



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SEMINARY
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

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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.

Reaccreditation

- ❖ On February 4, 2025, the Board of Commissioners of the Association of Theological Schools voted to reaffirm Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology's accreditation for the full period of ten years. We are grateful to all who contributed to the long process of ICSST's self-study and thankful to all who made the visit of September 16 to 19, 2024, as well as the three visits the previous week to our off-campus diaconal sites, run smoothly. We give thanks to the Holy Trinity for this affirmation of the health of Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology.

Appointment

- ❖ **Donna L. Orsuto, S.T.D.**, Co-Founder and Senior Advisor to The Lay Centre at Foyer Unitas (Rome, Italy), Professor of Spirituality at The Pontifical Gregorian University (Rome, Italy), and Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology at ICSST, has been appointed by Pope

Francis as a member of the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. Members of the dicasteries of the Roman Curia are involved in a variety of administrative, pastoral, and doctrinal responsibilities, mostly in an advisory role. They usually have a five-year term and help Vatican offices to implement the Pope's vision for the universal Church by carrying out functions related to their own fields of expertise. The Holy See announced Dr. Orsuto's appointment on January 11, 2025. Additional information can be found [here](#). The Lay Centre at Foyer Unitas in Rome is a Roman Catholic organization dedicated to the formation of the laity and to the promotion of the lay vocation in the Church and in the world. It also works to promote Christian unity and understanding among religions, organizing opportunities for genuine encounter and sincere dialogue. In 2018, The Lay Centre and Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology formed a partnership for the purpose of providing formation for women and men as they prepare for service in the Church and the larger community.

Publications

- ❖ **Timothy P. Fortin, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Philosophical Theology, published a book: [*On the Nature of Human Sexual Difference: A Symposium*](#). New York City, NY: Springer Publishing, November 2024. Dr. Fortin's book also is available for purchase on [Amazon](#).

- ❖ **Ellen R. Scully, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Undergraduate Theology, published a book: [*Human Salvation in Early Christianity: Exploring the Theology of Physicalist Soteriology*](#). Cambridge University Press, January 2025. For her work on this book, Dr. Scully was nominated in January 2025 for the University of Louisville 2026 Grawemeyer Award in

Religion. This award honors highly significant contributions to religious and spiritual understanding. The purpose of the award (which includes a \$100,000 cash prize) is to honor and publicize annually creative and constructive insights into the relationship between human beings and the divine, and ways in which this relationship may inspire or empower human beings to attain wholeness, integrity, or meaning, either individually or in community.

- ❖ **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Professor and Chair of Moral Theology, published a journal article: [“If You Are Led by the Spirit, You Are Not Under the Law’: *Lex Privata and Veritas Vitae* as a Divine Personal Vocation.”](#) *Nova et Vetera*, English edition, vol. 22., no. 4 (2024): 1297-1318.

- ❖ **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Systematic Theology, published a journal article: [“The Legacy of Ian G. Barbour in Theology and Science.”](#) *Theology and Science* (December 7, 2024).

- ❖ **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*: [“Is Theology Still Queen?”](#) (December 24, 2024).

- ❖ **Reverend W. Jerome Bracken, C.P., Ph.D.**, Associate Professor Emeritus of Moral Theology, as National Chaplain of [CUSA](#), an Apostolate of Persons with Chronic Illness or Disability, published two chaplain’s letters:
 - “As Prophet: Not Our Job to Convince Others but to Practice What We Preach). *The CUSAN* (Winter/Spring 2024): 4-7.

- “Teresa Benedicta: Last Words Heard: ‘Come, We Are Going for Our People.’” *The CUSAN* (Summer/Fall 2024): 3-9.

Media Contribution

- ❖ **Eric M. Johnston, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Undergraduate Theology, participated with Seton Hall University professors **Jon Radwan, Ph.D.**, Director of the Institute for Communication and Religion, and **Nancy Enright, Ph.D.**, Director of the University CORE, in a [podcast discussion of Pope Francis’s recent letter “On the Role of Literature in Formation.”](#) The podcast, which aired on December 12, 2024, underscores the importance of arts and literature in education and spiritual development. It is among the podcasts that Seton Hall University’s Institute for Communication and Religion regularly produces to share scholarly perspectives on how faith traditions contribute to, and are influenced by, contemporary society and culture.

Special Events and Initiatives

- ❖ On November 4, 2024, the Seton Hall University community celebrated the Investiture of **Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly, S.T.L, Ph.D.**, as the 22nd President of Seton Hall University. The day began with Mass in the Bishop Dougherty University Center on the South Orange Campus. **His Eminence Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., D.D.**, served as principal celebrant and homilist, joined by many priests and deacons from near and far, including those from Immaculate Conception Seminary. Later that morning, the Investiture ceremony was held in Walsh Gymnasium. Members of the Immaculate Conception Seminary faculty, administration, and student body played various roles in the Investiture festivities.

Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D., Associate Professor and Chair of Systematic Theology, served as co-chair of the Investiture Committee, and was joined on the committee by ICSST colleagues **Reverend Monsignor Gerard H. McCarren, S.T.D.**, Rector/Dean, and Associate Professor of Systematic Theology; **John D. Nowik, M.M.**, Director of Music, Organist, and Adjunct Professor of Liturgy and Music; **Reverend Roberto Ortiz, S.T.L., S.T.D. (Cand.)**, Director of Liturgy, and Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology; and **Reverend Monsignor C. Anthony Ziccardi, S.S.L, S.T.D.**, ICSST's Coordinator of Undergraduate Admissions and Retention, and Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies. Among the ICSST faculty, administration, and student participants in the Investiture ceremony procession were **Reverend Roberto Ortiz, S.T.L., S.T.D. (Cand.)**, who served as bearer of the Sacred Scriptures; **Reverend Mr. Carlos Penagos, B.A. '21**, a transitional deacon of Immaculate Conception Seminary, who served as a student representative; and **Eilish R. Harrington, B.A. '08**, Institutional Planning and Communications Analyst, who was among the bagpipers of St. Columcille United Gaelic Pipe Band who led the dais party in the processional and the recessional. Among the ICSST faculty, administration, and students who played roles in the Investiture ceremony itself were **Dianne M. Traflet, J.D. '88, S.T.D.**, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Administration, and Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, who served as Master of Ceremonies; **James Prumos, B.S. '17**, President of the Seminary Council, who presented the Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology Council Constitution and Bylaws; **Reverend Mr. Carlos Penagos, B.A. '21**, who served as representative of graduate students, presenting the Graduate Catalogue; **Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology, and Director of the Seton Hall University Center for Catholic Studies, who as an alumnus of The University of Notre Dame, served as Notre Dame's delegate to the Investiture; and **Justin M. Anderson, Ph.D.**, Professor and

Chair of Moral Theology, who presented the Faculty Guide of Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology. At the Investiture luncheon in Bethany Hall that afternoon, **Reverend Monsignor Gerard H. McCarren, S.T.D.**, offered the benediction.

- ❖ As previously reported, in 2023, Immaculate Conception Seminary (ICSST) received a \$1.25 million grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc., to support the establishment of the Preaching as Hospitality Formation Program, a five-year, multi-faceted effort that seeks to form preachers who will grow in their self-confidence as they prayerfully encounter God in Scripture and experience the power of Christian hospitality in inviting, welcoming, and sharing the Word of God. **Reverend Dominic Ciriaco, D.Min.**, was appointed Director of ICSST's Preaching as Hospitality Formation Program and began his work in this role on September 3, 2024. In the Fall 2024 semester, implementation of the grant officially commenced. Thus far, through this program's *Many Faces of Hospitality* series, ICSST has sponsored two events at Immaculate Conception Seminary for the Seton Hall University and broader communities:
 - An Evening of Reflection on St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, on November 13, 2024. This event included Evening Prayer in the Seminary's Chapel of Christ the Good Shepherd, dinner in the Seminary refectory, and a reflection by Father Ciriaco on Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, focusing on the hospitality she showed to the poor and to immigrants, as illustrated through passages from her diary which were read aloud by seminarians. Thirty-seven people attended.
 - An Evening of Reflection on St. Benedict and the Benedictine Understanding of Hospitality and Preaching, on February 26, 2025. This event included Evening Prayer in the Seminary's Chapel of Christ the Good Shepherd, dinner in the Seminary refectory, and reflections by **Right Reverend Augustine Curley, O.S.B.**, Abbot of Newark Abbey, and

- Sister Marlene Milasus, O.S.B.**, of St. Walburga Monastery, Elizabeth, NJ. Fifty-five people attended.
- ❖ On November 20, 2024, Immaculate Conception Seminary continued its tradition of hosting *Fratres in Unum*, a late afternoon and early evening including prayer, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, conversation, and a shared meal, for recently ordained priest alumni who were ICS residents. *Fratres in Unum* was initiated by **Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly, S.T.L., Ph.D.**, Seton Hall University President and former Rector/Dean of Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, more than a decade ago. The goal of *Fratres in Unum* is to provide support for priests who have been serving in parishes for up to about eight years by bringing them together at the Seminary. **Reverend Mariusz Eugene R. Koch, C.F.R., M.Div., M.A.**, Spiritual Director, convened the November 20 session and remained present with the group. **Reverend Monsignor Joseph R. Chapel, S.T.D.**, Associate Spiritual Director, also was present with the group. Approximately eight priests attended this session.

 - ❖ Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, together with Seton Hall University's Center for Catholic Studies, CORE Curriculum, and Department and Program in Catholic Studies, sponsored "Nature, Grace, and Secular Culture," a presentation by **Reverend Christian C. Irdi, S.T.D.**, a priest of the Archdiocese of Perth, Australia. Father Irdi delivered his presentation at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on November 21, 2024. Approximately 50 people attended. **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Systematic Theology, served as event organizer. In his talk, Father Irdi engaged John Milbank, Joseph Ratzinger, and their critics in a dialogue on secularization and

its pastoral impact on the universal Church today. This talk compared each author's approach to the nature-grace question, and how this impacts their respective approaches to secular culture. By making this comparison, new insights can be gained in meeting the challenge that secular culture presents to the mission of the Church.

- ❖ Twenty-four members of the ICSST administration and staff gathered for a retreat day facilitated by **Reverend Thomas P. Shubeck, Ph.D.**, Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology, at Immaculate Conception Seminary, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on December 13, 2024. The day began with Mass celebrated by **Reverend Robert K. Suszko, M.B.A., M.Div.**, Vice Rector and Business Manager. Father Shubeck served as homilist. The day continued with conferences given by Father Shubeck on Byzantine iconography with a focus on preparation for the Christmas season, time for private reflection, and time together for prayer and lunch.

- ❖ Recent Strategic Diaconate Initiatives under ICSST's [*The 4:12 Pathway for Pastoral Leadership*](#) project, funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, have included:
 - Digital Resource Hub Database

In 2024, the design of a digital resource hub database (Digital Hub) began, with the goal of sharing best practice information and diaconate competencies in collaboration with our diocesan partners. The Digital Hub, prepared in collaboration with the Seton Hall University Instructional Design Team, will be a central online location for information sharing, communication, and education.

- [New Orleans Video Project](#)

Deacon Andrew E. Saunders, M.A. '08, Co-Director, *4:12 Pathway for Pastoral Leadership* Grant, along with **Raymond Mancison**, an ICSST graduate student, communications consultant, and Catholic entrepreneur, traveled to New Orleans, LA, from January 28 to 31, 2025, to collaborate with **Deacon Ray Duplechain**, Director of the Diaconate for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The four-day visit focused on filming pieces on the mission, identity, and leadership of the diaconate, against the backdrop of the National World War II Museum, the Basilica of St. Stephen, and the Ursuline Convent. The WWII Museum is of particular interest in this project, as the seeds of the revival of the diaconate were planted in the German concentration camp Dachau during WWII. The material this team produces will be included in the Digital Hub and will serve as the basis for programs offered by ICSST's Center for Diaconal Formation.

- Conference in Rome: *Deacons: Joyful Witnesses of Hope*

Deacon Saunders spent time in Rome, Italy, from February 16 to 28, 2025, attending the International Diaconate Centre study conference as part of the worldwide Jubilee Year, *Pilgrims of Hope*, called by Pope Francis. The gathering also included a special Jubilee of Deacons celebration, concluding with ordinations to the diaconate. After the conference, Deacon Saunders remained in Rome studying the leadership and pastoral ministry of Pope St. Gregory the Great, a deacon who became pope in the sixth century and was known for his leadership and pastoral homilies. Additionally, Deacon Saunders accepted an invitation to attend an evening dialogue on the permanent diaconate, held at the Lay Centre on February 26, 2025. The material will become part of a series of Digital Hub modules on the leadership of saintly deacons and will be included as part of ICSST's Certificate in Pastoral Leadership.

❖ ICSST's Center for Diaconal Formation, under the new leadership of **Deacon Richard Ferreira, M.A. '22, M.S.W.**, Director, has continued to enroll new cohorts of students for Spring and Fall 2025 (Diocese of Metuchen, Diocese of Paterson, and Diocese of Trenton). It is projected that in Fall 2025, the Center will have 128 men in formation, representing a total of ten cohorts from our four sending (arch-)dioceses. The Center has reached new highs with regard to the number of men enrolled and the number of new cohorts that have entered.

Antonio Rios, Coordinator of Daily Operations of the Center for Diaconal Formation, has been instrumental in updating the Center's student and alumni database to capture data points necessary for the Center's regular production of various reports for bodies such as the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ICSST's accreditor), the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), and ICSST's Board of Overseers.

Deacon Richard Ferreira, M.A. '22, M.S.W., developed an interactive instructional presentation, "How to Write an Essay Utilizing the Chicago Style of Writing," delivered in Spanish for Cohort 7 of the Diocese of Metuchen, in January 2025. More than 16 men attended. Deacon Ferreira recognized the need for such a workshop as a means to provide support for those diaconal students who enter the program with a high school diploma or GED as their highest level of education. This workshop will be offered to all sending (arch-)dioceses that enroll new Spanish-language cohorts in which the average education level of students is high school diploma or GED.

❖ **Jamie Boulding, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, is facilitating the Theology and Science Reading Group, a new monthly group for Seton Hall faculty and

graduate students to discuss foundational questions at the intersection of theology and science. In Spring 2025, the group is discussing selections from Peter Harrison's [*Some New World*](#) (Cambridge University Press, 2024). The group's first meeting, on January 30, 2025, included 11 attendees from a range of disciplinary perspectives across the University community, including Theology, Physics, Sociology, Economics, and the CORE.

- ❖ ICSST sponsored *Encountering Jesus and Paul through Jewish Practice and Belief*, a morning of formation for those preparing to preach, to help them to present accurately the Jewishness of Jesus and Paul. This morning of formation was presented by distinguished scholar **Amy-Jill Levine, Ph.D.**, at Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ, on February 7, 2025. Primarily for ICSST faculty, seminarians and diaconal students, this event was open to guests. Seventy-five people attended. An author of multiple books, Dr. Levine is Rabbi Stanley M. Kessler Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies, Hartford International University for Religion and Peace, and University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies and Mary Jane Werthan Professor of Jewish Studies Emerita, Vanderbilt. Dr. Levine was the first Jew to teach New Testament at Rome's Pontifical Biblical Institute. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a recipient of the Seelisberg Prize for Jewish-Christian Relations and the H. Walter Award for Reconciliation and Interfaith Cooperation from the Archbishop of Canterbury. "An unorthodox member of an Orthodox synagogue," as she describes herself, Dr. Levine works to counter harmful exegesis.

Mission and Service

- ❖ **Reverend Mariusz Eugene R. Koch, C.F.R., M.Div., M.A.**, Spiritual Director:
 - Preached a homily on the theme “With the Heart of Jesus” at the [Mass of Installation for Reverend Jerzy Zaslona](#), Pastor of Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Wallington, NJ, on November 3, 2024. Several hundred people attended the Mass.
 - Delivered a talk on “The Courage of Father Walter Ciszek” to a group of approximately 25 cadets, at the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY, on November 18, 2024.
 - Facilitated an Advent Morning of Recollection for the S.M.A. Fathers in Tenafly, NJ, on December 12, 2024. Father Koch delivered two talks, celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and celebrated Mass. Approximately 12 priests attended.
 - Facilitated a Christmas season retreat for the Poor Clare Sisters, at Our Lady of Solitude Monastery, Phoenix, AZ, from January 5 to 10, 2025. In addition to celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Father Koch celebrated daily Mass, offering a reflection at each Mass. Six Sisters attended the retreat.
 - Served at a retreat for the Jubilee Year of Hope, on the theme *Pilgrimage of Hope*, for youth leaders of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Father Koch celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Mass and delivered several talks. The retreat was held at the Daylesford Abbey, Paoli, PA, from January 24 to 25, 2025. Approximately 40 people attended.
 - Facilitated an Evening of Healing for those grieving the loss of a child, at St. Vincent Martyr Parish, Madison, NJ, on January 27, 2025. The evening included a holy hour, Eucharistic adoration, celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and a talk by Father Koch on post-abortion healing. Approximately 20 people attended.

- Facilitated a morning retreat for the Benedictine oblates of Newark Abbey, on February 8, 2025. Father Koch celebrated Mass and delivered a talk on “Dealing with Fear in Fearful Times.” Approximately 25 oblates attended.
 - Facilitated a retreat on the theme *Coming away with Jesus*, for priests of the Archdiocese of Miami, FL, from February 10 to 14, 2025. The retreat was held at Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center, North Palm Beach, FL. Father Koch served as celebrant and homilist at daily Mass, celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation, held individual meetings with retreatants, presided at a holy hour each evening, and presented two conferences per day. Approximately 50 priests attended.
- ❖ The [Bernard J. Lonergan Institute](#) at Seton Hall University hosted its 2024 Fall Lonergan Lecture, “Theology and Science: Preserving the Dialogue,” on November 6, 2024. **Ligita Ryliškytė, S.J.E., Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology at Boston College, presented on four ways to view the relationship between theology and science: theology or science, theology from science, theology of science, and theology and science. In response, **Jamie Boulding, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, sketched a vision of “theology of science” that can learn from the long-established academic professions of philosophy of science and history of science. More than 20 students and faculty members attended the event, which concluded with audience questions on a range of issues from systematic terminology to pastoral next steps.
- ❖ **Reverend Monsignor Thomas G. Guarino, K.H.S., S.T.D.**, Professor Emeritus of Systematic Theology, delivered a talk, “The Core Principles of a Catholic University,” to the

new faculty of Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT, on November 12, 2024. Approximately 30 people attended.

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

- Served as event organizer for the annual Gold Mass and Lunch honoring the relationship between the sciences and the Catholic Faith. The event was sponsored by the Seton Hall University chapter of the [Society of Catholic Scientists](#) in collaboration with SHU Campus Ministry and was held on the feast day of St. Albert the Great, patron saint of scientists, November 15, 2024. Mass was celebrated in the University's Chapel of the Immaculate Conception and was followed by lunch in the Campus Ministry Lounge in Boland Hall. Approximately 50 people attended.
- Served as a panelist at a CORE II faculty development workshop titled *The Passion Narratives of Saints Perpetua, Felicity, and Their Fellow Martyrs*, sponsored by the Seton Hall University CORE and conducted online via Microsoft Teams, on January 24, 2025. The title of Father Laracy's presentation was "The Witness of Perpetua and Felicity: Fundamental Theological Perspectives." Eleven people attended.

❖ **Reverend Monsignor C. Anthony Ziccardi, S.S.L, S.T.D.**, ICSST's Coordinator for Undergraduate Admissions and Retention, and Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies, delivered to Mass lectors "Discharging the Ministry of the Word, Human and Divine," a one-hour presentation concerning their ministry. This presentation was part of a lectors' workshop sponsored by the Office of Divine Worship of the Archdiocese of Newark and

conducted at the Archdiocesan Center, Newark, NJ, on November 16, 2024. Thirty-eight people attended.

- ❖ **Eric M. Johnston, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Undergraduate Theology, served as a moderator of a high school debate between Koinonia Academy and HEART Academy, on the privatization of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The debate was held at Koinonia Academy, Plainfield, NJ, on November 22, 2024. Approximately 100 people attended.

- ❖ **Reverend Thomas P. Shubeck, Ph.D.**, Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology, facilitated the annual winter retreat for seminarians in the propaedeutic year program of St. Joseph's Seminary (Dunwoodie) in New York. The men are in formation for the Archdioceses of Newark and New York and the Dioceses of Camden, Bridgeport, and Rockville Centre. The retreat was held at the Immaculate Conception Retreat Center, Huntington, NY, from January 13 to 17, 2025, and included the celebration of the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom at St. Andrew Byzantine Catholic Church, Westbury, New York. Nine seminarians attended.

- ❖ **Timothy P. Fortin, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Philosophical Theology, delivered two online presentations for Men of St. Joseph, an online, Catholic men's group that meets biweekly. Approximately 20 men attended each presentation:
 - "The Law of the Gift: The Nature of Man," on January 28, 2025.
 - "The Law of the Gift: Masculinity as Gift," on February 11, 2025.

Conferences, Meetings, Panel Discussions, and Symposia

- ❖ **Patrick R. Manning, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology, and Director of the Seton Hall University Center for Catholic Studies, attended the following:
 - College Theology Society Annual Meeting, on the theme *Vulnerability and Flourishing*, at Regis University, Denver, CO, from May 30 to June 2, 2024.
 - Institute on the Catechism Convocation, *Evangelizing Catechesis: From Information to Transformation*, in Mundelein, IL, from June 17 to 20, 2024.

- ❖ **Timothy P. Fortin, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Philosophical Theology, presented “Culture and the Making of Woman and Man.” Invited paper, at the [2024 Annual American Catholic Philosophical Association Meeting: *Male and Female He Created Them*](#), sponsored by Loyola University of Chicago, and held at InterContinental Chicago Magnificent Mile, Chicago, IL, from November 14 to 17, 2024. Dr. Fortin presented his paper on November 16, 2024. Approximately 30 people attended Dr. Fortin’s presentation.

- ❖ **Gregory Y. Glazov, D.Phil. (Oxon.)**, Professor and Chair of Biblical Studies, served as a panel discussant for the session *The Hebrew Bible / Old Testament in Russian Thought and Literature* at the Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Convention, held in Boston, MA, from November 21 to 24, 2024. Approximately 30 people attended the panel discussion, which was held on November 24, 2024.

Other Scholarly and Professional Activity

- ❖ **Joseph P. Rice, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology, is serving on the Board of Directors of the Marine Corps Tankers Association, an elite, close knit group who have earned a highly respected reputation within the brotherhood and history of the United States Marine Corps. To be eligible for membership in the association, one must be an honorably discharged or retired Marine, on active duty, or a member of the Marine reserve. This person must have served within a Marine Tank Battalion or been attached to any Marine Tank Unit in any support function. Dr. Rice's responsibilities as a member of the Board of Directors include fundraising, as well as administration of the scholarship fund for children of Marine veterans of tanks and of other combat arms veterans who have served with Marine Corps tank units. Dr. Rice recently became co-chair of the scholarship committee.

- ❖ **Gregory Y. Glazov, D.Phil. (Oxon.)**, Professor and Chair of Biblical Studies, in November 2024, became a research scholar of the Northwestern University Research Initiative in Russian Philosophy, Literature, and Religious Thought.

- ❖ **Reverend Joseph R. Laracy, S.T.D.**, Associate Professor and Chair of Systematic Theology:
 - Served as a peer reviewer for [*Annales Theologici*](#), on November 27, 2024.
 - Served as a peer reviewer for [*Open Journal of Humanities*](#), on December 4, 2024.
 - Served as a peer reviewer for [*AI and Ethics*](#), on December 9, 2024.

- ❖ **Reverend Monsignor Thomas G. Guarino, K.H.S., S.T.D.**, Professor Emeritus of Systematic Theology, co-chaired a meeting of the bilateral ecumenical initiative Evangelicals and Catholics Together (ECT), in New York City, on December 2, 2024. ECT is completing a statement titled “The Marks of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic.”

- ❖ **Reverend Monsignor C. Anthony Ziccardi, S.S.L, S.T.D.**, ICSST’s Coordinator of Undergraduate Admissions and Retention, and Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies, in January 2025, began service as an Editorial Review Board member for *Biblical Theology Bulletin*. In this role, Monsignor Ziccardi will blind peer review at least one article per quarter and submit to the authors and general editor his assessments. In January 2025, Monsignor Ziccardi peer reviewed one article for publication.