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, Honors and Appointments**

- **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, authored a successful grant proposal in the amount of $20,000 from the William Simon Foundation, to create and facilitate the retreat and lecture series titled *70 x 7: Faith, Family and Forgiveness, Part IV*. The series will run from August 2017-March 2018, at Assumption Parish, Morristown, NJ; St. Paul Inside the Walls, Madison, NJ; and Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, South Orange, NJ.

- **Joseph P. Rice, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, was named a visiting scholar at Princeton Theological Seminary for the duration of his Fall 2017 sabbatical. Dr. Rice also was selected for participation in a Hildebrand *Schülerkreis* at Steubenville University in July 2017 to discuss his sabbatical project, which centers on
ecology and the family in the thought of John Paul II, Benedict XVI and Francis. Dr. Rice anticipates travel to Poland in fall 2017 to assist his research into primary sources on John Paul II.

Speaking Engagements

- **Reverend W. Jerome Bracken, C.P., Ph.D.,** Associate Professor of Moral Theology, presented a Communion breakfast talk on “Mary’s and Joseph’s Parenthood of Jesus” on the following occasions:
  - At Our Lady of Grace Parish, Howard Beach, NY, on October 3, 2016.
  - At Immaculate Conception Parish, Hackensack, NJ, on March 19, 2017.

- **Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D.,** Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, presented “Evangelizing the Imagination: Sharing Faith in the Age of Instagram.” Presentation, to 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 November 10, 2016.

- **Gregory Y. Glazov, D.Phil. (Oxon.),** Professor of Biblical Studies, presented “The Christian Understanding of ‘Sacred’ in Interreligious Dialogue.” Lecture, for Seton Hall University’s College of Arts & Sciences and History Club, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on November 17, 2016.

- **Reverend Pablo T. Gadenz, S.S.L., S.T.D.,** Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, served as a guest speaker on the hour-long “Inner Life” talk show on *Relevant Radio* (1430 AM),
discussing with the show’s host the upcoming Sunday’s Gospel reading, and fielding callers’ questions, on the following dates:


Audio recordings of past shows, including shows on which Father Gadenz served as a guest speaker, can be accessed at https://www.relevantradio.com/audios/the-inner-life

- **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Undergraduate Theology, presented a three-part live webinar series on the history of modern biblical interpretation, for the Institute of Catholic Culture, an adult catechetical organization faithful to the Magisterium of the Catholic Church and dedicated to the Church’s call for a new evangelization. This series included the following:
  - “Deconstructing the Bible: Understanding the Crisis in Biblical Interpretation, Part I,” on June 6, 2017. This first part of the series discussed Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI’s idea of “biblical interpretation in crisis,” followed by the history of the development of modern biblical criticism from Marsilius of Padua to Martin Luther.
  - “Deconstructing the Bible: Understanding the Crisis in Biblical Interpretation, Part II,” on June 13, 2017. This second part of the series discussed history from King Henry VIII and the English Reformation, to the mid-18th century with the work of Johann Semler and Johann David Michaelis.
  - “Deconstructing the Bible: Understanding the Crisis in Biblical Interpretation, Part III,” on June 20, 2017. This third part of the series discussed history from Johann Eichhorn in the 18th century to Alfred Loisy in the 20th century.
Mission and Service

❖ Timothy P. Fortin, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Philosophical Theology, serves as:

- Coordinator of prison ministry religious services for the Archdiocese of Newark, at Essex County Correctional Facility, Newark, NJ (ongoing). This includes interaction with jail administration for arrangement of Catholic services and accessibility of the sacraments for detainees.

- Prison minister at Essex County Correctional Facility, Newark, NJ (every Friday). In this role, Dr. Fortin offers Bible studies and outreach to county, federal and Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainees.

- Prison minister at Essex County Juvenile Detention Center, Newark, NJ (every other Sunday, September-December 2016). In this role, Dr. Fortin offered reflections on Sacred Scripture and led discussions on the nature of Catholicism, Christianity, and religion in general.

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

- Served as a priest-mentor for the course IPF 502: *Human and Spiritual Foundations for Receiving Celibacy as a Generative Gift*, offered at the Institute for Priestly Formation, Creighton University, NE. In this role, Monsignor McCarren assisted the psychologist-professor in relating the course material to the life of the priest. Monsignor McCarren rendered this service during the following time periods:
  - Mid-June 2016 through early July 2016.
  - Mid-June 2017 through early July 2017.
Provided spiritual direction to seminarians from throughout the US, at the Institute for Priestly Formation’s Summer Program for Diocesan Seminarians, at Creighton University, Omaha, NE, meeting weekly with each seminarian, during the following time periods:

- June 13-July 28, 2016 (for 14 seminarians)
- June 12-July 29, 2017 (for 16 seminarians)

Served as Spiritual Director for two priests participating in the Retreat for Seminary Formators, at the Institute for Priestly Formation, Creighton University, Omaha, NE. In this role, Monsignor McCarren met with each priest daily from July 10-13, 2016.

Presented the following:

- “Praying the Liturgy of the Hours.” Morning and afternoon workshop, for the continuing formation of the Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco, Northern Provincialate, North Haledon, NJ, on November 12, 2016.
- Workshop for liturgical ministers (lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion), at St. Mary, Watchung, NJ, on November 16, 2016.
- Advent recollection event, for Religious Teachers Filippini, at Villa Walsh, Morristown, NJ, on November 30, 2016.
- Advent reflection, based on Jean Corbon’s book The Wellspring of Worship, to the New Brunswick Oratorians, at New Brunswick Oratory (at St. Peter’s Church), New Brunswick, NJ, on December 1, 2016.
- “Winter Holidays’ in the Catholic Church.” Presentation on Advent and Christmas celebrations among Catholics, to a religious school sixth grade class, at Temple Emmanuel, Westfield, NJ, on December 10, 2016. Monsignor McCarren delivered
this presentation as a member of a panel also including a Methodist minister and an imam.

- Brief vocations witness talk to Delbarton’s senior class on their day of recollection, at St. Paul Inside the Walls: The Catholic Center for Evangelization at Bayley-Ellard, Madison, NJ, on February 1, 2017. Monsignor McCarren also celebrated Confession at this day of recollection.


- Conference, for Little Sisters of the Poor and nursing home residents, at Jeanne Jugan Residence, Newark, DE, on April 8, 2017.

  - Served as Mass celebrant and homilist at the Delbarton Kairos Retreat, at the Archdiocesan Youth Center, Kearny, NJ, on January 14, 2017.

  - Celebrated Confession at Delbarton’s junior class day of recollection, at St. Paul Inside the Walls: The Catholic Center for Evangelization at Bayley-Ellard, Madison, NJ, on February 22, 2017.

  - Celebrated Confession at the Mothers’ Retreat for parishioners of Immaculate Conception Parish, Somerville, NJ, at St. Francis Retreat House, Easton, PA, on February 25, 2017.

  - Served as censor librorum for the Paulist Press Ordo 2018, to be distributed to thousands of Catholic churches and chapels throughout the United States. Monsignor McCarren submitted his work in this role in March 2017.
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:

- Presented the following:
  - “Accompanying the Wounded: The Vocations of Edith Stein and Dorothy Day.” Lecture, as part of the conference Full, Conscious and Active: Lay Participation in the Church’s Dialogue with the World, at The Lay Centre at Foyer Unitas, Rome, Italy, on July 8, 2016.
  - Dorothy Day and the Year of Mercy. Staff Day of Recollection, for Catholic Distance University, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC, on October 12, 2016.
• “Edith Stein’s Spirituality of the Christian Woman.” Guest lecture for Dr. Nancy Enright’s undergraduate-level course CORE 3746/CAST 3940: Catholic Classics and Interiority, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on December 6, 2016.

• “Carmelite Spirituality and the Diocesan Priest.” Presentation, for Immaculate Conception Seminary’s 2nd Theology class, as part of the Formation Program for seminarians of Immaculate Conception Seminary, at Immaculate Conception Seminary, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on February 24, 2017.

• “Marian Spirituality and the Carmelite Saints.” Morning of Recollection, for the Cloistered Carmelite Sisters, in Barrington, RI, on March 29, 2017.

• The Conversion and Compassion of Dorothy Day. Lenten Day of Prayer, at St. Mary Parish, Manahawkin, NJ, on April 8, 2017.

• “Mary, the First Evangelist.” Presentation, as part of the day-long final retreat for the Catholic Evangelization Program, held at St. Joseph’s Shrine, Stirling, NJ, on April 29, 2017.

• “The Life and Spirituality of St. Edith Stein.” Spiritual Conferences, for the Sisters for Life, at their Motherhouse in Suffern, NY, on May 4, 2017.

• Live Q&A sessions on Facebook for those considering taking a graduate theology course at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology. Topics addressed included course offerings and application requirements. Participants in the following sessions had the opportunity to ask questions about ICSST’s graduate theology course offerings in real time, from the location of their choice:

  • Session for those considering taking a graduate theology course in Summer 2017. ICSST hosted this webinar on June 8, 2017.
• Session for those considering taking a graduate theology course in Fall 2017. ICSST hosted this webinar on June 28, 2017.

• Session for those considering applying for the graduate Certificate in Catholic Evangelization program for Fall 2017. ICSST hosted this webinar on July 26, 2017.

  o Delivered a presentation to Archdiocesan transitional deacons, as part of their pre-ordination retreat, at St. Mary’s Abbey, Morristown, NJ, on May 22, 2017.

  o Led a three-day Archdiocesan Permanent Diaconate Retreat, for candidates for the Permanent Diaconate, at St. Mary’s Abbey, Morristown, NJ, from June 23-25, 2017.

❖ Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Moral Theology, presented the following:

  o “Returning to our Roots: on Being a Catholic University in an Age of Mercy.” Presentation for the Provost and Deans of Seton Hall University at the annual Deans’ Retreat, at Hilton, Short Hills, NJ, on August 23, 2016.

  o “Tolerance: Truth and Moral Relativism.” Morning of the “Staff Development Day” for Rutgers University Catholic Student Association staff, at the Catholic Center at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, on November 29, 2016.

  o “Virtues of Christian Life.” Lectures, for the Missionaries of Charity, Plainfield, NJ, on the following dates not previously reported:

    ▪ February 14, 2017.

    ▪ March 14, 2017.

    ▪ April 4, 2017.

    ▪ May 9, 2017.
May 16, 2017.

- “How to Make Christian Decisions.” Webinar, both live and recorded, advertising Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology’s graduate theology Summer course Christian Decision-Making, at ICSST, on May 8, 2017. This was the first in a series of webinars offered by ICSST for the wider Church and community. This webinar had at least 38 registrants, and 20 of those followed the webinar live.

- Reverend John J. Cryan, K.H.S., M.Div., Director of Pastoral Formation:
  - Participated in collaboration with the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis, MN, concerning the ongoing formation and education of the presbyterate, from October 25-27, 2016.
  - Presented at a retreat for priests ordained in May 2016, held at San Alfonso Retreat House, Long Branch, NJ, from November 28-30, 2016.

- Gregory Y. Glazov, D.Phil. (Oxon.), Professor of Biblical Studies, presented the following:
  - RCIA presentations for St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Summit, NJ:
  - “The Trinity and Russian Icons.” Retreat, for Seton Hall University Campus Ministry, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on November 9, 2016.

o “Jesus and the Suffering Servant.” Lecture, for the religious movement Spiritual Family The Work, at Holy Family Parish, NYC, on May 6, 2017.

❖ Reverend Pablo T. Gadenz, S.S.L., S.T.D., Associate Professor of Biblical Studies:

o As Censor Librorum for the Nihil Obstat and Archbishop Myers’s Imprimatur, completed a theological evaluation of a Spanish language book Sean Mis Testigos (RENEW International), at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on December 12, 2016 (date of Nihil Obstat).

o Presented “Overview of the Gospel of Matthew.” Lecture and Q&A on the Gospel of Matthew, for Seton Hall University faculty teaching the Journey of Transformation Core course, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on January 26, 2017.

o As a consultant, participated in a meeting of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Subcommittee for the Translation of Scripture Text, in Indianapolis, IN, on June 14, 2017.

o Served as homilist and speaker at Living Sacrifice: The Priesthood in Scripture, conference and retreat for priests, sponsored by the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology, and held at Oglebay Conference Center, Wheeling, WV, from July 10-13, 2017. Father Gadenz served as the main celebrant and homilist at three Masses and gave three Holy Hour conferences, on July 11, 12 and 13, 2017. More than 200 priests from across the US and Canada were in attendance.
Preached nine conferences—“Biblical Meditations on Priestly Life and Ministry”—to the seminarians of the Diocese of Trenton for their annual summer retreat, at Loyola Jesuit Center, Morristown, NJ, from July 24-28, 2017.

- **Reverend William M. McDonald III, S.T.L.,** Associate Spiritual Director, Director of Liturgy, and Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology, presented the following:
  - “Hope-filled Vision.” Afternoon of recollection for priests of the Archdiocese of Newark, in Immaculate Conception Seminary’s Chapel of Christ the Good Shepherd, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on December 15, 2016.

- **Reverend Christopher M. Ciccarino, K.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 Spring 2017 section of the Seton Hall University course ARTH 3101: _Art and St. Peter’s_, on January 30, 2017.
  - Served as a member of the targeted visitation team of the Association of Theological Schools that visited Mount St. Mary’s Seminary, Emmitsburg, MD, from March 20-22, 2017. In this role, Father Ciccarino assisted in the preparation of the visit and in the composition of the final report.

- **Víctor Velarde-Mayol, M.D., Ph.D.,** Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, presented two lectures on the topic of the spiritual value of the virtue of detachment from possessions and the virtue of humility in order to obtain interior life, for Seton Hall
University Campus Ministry’s RCIA retreat, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on February 18, 2017.

❖ **Reverend Lawrence B. Porter, K.H.S., Ph.D.,** Professor of Systematic Theology and Director, Turro Seminary Library, preached a sermon conference on “St. Joseph the Worker,” at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, West Orange, NJ, on March 16, 2017.


❖ **Reverend James P. Platania, S.S.L.,** Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies:
  
  o Delivered the invocation at the following:
    
    ▪ Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology graduate hooding and awards ceremony, at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, NJ, on May 10, 2017.
    
    ▪ Stillman School of Business graduate commencement and hooding ceremony, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on May 12, 2017.
  
  
  o Delivered an address focusing on faith and reason in relationship to a classical education, at the high school commencement exercises of *Sedes Sapientiae* School, Chatham, NJ, on June 3, 2017.
Presented “Creation – Un-Creation – Re-Creation: The Biblical Theme of Renewal in God.” Webinar, sponsored by Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, on June 12, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. In this webinar, Father Platania’s teaching helped participants to:

- Learn about the biblical account of creation as provided in the first chapters of the Bible (Genesis 1:1-2:4a).
- See how the theme of creation is modified by the great narrative of the flood (Genesis 6:5-9:17) and the Crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 14:1-15:21).
- Understand the righteousness of the biblical hero Noah and how he is presented in the New Testament.
- Explore how Jesus recreates us in the Church.

- Reverend Hong-Ray Cho, S.T.L., Ph.D., Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies and Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology, led a retreat on the Spirituality of Louis-Marie Grignion De Montfort, at St. Joseph Parish, Demarest, NJ, on May 14, 2017.

- Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Undergraduate Theology, served as an academic marshall at Seton Hall University’s Undergraduate Commencement, at PNC Bank Arts Center, Holmdel, NJ, on May 15, 2017.

- Joseph P. Rice, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, served as a faculty marshall at Seton Hall University’s Undergraduate Commencement, at PNC Bank Arts Center, Holmdel, NJ, on May 15, 2017.
Publications

❖ **Eric M. Johnston, Ph.D.,** Associate Professor of Undergraduate Theology, continues to write for his website: “The Catholic Spiritual Life,” at [http://professorjohnston.com/](http://professorjohnston.com/).

Over the past six months, the website has averaged more than 2,100 visits per month, a 400 visit per month increase over the previous year. In addition to those visits, 92 subscribers have requested to receive every post via email, 187 people follow the site on Facebook, and additional people follow the site through rss feeds. Over the past year, the website featured approximately 60 posts, of approximately 800 words each.


❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.,** Associate Professor of Undergraduate Theology, published the following:


- Two journal articles:
Three book reviews:


Conferences, Meetings, and Symposia

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, participated in the following:

- Strategic planning conferences of alumni of The Lay Centre at Foyer Unitas, Rome, Italy, from July 3-5, 2016.
Full, Conscious and Active: Lay Participation in the Church’s Dialogue with the World, four-day conference, in Rome, Italy, from July 6-10, 2016.


Reverend Renato J. Bautista, M.Div., Director of Formation and Director of Seminary Records, participated in the following:

- The Institute for Priestly Formation’s retreat for seminary formators, at Creighton University, Omaha, NE, from July 10-14, 2016.
- The National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors, in Boston, MA, from October 3-5, 2016.

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

- Participated in the annual conference sponsored by the Federation of Seminary Spiritual Directors and Conception Seminary College, at Conception Abbey, Conception, MO, from October 27-29, 2016.
- Participated as one of two respondents in a seminar presented by Reverend Jacques Servais, S.J., for faculty and spiritual directors working at The Institute for Priestly Formation in summer 2017. Sister Gill Goulding, C.J., also served as a respondent. The seminar was sponsored by The Institute for Priestly Formation, at Creighton University, Omaha, NE, on July 11, 2017.

❖ Joseph P. Rice, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, participated in the following:

o New York City Faith and Ecology Seminary Education Conference, sponsored by the Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development, at Union Theological Seminary, NYC, on December 14, 2016. Dr. Rice participated as a member of a discussion work group on Pope Francis’s initiatives in faith and ecology.

o Washington, DC, Faith and Ecology in Graduate Theological Education Conference, sponsored by the Washington Theological Consortium, at The Catholic University of America School of Theology and Religious Studies, Washington, DC, on March 16, 2017. Dr. Rice participated as a member of a discussion work group on the integration of faith and ecology in ethics courses.

❖ Timothy P. Fortin, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Philosophical Theology:


Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Moral Theology:


Reverend Pablo T. Gadenz, S.S.L., S.T.D., Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, facilitated the 2017 Faculty Summer Seminar: *The Message of Matthew*, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, from May 23-25, 2017. The seminar was sponsored by the Center for Catholic Studies and co-sponsored by the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership with support of the Toth/Lonergan Endowed Chair in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, participated in *American Catholicism in the 21st Century: Crossroads, Crisis, or Renewal*, 63rd annual convention sponsored by the College Theology Society, at Salve Regina University, Newport, RI, from June 1-4, 2017.
**Reverend Monsignor Thomas G. Guarino, K.H.S., S.T.D.,** Professor of Systematic Theology, co-chaired a meeting of Evangelicals and Catholics Together (ECT), in New York City on June 5, 2017. ECT is completing a statement on Christian identity that will be published in Fall 2017 in *First Things*, under the title “The Christian Way.”

**Reverend James P. Platania, S.S.L.,** Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies, participated in “Embracing the Call to Seminary Formation: Responding to the Holy Spirit,” Module One of the Certificate in Seminary Formation for Missionary Discipleship program, at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, Boynton Beach, FL, from June 18-24, 2017. The purpose of Module One was to provide participants with a better understanding of the Holy Spirit as primary formator, of cultural influences and formation goals, and of cultivating spiritual fatherhood. Deacon Jim Keating, Ph.D., Director of Theological Formation, Institute for Priestly Formation (at Creighton University), Omaha, NE, and Reverend Brian Welter, M.Div., Vice Rector, Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, IL, presented Module One.

**Off-Campus Course**

**Víctor Velarde-Mayol, M.D., Ph.D.,** Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, taught a two-week seminar on “The Theory of Objects,” for University Complutense of Madrid, Spain, School of Philosophy, during July 2016.

**Other Scholarly and Professional Activity**

**Reverend Monsignor Gerard H. McCarren, S.T.D.,** Associate Professor of Systematic Theology and Spiritual Director, served as outside examiner/reader for a doctoral

❖ **Jeffrey L. Morrow, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Undergraduate Theology, became a blind reviewer for the scholarly journal *Hobbes Studies*, and refereed an article submission on July 14, 2017.

❖ **Ellen R. Scully, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Undergraduate Theology, as an appointed *Censor Librorum* for the Archdiocese of Newark, reviewed *Landings 2* (Sessions 1-6) (Paulist Press), in July 2017.