



CENTER FOR
CATHOLIC STUDIES

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

25 YEARS OF LIVING, SHARING, AND DEEPENING
CATHOLIC IDENTITY AT SETON HALL



ANNIVERSARY
EDITION
25

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2022

FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Gregory P. Floyd, PhD

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Next 25 Years

Dear Friends,

Greetings during this season of Advent whose patient discipline invites us to learn again to wonder. I'm reminded at this time each year of a poem I happened upon a number of years ago and have not forgotten. It is by the Irish poet Aidan Kavanagh and is titled, fittingly, "Advent." I'd like to share a bit from the beginning:

*We have tested and tasted too much, lover—
Through a chink too wide there comes in no wonder.
But here in the Advent-darkened room
Where the dry black bread and the sugarless tea
Of penance will charm back the luxury
Of a child's soul...
And the newness that was in every stale thing
When we looked at it as children: the spirit-shocking
Wonder in a black slanting Ulster hill
Or the prophetic astonishment in the tedious talking
Of an old fool will awake for us and bring
You and me to the yard gate to watch the whins
And the bog-holes, cart-tracks, old stables where Time begins.*

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FROM THE DIRECTOR
... continued from cover

The image of the “Advent-darkened room” strikes me anew each time and the invitation to think of Advent as a time set aside to recover our capacity for wonder, and to rediscover the “prophetic astonishment” of a child. Kavanagh suggests that Advent does not only prepare us for the Christmas season, but also to see each season— of the liturgical calendar, of the year, of life— as a Christmas. The light of Incarnation allows us in every moment to see again “the newness that was in every stale thing.” And by its light we come to see and experience the “spirit-shocking wonder” of all things made new in the light of the Christ-child.

Learning to see the wonder anew at ordinary life has been a theme for us over this 25th year at Seton Hall. We began a new program called “Agape Latte” that brings faculty and students together to share stories of faith, stories of encountering God in the joys and the difficulties of daily life. It has been a healthy reminder that sometimes we ourselves are the “stale” or “tedious” thing that we no longer can see the wonder in. Yet, the mystery of Christmas reminds us that God enters into the most ordinary and forgettable of places— our very souls!

This idea is captured powerfully in the short “Christmas Refrain” by St. John of the Cross. I offer it is a small gift and sincere prayer for the Holy Days to come:

*If you want, the Virgin will come walking down the road
pregnant with the holy, and say,
“I need shelter for the night,
please take me inside your heart, my time is so close.”
Then, under the roof of your soul,
you will witness the sublime intimacy,
the divine, the Christ, taking birth forever,
as she grasps your hand for help,
for each of us is the midwife of God, each of us.
Yes there, under the dome of your being
does creation come into existence eternally,
through your womb, dear pilgrim—
the sacred womb of your soul,
as God grasps our arms for help:
for each of us is his beloved servant, never far.
If you want, the Virgin will come walking down the street
pregnant with Light and sing.*

A fruitful Advent, A blessed Christmas
and A very Happy New Year to all,

Gregory P. Floyd, PhD
Director, Center for Catholic Studies



25
YEARS
OF

CATHOLIC STUDIES

Looking back over the past 25 years, we are filled with a spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving for the hard work and dedicated support of so many people who laid the foundation for the Center for Catholic Studies at Seton Hall University.

Looking ahead, we are filled with hope and encouragement that the many good works, programs, and initiatives will continue as new and exciting opportunities emerge.

This commemorative issue of our annual newsletter will highlight the past and present while we introduce you to the very exciting plans we have at the Center.

THE HISTORY OF CATHOLIC STUDIES AT SHU

The first Center for Catholic Studies is founded at University of St. Thomas, MN, inaugurating the Catholic Studies movement in the United States

Msgr. Liddy founds the Center for Catholic Studies at Seton Hall University



G.K. Chesterton Institute moves to Seton Hall University under the direction of Fr. Ian Boyd



A major in Catholic Studies is offered

Center hosts inaugural Colloquium on Science and Religion (again in 10, 11, 12)

Institute on Work moves to CCS as the Micah Institute



First Faculty Retreat held abroad (again in 09, 11, 13, & 15)



The Program of Catholic Studies moves to the College of Arts and Sciences under Dr. Ines Murzaku

Center welcomes its first Toth Lonergan Endowed Professor, Dr. Mark Miller



Msgr. Liddy retires as Director of the Center for Catholic Studies, Dr. Gregory Floyd named his successor

The Center becomes a founding member of the National Consortium for Catholic Studies



1993

1996



Seton Hall President Msgr. Robert Sheeran names Msgr. Richard Liddy as Seton Hall's Professor of Catholic Thought and Culture

1997

1998



A minor in Catholic Studies is offered and student study abroad trips are created

1999

The center launches the annual Faculty Summer Seminar to support and deepen understanding of Catholic identity and mission



2003

2005

2006



Lonergan Institute is founded
Micah Institute holds first Executive Retreat Program

2008

2009

Lonergan Institute publishes the first issue of *The Lonergan Review*
Micah Institute hosts its first Economic Summit



2012

2013



Praxis Program of Advanced Seminar on Mission Established in collaboration with the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership



Program of Catholic Studies publishes *Arcadia*, a student journal for Faith and Culture

2017

2020

2022

The Center for Catholic Studies receives a large grant from the Porticus Foundation to promote faculty development in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition

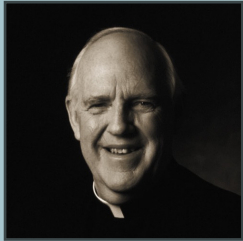


Center establishes a digital presence on social media (@shucatholicstudies) and creates *Integratio*, an online publication of the Center for Catholic Studies

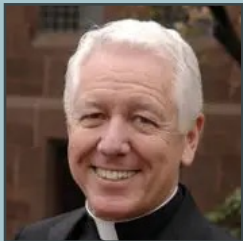
25
YEARS

THANK YOU

TO THOSE WHO MADE IT ALL POSSIBLE



MSGR. RICHARD M. LIDDY was appointed Professor of Catholic Thought and Culture in May of 1996. Seeing the need to enhance Seton Hall's Catholic Identity, he founded the Center for Catholic Studies in 1997 and served as its director until his retirement in 2020. Under his leadership, the Center created undergraduate programs in Catholic Studies, created the Toth Lonergan Endowed Chair, launched numerous study abroad courses, and provided a quarter century of faculty development programs all rooted in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.



MSGR. ROBERT SHEERAN is the president emeritus of Seton Hall University, having served in this position for 15 years from 1995-2010. Under his leadership, Catholic Identity at Seton Hall was paramount to the life of the university. With his support, The Center for Catholic Studies was founded to help foster conversation and dialogue within the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.



FR. IAN BOYD is president emeritus and founding editor of the *Chesterton Review*. In 1974 Fr. Boyd founded the journal and was invited by Msgr. Sheeran to bring the Chesterton Institute and the *Chesterton Review* to Seton Hall University over twenty years ago. Fr. Boyd retired as president and editor of the *Chesterton Review* and Chesterton Institute in 2020 after 46 years of scholarly research and work.



DEACON WILLIAM TOTH was the founder of the Micah Institute on campus and a professor of Moral Theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary, where he dedicated his research to the relationship between Theology and Work. He served as a Deacon at St. Elizabeth's Parish in Wyckoff. He entered into eternal rest in 2008. The Center named the Toth-Lonergan endowment in his honor.



DANUTE NOURSE served as the Center's Director of Programs for 17 years. Alongside Msgr. Richard Liddy, as part of the founding era, Danute's "programmatic genius" helped pave the way for the successes of the Center's numerous programs, especially its work with the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership and the Praxis Program of the Advanced Seminar on Mission. She has played a pivotal role in the success and growth of the Center for Catholic Studies from its beginning until today.



DR. INES MURZAKU is a professor of religion at Seton Hall University and director of the Catholic Studies Program. With expertise in Italo-Greek and Eastern Christian monasticism as well as Mother Theresa, Dr. Murzaku continues to serve our students at home and abroad.



DR. DERMOT QUINN has been a longtime collaborator with Fr. Boyd and since 2020, editor-in-chief of the *Chesterton Review*. He is a professor of Catholic and Irish-American history as well as the history of Seton Hall University.



GLORIA GARAFULICH-GRABOIS joined the Center for Catholic Studies in 2004, became Assistant Director of the Chesterton Institute in 2010 and Director in 2017. Gloria has served as the managing editor of the *Chesterton Review* since 2005 and *The Lonergan Review* since 2010.



THE CATHOLIC STUDIES IMPACT

The Center for Catholic Studies continues to make an impact on Seton Hall Students, Faculty, and Administrators.

FOUNDING-ERA ALUMNI

ELLIOT GUERRA '06

“ I was blessed to be a Seton Hall student with a major in Catholic Studies from 2001-2007. It was while learning and serving in the Catholic Studies department where I learned and experienced seemingly all of Catholicism's endless expressions and core values. It was at Catholic Studies where I learned to care and be fascinated by the natural world, to know that while all of creation is good, evil exists in it, as does grace and we humans are fundamentally good. I learned that love, in all its forms, (spiritual, familial, romantic) is the primary value of human existence and that suffering can be deeply redemptive. While I knew the world was broken and deeply unequal— it was at Catholic Studies that I learned we had to act in the world, not just want to change the world, and that meant a deep commitment to the world's poor.

In my sixteen years of classroom teaching and administrative work in Catholic education I've learned that when a child learns, they are learning to wonder, and wonder is never passive, it demands action, therefore learning is conversion, moral, intellectual and finally spiritual.

All the majors offered by Seton Hall are important and essential to an interesting and interested life, but Catholic Studies is the one major that is not only studied and practiced, but lived, in real time, with real-time experience, we bring everything to our Catholic study because our Catholic life is everything to us. Sister Helen Prejean, borrowing St. Bonaventure's words tells us, to ask, "Not for understanding, but to ask for the fire." I would tell the next generation of students interested in understanding of their faith to run, not walk to the Center and find the fire.



FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION

NANCY ENRIGHT, Ph.D., Director, University Core, Professor of English

“ The Center for Catholic Studies has been a place where I can go (whether to seminars, the Praxis program, speaker events, or merely socializing in the Office) to be renewed in what makes me love working at Seton Hall. Mission, the beauty of the Catholic intellectual tradition, and community are all central the Catholic Studies Center, and these qualities have been a consistent source of inspiration to me in the many years I have worked closely with the Center.

CURRENT STUDENTS

ADRIAN SALAZAR, Junior, Political Science & Catholic Theology

“ My name is Adrian Salazar, and I am a junior here at Seton Hall University. I live in the SPO (Saint Paul's Outreach) men's house, also known as "the Naz," which is short for Nazareth. I am also a work-study at the Center for Catholic Studies on campus. This is my first year as a work-study and I can say that my experience has been great. Getting to work with other students on impactful events like Agape Latte have helped my faith immensely. Agape Latte is a coffeehouse event in which students invite members of faculty on campus to share an impactful faith story to an audience of students over a cup of coffee. Getting to meet the professors and hear their stories has impacted me a lot because often times I find it hard to relate to my professors, especially when it comes to faith. Having the opportunity to hear these wonderful stories gives me great hope and affirms my decision for coming to Seton Hall. The Center for Catholic Studies has given me a greater desire to learn and know more about my Catholic faith which is why I added Catholic Theology as a second major alongside Political Science. I would encourage students who are interested in their Catholic faith and want to know how to apply it in their workspace, then being a Catholic Studies major or minor would perfect for them.

JACKIE BALLARD, Senior, Diplomacy & Catholic Studies

Our faith is not meant to be stagnant; it is meant to inform our every thought, word, and action. Studying Catholic Studies has taught me how to integrate my faith more deeply into all areas of my life. It has given me a greater love and appreciation for the Catholic intellectual tradition and an understanding of how I am called to live it every day. To any students considering Catholic Studies: let your faith come alive! My Catholic Studies classes have consistently been my favorite, and I would highly recommend this program to any students considering it.



LOOKING AHEAD

THE NEXT
25
YEARS

EXCITING INITIATIVES IN DEVELOPMENT

SERVING STUDENTS

CATHOLIC STUDIES INTERNATIONAL: STUDY ABROAD AT THE PONTIFICAL IRISH COLLEGE IN ROME



With Dr. Ines Murzaku and the Catholic Studies Consortium, the Center is working on an opportunity for Catholic Studies students to study in Rome. Participating Students would live in an intentional Catholic community at the Pontifical Irish College with a regular schedule of leisure, study, and prayer while attending classes at the Pontifical

Gregorian University in Rome. The first cohort of Seton Hall students is anticipated for the fall of 2023.

AGAPE LATTE

Every Thursday, students enjoy free coffee, hot chocolate, and desserts while hearing a personal story of faith in the life of a SHU professor or administrator.



INTERFAITH DINNERS

Collaborating with Seton Hall's Campus Ministry, Hillel, and other student groups, the Center is launching an initiative to host two interfaith meals a semester. Students will gather for a meal and engage in casual conversation on a topic related to faith and culture in today's world.

FORMING FACULTY

PRAXIS PROGRAM

The Center is a co-sponsor of the Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership's Praxis Program of Advanced Seminar on Mission. The Praxis Program is an advanced faculty development program designed to foster personal, professional, organizational, and institutional development for faculty and administrators. Founded at Seton Hall, this program is now implemented at other colleges and universities throughout the country. The Center is currently producing an online learning platform to National Consortium assist other institutions to implement this Praxis model.

FACULTY RETREAT

The Center is working with the Center for Faculty Development and related committees to design a new retreat for faculty that would provide an opportunity for them to encounter the Catholic Intellectual Tradition as a living and spiritual tradition with resources for lifting our spirits and enlivening our communities.

SETON SCHOLARS

Building upon the robust history of the Center providing faculty enrichment and development programs in mission and Catholic Identity, we hope to create a Seton Scholars program, named after our patroness, that would provide support to faculty scholars interested in conducting research in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.

CULTIVATING COMMUNITY

LOCAL COMMUNITY AND CHURCH INITIATIVES

In partnership with the McGrath Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame, we launched our inaugural Science and Religion Institute Day this November. *Science and Faith: Exploring the Relationship* was a professional development day for Science and Religion teachers in local Catholic Schools. With over 90 people in attendance, participants heard from distinguished scientists, theologians, and teachers on the relationship between Science and Faith, while discussing practical ways of introducing the topic in their classrooms. The Center hopes to be able to provide this program annually.

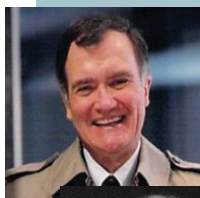
NATIONAL REACH— NATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF CATHOLIC STUDIES

The Center is proud to be a founding member of a National Consortium of Catholic Studies Programs. With over 15 participating institutions, this growing network offers an annual symposium that allows individuals in the field of Catholic Studies an opportunity to engage in discussion on best practices and foster community to spark ideas for implementing ground-breaking initiatives.



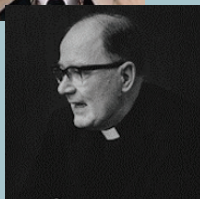
PARTNER WITH THE CENTER FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES TO LIVE, SHARE, & DEEPEN CATHOLIC IDENTITY AT SETON HALL

LONG-LASTING IMPACT



TOTH-LONERGAN ENDOWMENT

The Toth Lonergan Endowment enables the Center to bring a Catholic professor to campus each year to engage with faculty, students, and staff in Catholic mission and identity. The Chair is named for Deacon William Toth and Fr. Bernard Lonergan, S.J., and continues their work of engaging Catholic thought in all disciplines. Once fully funded the endowment will allow us to attract exemplary national and international Catholic thinkers to Seton Hall.



CENTER FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES ENDOWMENT

The CCS Endowment provides the Center essential support and independence enabling us to provide authentically Catholic programming in areas such as faculty development, student outreach, and service to the local Church as well as lectures, conferences, and publications. All different ways of living, sharing, and deepening Catholic Identity at Seton Hall and creating environments where all members of the Seton Hall University community encounter the Catholic Intellectual, Moral, and Spiritual Tradition.

YOUR SUPPORT ALSO MAKES NEW INITIATIVES POSSIBLE INCLUDING:

Seton Fellows Program for student formation in the Catholic Intellectual, Spiritual, Moral, and Cultural Tradition

Seton Scholars Program for faculty research in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.

Catholic Studies International for Seton Hall students to live & study as part of an intentional Catholic community with other Catholic Studies students from around the country. Students will live at the Pontifical Irish College, participate in a regular schedule of leisure, study, and prayer while attending classes at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome (Fall 2023).



STUDENT SUPPORT

SCHOLARSHIPS AND STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

The Fr. Richard Nardone Endowment supports Catholic Studies majors & minors with scholarships enabling them to deepen their understanding & Catholic vocation while at Seton Hall.

The Fr. Walter Debold Scholarship Fund supports students participating in a Catholic Studies course with an abroad component such as a spring break trip or a summer immersion experience.

STUDENT PROGRAMS

Agape Latte: Coffeehouse conversations on faith and life is Center supported, Student-led: each month Agape Latte students invite a guest to share their story and engage in discussion about faith with coffee, desserts, trivia, music, and giveaways.



THE LONERGAN INSTITUTE

The Lonergan Institute promotes ongoing programs, research and scholarship dedicated to the thought of Bernard Lonergan, S.J. The Institute focuses on faculty development and sponsors graduate study, faculty and student reading groups, and the publication of the acclaimed journal, *The Lonergan Review*.

GK CHESTERTON INSTITUTE

The Chesterton Institute for Faith and Culture hosts conferences, lecture series, research, and writing.

It is responsible for the international publication of *The Chesterton Review*, a widely respected journal.

THE MICAH INSTITUTE

The Micah Institute strives to introduce faculty, students, and the business community to the Catholic perspective on business and economic life.

INSTITUTES & SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

THANK YOU FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS

As one of the longest-standing centers at Seton Hall University, Catholic Studies seeks to revitalize and reinvigorate Catholic higher education through fostering community, intellectual formation, and interdisciplinary dialogue. The Center works to live, share, and deepen Catholic faith and thought across university life—creating opportunities for all members of the Seton Hall community to encounter the Catholic Intellectual, Moral, and Spiritual Tradition. The ongoing generosity of our supporters enables the Center to live, share, and deepen Catholic mission and identity in all disciplines of the university.

For 25 years, these efforts have succeeded because of the generous support of our benefactors. We thank you and remember you in our prayers.



CENTER FOR
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