby because babies are so easy to love. Their helplessness brings out whatever is tender in us.

As we complete another year at the Center for Catholic Studies— the twentieth from our beginning in 1997— we are very thankful to the Lord for His tender presence in our midst. He has been present in the things that seemed to go right and in those that seemed to go wrong. We give thanks to the Lord for His presence in all the events of this year of 2017: faculty and staff seminars, lectures, new students and colleagues and the subtle and not so subtle transformations we have undergone.

We thank God for you, our dear friends, who have supported us in our work and we pray together with you the prayer the earliest Christians prayed, “Come Lord Jesus! Come!” And they experienced Him as close, even in the breaking of the bread and in the story of a little baby and his mother and father—

In The Lord,

Rev. Msgr. Richard M. Liddy
Director, Center for Catholic Studies
TWENTY YEARS OF CATHOLIC STUDIES 1997-2017

Monsignor Richard M. Liddy, Director

The aim of the university is to mediate the universe—all of being—to people’s questions. What the Catholic university adds is that the steps in this process from research to communications takes place by way of intellectual, moral and religious conversion. This process from what really is (not just what “seems”) to communication takes place by way of conversion to what is truly valuable and a turning to what Dante called “the Love that moves the sun and the other stars.” The university is not just about finding a job but about finding a vocation. The mission of the Center for Catholic Studies is to collaborate creatively in this process.

In 1997, on a two-year leave from Seton Hall as a Senior Fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University, Monsignor Robert Sheeran, then President, and Archbishop Theodore McCarrick, asked me to return to work on the Catholic mission of the university. That year the Center for Catholic Studies was founded—which now comprises three institutes: the Bernard J. Lonergan Institute, the Micah Institute for Business and Economics, and the G.K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture.

Noteworthy in the history of the Center are the numerous faculty development seminars and lectures focusing on the Catholic mission of Seton Hall. The names and faculty papers from those seminars from 1997 can be found at http://scholarship.shu.edu/catholic-studies. These seminars have received a very positive reception from our faculty and have had a significant impact on the Catholic mission of the university. Of her experience at one of these seminars, a Jewish participant wrote:

Regarding the Catholic seminars, I attended “Divine Madness” with Jerry Miller in 1999, and please know that to this day, that week remains the most intellectually stimulating week I’ve had with colleagues to date. We faculty in attendance came from diverse backgrounds, and the discussion crossed religious boundaries, yet helped us all see that within the Catholic philosophy discussed was core content that not only applied to all of our lives but enriched our perceptions of Catholic thought. The faculty bonding during that week, even 6 years later is still alive among so many of us. (Quoted with permission)

Shortly after the Center began, the academic program was created—which now consists in a Major in Catholic Studies, a Minor and a Certificate. The program, now ably guided by Professor Ines Murzaku, is located in the College of Arts and Sciences.

In May of 2003 the Center for Catholic Studies sponsored the faculty seminar entitled The Core of the Core. That seminar was the beginning of the new core curriculum at Seton Hall University that focused on the elements central to the Catholic intellectual tradition but also employing texts from other religious traditions. Throughout the years, the Center has sponsored numerous seminars and lectures connected to the Core. In my experience, the assessments of the Core have been overwhelmingly positive. I have no doubt that the present Seton Hall Core is one of the best among universities in the United States.

In 2012, the Center for Catholic Studies collaborated with the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership to create the “Praxis Program of the Advanced Seminar on Mission” using Father Bernard Lonergan’s “Generalized Empirical Method.” The program aims at helping faculty to appropriate the dynamic structure of their own consciousness so that ultimately they can link their own specialization with that of other faculty as well as with the Catholic mission of the university. The major convener of this program have been Linda Garofalo from the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership and Danute Nourse from the Center for Catholic Studies. Numerous faculty have participated in this program and the faculty feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. I do not believe anything like it exists at any other university.

Pope John Paul II’s Ex corde ecclesiae, describes a two-way street in Catholicism’s relationship to the various disciplines within the university. On the one hand, there is that dimension of theology that “listens” to the other disciplines that illuminate the human situation. On the other hand, Catholic theology has something specific to contribute to the various disciplines of university: a message of ultimate meaning and value, of coherence and integration, of mercy and hope-filled love. For example, the Center’s collaboration with the Department of Religion in the “Ethics and Economics Forum” will be evident in a workshop this January 31, 2018 (7pm) on the role of economic collaboratives in the economic healing of Haiti. Also of note in 2018, the Annual Faculty Summer Seminar will be given in May by Fr. Lawrence Frizzell, who will teach on the Church’s roots in the history and religion of Israel.

In all of this the Center highlights the question of God in human history. Is there a Personal Mind behind a world of scientific achievements and a Personal Good Being behind our human history? Every person wrestles with this question as he or she struggles with the meaning of life. “Is the universe on our side?” or are we just gamblers, as Pascal put it in his famous wager? The Catholic university of its very nature should highlight these questions. They are not incidental to our humanity.

A notion... is the anticipation of meaning, the wonder, and the questioning that gets us moving intellectually... it is the spark that gets us searching and subsequently validates that what we have grasped is meaningful, true, and valuable...

(Bernard J. Lonergan)
CATHOLIC STUDIES WELCOMES ITS NEWEST GRADUATE ASSISTANT

The Center for Catholic Studies is pleased to welcome its newest Graduate Assistant, Erica Naumann, ‘17. The Graduate Assistantship is a prestigious award recognizing exceptional scholarship and service. The GA in Catholic Studies works side by side with the staff to implement the Center’s objectives and ongoing programs, with a special emphasis in communications, online and social media.

Erica hails from Middletown, Connecticut, and is currently a student in the M.A. Public Relations program. Naumann earned her B.A., Summa Cum Laude, in Communications with a minor in Public Relations from Seton Hall, where she was actively involved as President of Lambda Pi Eta, PRSSA, and participated in mentorship and leadership programs. One of three Pirate student-athletes in the family, she was captain of the women’s Division I swim team and a two year Big East Championship Finalist in the mile.

Naumann previously interned with Pita Communications and WFSB-Channel 3 in Connecticut, as well as Jazz House Kids, a nonprofit organization in Montclair, NJ. As a student-athlete, she was chosen to participate in Under Armour’s first Career Combine, where she worked with Division I athletes from across the country to propose, brand, market and present a product to Under Armour executives. In the future, her goal is to enter the corporate world of Communications and Public Relations as an innovative thinker and problem solver, eager to contribute to the industry in a positive way while focusing on brand value sustainability in crisis management.
This year, Seton Hall appointed the first visiting professor to the Toth/Lonergan Endowed Professorship in Interdisciplinary Studies, Mark T. Miller, Ph.D., of the University of San Francisco. The purpose of this Chair is to link the Catholic faith with all the disciplines and professions in the contemporary university, faith with science, religion with literature, Christianity with work. The holder of the Toth/Lonergan Chair will teach and work with faculty in various schools and departments to foster and deepen conversation about their relationship to the university's Catholic mission.

Beginning his appointment in August 2017, Miller has been teaching courses in various schools throughout the university and has been participating in initiatives of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies and the Center for Catholic Studies. Miller’s teaching will enhance the connections between the university’s Catholic mission and academic and professional education throughout the University. Miller will also participate in the university’s faculty development programs, which link Lonergan’s Generalized Empirical Method (“GEM”) with the various disciplines.

Prior to his appointment at Seton Hall, Miller has a long history of academic excellence. He is currently a member of the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of San Francisco and has taught at Georgetown University and Boston College as well as the University of Asia and the Pacific, Manila and the Ateneo de Zamboanga University, Philippines. He holds a joint appointment in the Yuchenco Philippines Studies Program and is the Associate Director of the St. Ignatius Institute at the University of San Francisco.

Professor Miller received his Ph.D. (concentration in Systematic Theology, minor in Theological Ethics) as well as his M.A. (Theology) from Boston College, with a year of graduate coursework in Catholic Theology undertaken at Eberhard-Karls Universität, Tübingen, Germany. Miller received his Bachelor’s degree from Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service.

The title of Miller’s Ph.D. dissertation was “Why the Passion? Bernard Lonergan on the Cross as Communication.” In addition to numerous presentations and peer-reviewed articles, such as “Conversion in Kierkegaard’s Fear and Trembling,” and “Malcolm X’s Autobiography and Lonergan’s Conversions,” Miller is the author of a book entitled, The Quest for God and the Good Life: Lonergan’s Theological Anthropology, which was published by the Catholic University of America Press in 2013.

On September 8, 2017, Miller addressed the teaching community as the keynote speaker for the Faculty Convocation, where he shared his ideas about education and its comparisons to Plato’s Allegory of the Cave. Miller said, “Education is not just about the ascent out of the darkness of the Cave to the light, but also about the return descent to help those still imprisoned in the darkness.” Miller went on to talk about the educational influences in his life and the lessons he learned about priorities and higher values.

On February 23, 2017, 2009 Seton Hall graduate, Amy Giuliano lectured on “A Lenten Pilgrimage: the Art and Architecture of the Roman Station Liturgy,” co-sponsored by the College of Communication and the Arts. Giuliano discussed the history and theological significance of this ancient pilgrimage, which dates back to the late second century and takes place to this day in the Eternal City. Giuliano covered the artistic highlights of the Station Churches, from the wood carved doors of Santa Sabina, where the journey begins, to the mosaics of Saint Mary Major, the very last of these Sacred Churches. After graduating with her degree in Catholic Studies, Giuliano went on to earn a degree in Theology from the Angelicum in Rome. She is currently studying Sacred Art at Yale University and teaches Catholic Studies at Sacred Heart University.

John Dadosky, Ph.D., S.T.D., joined the Center for Catholic Studies on March 23, 2017, for a lecture called “Every Being is Beautiful: Philosophy for the Theology of Beauty,” co-sponsored by the College of Communication and the Arts and The Department of Religion. Dadosky explored a comprehensive philosophy of beauty based on the thought of Bernard Lonergan, S.J., while aiming to recover beauty as a property of “being” for theological aesthetics. Dadosky is Professor of Theology and Philosophy at Regis College and the University of Toronto, and he is also the author of The Eclipse and Recovery of Beauty.

On March 29, 2017, the Center for Catholic Studies welcomed Tom McAuley, M.Sc, an environmental engineer and philosopher from Ottawa, Canada, for a lecture on “Water: A Lonergan Take.” This lecture was co-sponsored by the Toth/Lonergan Endowed Chair in Interdisciplinary Studies, the Department of Biological Sciences, the Department of Physics, the Environmental Studies Program and the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. McAuley discussed the essential role of the hydrological cycle and of human
agency directly and indirectly involved in water use and decision making from a viewpoint drawn from the work of Bernard Lonergan. McAuley holds a B.A. Sc. in geological engineering from the University of Toronto and an M. Sc. in water resources engineering from the University of Manitoba.

On April 27, 2017, Frederick Lawrence, Ph.D., Professor in the Department of Theology at Boston College and noted Lonergan scholar, lectured on “John Finnis and Bernard Lonergan on Natural Law.” John Finnis’s field is legal philosophy or jurisprudence, while much of Bernard Lonergan’s scholarly life was devoted to what he called “foundational methodology.” His aim was to link the Gospel with the challenges arising from modern science and historical consciousness.

On May 23, 24 and 25, 2017, The Center for Catholic Studies presented the twentieth annual Faculty Summer Seminar, “The Message of Matthew.” Presented in partnership with the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership, the seminar was facilitated by Father Pablo Gadenz, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies at Seton Hall. The Gospel of Matthew has played a significant role throughout history in teaching the Christian message. Its memorable presentation of the deeds and words of Jesus includes the Sermon on the Mount, the Beatitudes, the Our Father and the Golden Rule. It also serves as a bridge between the Old and New Testaments. This seminar explored the background, themes, and impact of Matthew’s Gospel, and was of special interest to the Department of the Core and those teaching the course, Journey of Transformation.

On June 13, 14 and 15, 2017, the Center for Catholic Studies invited all faculty to join in a workshop by Dr. Mark Morelli on “Self-Knowledge and the Language of the University”. Morelli joined the audience via Skype and discussed the inescapable relationship of faculty members to the fundamental ideals that inform the language of the university: meaning, objectivity, knowledge, truth, reality, and value. Morelli’s book, Self-Possession: Being at Home in Conscious Performance (Lonergan Institute, Boston College, 2015), helped faculty members describe and understand these elusive interior notions at work in their conscious experience. Morelli called upon the faculty to challenge the everyday language of the contemporary university such as ‘critical thinking,’ ‘assessment,’ and ‘evidence-based science’ while pushing them to question whether these phrases are mere jargon, or refer to dimensions of their very personhood. Morelli is Professor of Philosophy at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. He earned his Ph. D. in philosophy at the University of Toronto.

Professor Richard Grallo joined Seton Hall faculty for a 2-session workshop on “Critical Thinking and Assessment.” These two workshops discussed critical thinking and assessment in light of the general structure of human consciousness and its methodical unfolding. The goal of these presentations was to link these core competencies of the contemporary university to other dimensions of consciousness: aesthetic, practical-ethical, contemplative, etc.

On October 17, 2017, Grallo presented on critical thinking and on November 7, 2017, on assessment. Grallo is Professor of Applied Psychology at the Audrey Cohen School for Human Services and Education at Metropolitan College of New York.

THE LONERGAN REVIEW—VOL. VIII

This year’s edition, Volume VIII of The Lonergan Review published by the Bernard J. Lonergan Institute at Seton Hall University has as its theme “From Insight to the World.”

The volume includes the following: Introduction (Msgr. Richard Liddy); Revisiting Crowe’s: “How to Get an Insight” through Mindfulness Psychology (Brain Traska); Why do We Reflect as We Do? (Christopher Friel); Art, Love and Conversion (Glenn Hughes); Lonergan and the Philosophy of Engineering (David A. Nordquest & Stephen T. Frezza); Piketty and Lonergan on Macroeconomics: Similarities and Differences (Eileen de Neeve); Lonergan, Schumpeter, Keynes, Minsky, and Mainstream Economics (Harold Peterson); A Reflection on Social Engagement at Fu Jen Catholic University Based on Lonergan's Understanding of Conversion (Chia-Hua Wei); Book Review: Creator God, Evolving World by Cynthia Chrysdsale and Niel Ormerod (Stephen Ferguson).

With Msgr. Liddy as Editor and Gloria Grabois as Managing Editor, the Editorial Board consists of Associate Editor Gregory P. Floyd, Seton Hall; Thomas Guarino, John Ranieri and Anthony Sciglitano, Seton Hall; Andrew Beards, Buckfast Abbey, UK; Cynthia Crysdale, Swanee, University of the South; Lucio Guasti, Universita Sacro Cuore, Piacenza, Italy; Richard Grallo, Metropolitan College, NY; Paul J. La Chance, Bright Future Psychiatry; Stephen Martin, Chestnut Hill College, PA; and Gerard Whelan, S.J., Gregorian University, Rome, Italy. The Review continues to increase in circulation yearly and includes contributions from the 40 Lonergan Institutes worldwide, from Moscow to Melbourne. For more information or to subscribe please visit: shu.edu/lonergan/lonergan-review.cfm

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST

FEBRUARY 28, 2007

A Day with Dr. Paul Farmer, esteemed human rights activist, founder of Partners in Health, visits Seton Hall. Paul Farmer has brought healthcare and humanitarian aid to some of the poorest, most under-served rural communities throughout the world. Through his books and speaking engagements, he is a leading voice for equity in global health and human rights. See pih.org.

SEPTEMBER 2008

“The Redemptive Vision of Georges Rouault”—art exhibition and symposium at Walsh Gallery, works by and about the French painter, works by Georges Rouault (1871-1958), considered one of the most notable Christian artists of the twentieth century.
On July 25, 26 and 27, 2017, the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership and the Center for Catholic Studies held the third annual summer workshop for participants in the Praxis Program of the Advanced Seminar on Mission. The workshop, entitled “The Role of Functional Specialties,” was held in Trieste, Italy and was co-sponsored by Boston College, the University of Trieste and the Jacques Maritain Institute. Eleven faculty members from the Praxis Program participated in this year’s international workshop, along with academics and scholars who explored Bernard Lonergan’s functional specialties and their integration into the various disciplines, in order to enhance scholarship, research and pedagogy. Three days of workshop sessions were conducted at the University of Trieste. The morning sessions included speakers Frederick Lawrence and Patrick Byrne (Boston College); Hilary Mooney (University of Education Weingarten); Gianguido Salvi (University of Trieste) and Francesca Zaccaron (Jacques Maritain Institute).

During the afternoon sessions, Seton Hall participants gave presentations on the implementation of Lonergan’s Generalized Empirical Method (GEM) and the Functional Specialties in their various academic disciplines. The group traveled to the University of Ljubljana - Slovenia, for a colloquy between Frederick Lawrence (Boston College) and Gorazd Kocijancic. Their topic was “The Role of Philosophy as Mediating Discourse.”

Since 2013, four cohorts have engaged in the ongoing program, with over fifty-seven faculty participating, including several deans and senior administrators. The program consists of a semester-long immersion in the thought and method of Bernard Lonergan, in order to appropriate the mission of the University, and requires a practical “Application of The Method” (ATM) to the faculty’s discipline, along with an implementation plan. An ongoing program of peer support and mentoring follows, with the purpose of deepening content and discussion, as well as reflection on implementation. The annual summer program consists of selected readings and several workshops including an intensive workshop abroad. A Praxis Program Advisory Board helps to determine action to enrich the program, enhance communication, and support its sustainability. The program tracks pedagogical developments and supports the participants’ efforts to collaborate, research, write and publish on their work. A fifth cohort is planned for Spring 2018.

The Catholic Studies Program will celebrate its twentieth anniversary in 2018 as an integral part of the College of Arts and Sciences with university-wide impact. The program grants a B.A., Minor and Certificate through the College of Arts and Sciences. The Catholic Studies degree is an interdisciplinary, liberal arts, and integrated learning degree with special tracks in social sciences, education, nursing, history, literature, religion, philosophy and theology. Catholic Studies majors and minors come from every school and every major in the university. Scholarship support for students in the Catholic Studies degree program is generously provided by: The Rev. Richard Nardone Endowment; the Father Walter Debold Scholarship Fund; IMO John F. Hunt, Esq., and the Center for Catholic Studies. We are the program that connects and communicates the Catholic Intellectual Tradition to every discipline and every school on campus. “If there is one program at Seton Hall that directly proclaims the mission of the University, it is Catholic Studies,” as the Faculty Senate defined Catholic Studies. We have been true to the Senate’s mandate and continue our mission of preparing big minds and big hearts.

Ines Angeli Murzaku, Ph.D., Professor of Church History and Director of the Catholic Studies Program delivered one of the keynote addresses at the International Ecumenical Congress in Lublin, Poland, commemorating three important anniversaries: The 700th anniversary of the Lublin’s city rights (1317); The 500th anniversary of the Reformation (1517); and the 100th anniversary of the founding of St. John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (1918). The International Ecumenical Congress organized by St. John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, one of the leading institutions of higher education in Poland, was held from October 29-31, 2017 in Lublin, the largest Polish city east of the Vistula River (www.ekumenizm2017.pl/en/). The International Ecumenical Congress brought together an international team of experts, scholars, church leaders and students from various religious traditions in Europe, North America and Australia to commemorate the three important anniversaries. Dr. Murzaku’s keynote address was entitled “Celebrating Forty Years of Roman Catholic-Evangelical Ecumenical Dialogue.”
THE CATHOLIC STUDIES PROGRAM

FOURTH ANNUAL ARCHBISHOP JOHN J. MYERS LECTURE SERIES ON LAW, SOCIETY AND FAITH

On Monday, October 16, 2017, the Catholic Studies Program hosted Reverend Mark M. Morozowich, Dean, The Catholic University of America, who presented the fourth Annual Archbishop John J. Myers Lecture Series on Law, Society and Faith entitled “Rising from The Underground, The Ukrainian Catholic Church Reborn.” In 1989, the largest Catholic persecuted Church that existed underground received its freedom from the Soviet authorities. The lecture began with an overview of the re-establishment of hierarchy, parishes, religious institutes, and Catholic educational structures. This is all considered in light of a completely new chapter in the life of this Church originally born through the baptism of Kyivan-Rus in 988. It also develops the theme of the relationship of the Ukrainian Catholic Church with the broader Catholic Church.

For More Information About the Catholic Studies Degree Program, Contact Ines Murzaku, Program Director at 973-275-5845 or ines.murzaku@shu.edu

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CHINA

The Catholic Studies Program, in collaboration with the New Jersey Catholic Historical Commission and the Asian Studies Program, presented a lecture by Father Robert Carbonneau entitled: “A Paradigm for Understanding the Catholic Church in China: Is Matteo Ricci, SJ still a Model?” Jesuit priest missionary to China Matteo Ricci (1552-1610) is still respected in China and throughout the world, because he advocated friendship and Gospel principles. After a brief survey of the Ricci era Fr. Carbonneau offered insight on the contemporary Catholic Church in China and relations with the Holy See. Robert E. Carbonneau, C.P. is a Roman Catholic priest in the Passionist Congregation. A member of St. Paul of the Cross Province (eastern U.S) he is their historian. He received a Ph.D. in American and East Asian History from Georgetown University.

CATHOLIC STUDIES PROFESSOR’S NEW BOOK EXAMINES HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS’ TESTIMONIALS

“What! Still Alive?!: Jewish Survivors in Poland and Israel Remember Homecoming” (Syracuse NY: Syracuse University Press, October 2017). “What! Still Alive?!:” offers a powerful and deeply affecting examination of the complex memories of Jewish survivors returning to their homes in Poland after the Holocaust. These survivors left unparalleled testimonies of their first impressions with the Jewish historical commissions from 1944 to 1950. As many survivors found they were no longer welcome by their Polish neighbors, they chose to settle in the new state of Israel. Again, these surviving Jews left testimonies describing their postwar returns. In “What! Still Alive?!” Rice investigates the transformation of survivors’ memories from the first account after their initial return to Poland and later accounts, recorded at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem between 1955 and 1970. Through close readings of these firsthand narratives, Rice traces the ways in which the passage of time and a changing geopolitical context influenced the survivors’ memories.

SETON HALL ALUM REFLECTS ON CATHOLIC STUDIES DEGREE

Samantha Pettigrew graduated from Seton Hall in 2014 with a B.S. in Biology, a B.A. in Catholic Studies, a minor in Philosophy and a certificate for completion of the University Honors Program. Samantha is currently in Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. Samantha commented about the benefits that an additional degree in Catholic Studies brought to her Medical School training:

“Currently, I am in my fourth year of medical school interviewing for residency positions. My Seton Hall education gave me a solid foundation to do well in medical school, and Catholic Studies was a big part of that. The opportunity to study the Catholic Intellectual Tradition in America’s oldest diocesan university was unique, and I am glad I took that opportunity. I believe that a broad liberal arts education is an important part of anyone’s college experience. Learning tolerance and respect, while understanding different viewpoints, was a large part of what Catholic Studies taught me. Those are skills I use every day at the hospital. It is also not a very commonly seen dual-major, especially in Medical School. My Catholic Studies major has been a topic of discussion on residency interviews. I strongly recommend Catholic Studies as a valuable experience for anyone with interest at Seton Hall! It is the major that enhances every other major!”

CATHOLIC LIFE IN LITERATURE SERIES

On Monday November 6, 2017, the Catholic Studies Program, in collaboration with Pirates of Irish Persuasion & Extraction (PIPE) and the G.K. Chesterton Institute, presented Catholic Life in Literature Series with Dr. Jim McGlone: The Hammer of God. Dr. James McGlone, Professor Emeritus of Catholic Studies and Communications, presented a dramatic reading of G. K. Chesterton’s The Hammer of God. Commentary was provided by Father Ian Boyd, Editor of The Chesterton Review and Dr. Dermot Quinn, Associate Editor of The Chesterton Review. The Hammer of God is a typical Father Brown investigation. He will solve the crime and reveal the story’s culprit with compassion for his sin and forgiveness for his moral failure. Chesterton offers a delightful way to examine the conscience of the reading public, offering forgiveness for our failings while satisfying our need for re-creation.
Thank you TO OUR FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS!

OVER THE PAST TWENTY YEARS, COUNTLESS STUDENTS, FACULTY & THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE HAVE BENEFITED from your friendship and support which has helped us to grow and sustain our mission of linking the Catholic intellectual tradition to all disciplines at the university. The sustainability of the Center for Catholic Studies, in tribute to Msgr. Richard Liddy’s leadership, is evident in the thriving Catholic Studies academic program and the Toth/Lonergan Endowed Professorship in Interdisciplinary Studies, as well as in the ongoing work of the Center’s institutes and its publications. Your ongoing support is vital and deeply appreciated.

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE AT ADVANCEMENT.SHU.EDU/SUPPORT/CENTER-FOR-CATHOLIC-STUDIES

DISCOVER THE BENEFITS OF GIVING WISELY

Did you know there are creative ways to sustain the mission of The Center for Catholic Studies? Ways in which the Center for Catholic Studies (CCS), you and your loved ones all benefit at the same time? Such giving techniques are called “planned gifts,” because with thoughtful planning, you create win-win solutions for you and the CCS. The following are our most popular planned gifts:

Bequest: Include CCS in your will or living trust. Make your bequest unrestricted or direct it to a specific purpose (e.g., the Toth-Lonergan Endowed Professorship). Indicate a specific amount or a percentage of the balance remaining in your estate or trust. Donations are fully exempt from federal estate tax. Plus, you control your assets until the time of your death.

Gift of Retirement Assets: Designate CCS to receive all or a portion of the assets held in your retirement plan. Contact the plan custodian or account holder about a TOD (Transfer on Death) or beneficiary designation form. Avoid the potential double taxation of your retirement savings would face if you designated these savings to your heirs. Here, too, you retain control of the assets until your death.

Charitable Gift Annuity: It’s part gift and part investment. It provides you with lifetime income and an immediate tax deduction, while ultimately benefitting CCS. The guaranteed interest rate payable increases with the age of the donor. The guaranteed interest rate provides you with lifetime income and an immediate tax deduction. In addition, a portion of the income you receive is not subject to tax for a period of years.

Please also visit Seton Hall University’s Gift Planning Website shu.edu/plannedgiving for comprehensive information. It is regularly updated with information to help you plan for your future and also includes wonderful donor stories demonstrating the impact of their planned gift.

Finally, if you are 70½ or over, and you wish to make a (current) gift to CCS, you are allowed to make a direct transfer from your IRA. This is a very tax-effective way to make a gift this year as you can exclude from gross income any contributions paid directly from your IRA to Seton Hall! What’s more, a direct transfer from your IRA satisfies any required minimum distributions for the year and reduces the amount of taxes you would otherwise have to pay.

To learn more about how you can join other supporters who have chosen to sustain the Center for Catholic Studies through an estate gift or a direct transfer, please contact us for more information. If you have already included CCS (or Seton Hall) in your estate plan, please let us know so that you can be properly acknowledged.

Joseph Guasconi, J.D.
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