

2025 *Annual Report*





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome	4	Eucharistic Culture Project.....	13
Online Learning Programs.....	5	Contours of Wonder.....	14
STEP	5	Savoring the Mystery.....	15
STEP for Catholic School Professionals.....	5	Pastoral Enrichment Programs.....	16
Camino.....	5	Pathways to Communion.....	16
Catechist Academy.....	6	Holy Family Initiative for Family Catechesis.....	17
<i>Church Life Journal</i>	7	The Bishop John M. D’Arcy Program in	
<i>Church Life Today</i>	7	Priestly Renewal	17
Echo.....	8	Strong Foundations for Catholic Leaders.....	18
Fiat Program on Faith and Mental Health.....	9	Young Adult Innovation Hub (Iskali).....	19
Notre Dame Vision.....	10	Saturdays with the Saints.....	19
Science & Religion Initiative	11	Take a Second Look	20
Notre Dame Office of Life and Human Dignity.....	12	Annunciation Days	20
Notre Dame Center of Liturgy	13		



The Inklings Project.....	21	The Changing Face of Life-Limiting	
Church Life Asia.....	21	Prenatal Diagnoses.....	25
Highlights.....	22	Catholic Pathways for Dialogue	
True Genius: The Mission of Women in		and Depolarization.....	25
Church and Culture.....	22	2025 Sullivan Saints Research Fellow.....	26
Digital Advent and Christmas Crèche Calendar.....	22	<i>Catholic Media Influencers: Mission in the</i>	
Catholic Schools and Democracy Summit.....	22	<i>Digital Environment.....</i>	26
Magnify.....	23	<i>Assessing the Suitability of Candidates for</i>	
Sullivan Undergraduate Saints Fellowship.....	23	<i>Holy Orders.....</i>	26
<i>Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality.....</i>	24	Planning the U.S. Jubilee for Young Adults.....	27
Communications and Outreach.....	24	Motherhood in Today's World.....	27
Engaging Catholicism.....	24	Early Christian Perspectives on the Holy Land.....	27
Ethics, Politics, and Natural Law.....	25	Planning for World Youth Day 2027.....	27
Laudato Si' Africa Conference 2025.....	25	McGrath Institute for Church Life Faculty & Staff.....	28



Dear friends,

With gratitude to God and to you, we present this report as a testament to the Spirit's continued work through the McGrath Institute for Church Life. In a time of rapid cultural change and pastoral challenge, we remain steadfast in our vocation: to place high-quality scholarship and pastoral leadership at service to the Church and the world.

The scholarly expertise, pastoral wisdom, and dedicated service of our faculty and staff, faithfully shapes theological inquiry in service of the Church's living tradition. Our initiatives are never abstract exercises, but enduring labors of love ordered toward the flourishing of parishes, dioceses, schools, and ministries. We

remain committed to holding together careful academic work and the concrete pastoral needs of God's people, confident that truth and charity belong together and must mutually enrich one another.

Likewise, as the Church reveals herself ever more clearly as a global and multicultural communion, we have continued to deepen and broaden our engagement with the Global Church. Through sustained partnerships and ongoing programs, we listen, learn, and collaborate across cultures, attentive to the diverse gifts of the Body of Christ. In doing so, we reaffirm our long-standing commitment to extending our reach in service to a truly catholic Church, united in faith and sent forth in mission.

These efforts represent only a portion of the work entrusted to us. What follows in this report is but a snapshot of a much broader and ongoing mission, one sustained by grace and made possible through your faithful support.

With Continuing Gratitude,

John C. Cavadini

John C. Cavadini, Ph.D.

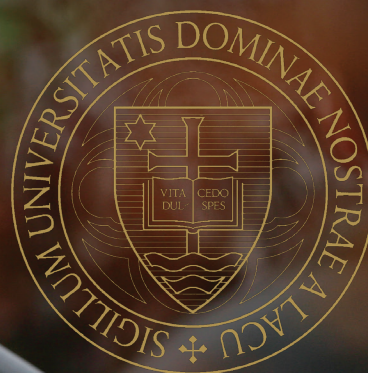
McGrath-Cavadini Director of the McGrath Institute for Church Life



Online Learning Programs

In 2025 the online learning programs at the McGrath Institute, particularly STEP and Camino, undertook a self-study and initiated an external review in order to guide program development through 2028. The team also saw another year of providing blended, long-term leadership formation to a diocesan-based cohort.

Notre Dame's Office of Information Technology recognized the McGrath Institute as a 2025 Canvas Legend for outstanding use of the Canvas learning platform, highlighting the innovative work of STEP and Camino.



STEP

In 2025, the STEP team saw nearly 2,500 course enrollments with learners from the United States, two U.S. territories, and 23 other nations across the world. STEP provides online continuing education in theology to lay leaders and teachers in our partner dioceses as well as individual learners. STEP's courses also support the intellectual formation of deacon candidates from 10 dioceses, as well as for various other communities including religious postulants, administrators for a diocesan school system, and FOCUS missionaries.

One participant shared: *"I love the STEP classes! Each class I take has drawn me closer to our amazing Catholic faith. It has opened my eyes to new teachings in the Church and has, most importantly, given me confidence to teach this to my students."*

STEP for Catholic School Professionals

STEP for Catholic Schools Professionals entered its second year providing courses developed specifically to meet the formation and continuing education of those who work in K-12 Catholic Schools. The summer of 2025 included a virtual conference,

The Catholic Schools and Democracy Summit, a grant-funded event that provided the opportunity for Catholic school educators, academic experts, and other stakeholders to discuss critical issues and generate key insights that will contribute to the development of programs and scholarship to enhance how Catholic schools support democracy. These efforts combined, the team saw almost 400 enrollments in the summer of 2025.

CAMINO

With more than 630 enrollments across six countries in 2025, Camino supports the Spanish language theological formation of deacon candidates, continues to host live, in-person facilitated courses in Juárez, Mexico, and actively empowers lay ecclesial movements and individual lay ministers. Additionally, a group of Camino students from Ohio and Louisville visited Notre Dame's campus in July.

"It was an extraordinary experience that surprised me and left me with many questions to ask my God, which I know He will answer in the best way, as only He knows how. Thank you, Sister Teresa, for instructing us. Thank you, Notre Dame, for providing this education."

Catechist Academy

The Catechist Academy places students from the University of Notre Dame, Saint Mary's College, and Holy Cross College in parishes throughout the South Bend/Mishawaka area. Each week, participants serve as catechists, guiding students from preschool through high school in growing closer to Jesus Christ.

In 2025, 80 college students volunteered as catechists across 12 local parishes, reflecting the program's steady growth from 31 students in the 2023-24 academic year to 49 the following year, and now 80 in 2025.

In spring 2025, the Catechist Academy also launched a fellowship to further develop leadership among its catechists. The 2025-26 cohort includes

five Guerin Fellows, named in honor of St. Theodore Guerin. These fellows support catechists in their parish placements and work with the program coordinator to enhance formation and provide additional support for both catechists and the students they serve.

Impact by the Numbers



Church Life Journal

Led by Editor-in-Chief Artur Rosman, *Church Life Journal* (CLJ) surpassed its previous annual high reach with 3.4 million hits in 2025. This doubled the annual total from just three years ago. The year also brought the all-time total of contributors to CLJ from the McGrath Institute to 20+. The vitality of this connection is demonstrated by the most-read piece of the year: Timothy P. O'Malley's "St. Carlo Acutis and the Many Miracles of the Eucharist," with more than 110,000 hits.

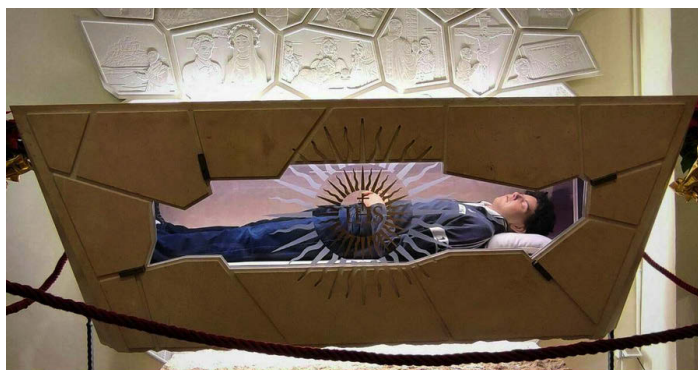
Over the lifetime of Rosman's work with the Journal, CLJ has published 40+ pieces by Notre Dame faculty, 20+ by Notre Dame students, and 100+ excerpts from the University of Notre Dame Press.

Church Life Journal

A Journal of the McGrath Institute for Church Life

Blessed Carlo Acutis and the Many Miracles of the Eucharist

by Timothy P. O'Malley November 25, 2024



Every year, Rosman evaluates about 200 submissions with the help of CLJ assistant Sam Korb. He also works directly with authors, plus publishers such as the following: Notre Dame, University of Chicago, Harvard, Penn, Cornell, Baylor, Farrar Straus Giroux, Bloomsbury, Princeton, Polity, Ignatius, Orbis, Stanford, Plough, UNESCO Archives, and Yale. The 200+ articles published annually by the journal are culled from these sundry sources.

CLJ yet again enjoys more annual online traffic than many established intellectual publications, such as its original aspirational peers *Commonweal* and *The Hedgehog Review*. In addition, in 2025, frequent CLJ contributor Angela Franks won the Expanded

Reason Award for her book *Body and Identity: A History of the Empty Self*, composed almost entirely of items published in *Church Life Journal*. This was the second year in a row that a frequent CLJ contributor won a Vatican-sponsored award. In 2024, the journal's most frequent contributor, Cyril O'Regan, won the Ratzinger Prize for his lifetime contributions to theology.

Church Life Today

Over the course of its eight-year history, *Church Life Today*, a podcast hosted by Leonard DeLorenzo, has established itself as a thoughtful and intellectually vibrant forum for sustained reflection on the life of the

Church. With nearly 250 episodes released to date, including 25 new episodes in 2025 alone, the podcast demonstrates both remarkable consistency and an ongoing commitment to serious, engaged conversation.

Regularly ranked in the top 25% of all Buzzsprout podcasts, *Church Life Today* brings leading scholars, theologians, and practitioners into dialogue on timely and consequential questions shaping the Church. Upbeat and informative, the podcast has cultivated a truly global audience, with listeners across the United States and in 155 countries worldwide. In 2025, *Church Life Today* marked a significant milestone by surpassing 50,000 total downloads, nearly 19,000 of which occurred in that year alone; a testament to its growing reach and relevance.

The year's most popular episode, *Habemus Papam*, featured John Cavadini in conversation with DeLorenzo and drew nearly 800 downloads. In the episode, Cavadini offered theological and historical insight into the announcement of the election of Pope Leo XIV, exemplifying the podcast's distinctive ability to illuminate major ecclesial moments with depth and clarity.



Echo



The McGrath Institute's Echo program welcomed 27 new students into its 22nd cohort, continuing a long tradition of forming talented and dedicated leaders for service in the Church. Drawn from an impressive applicant pool representing 45 undergraduate institutions, these exceptional students now serve in 15 partner dioceses across the United States. They joined returning members of the Echo 21 cohort, who began their second year of service in the 2025-2026 academic year. Together, Echo students commit themselves to an integrative formation that intentionally unites their ministerial work, academic study, and life of faith.

Throughout nine months of the year, Echo students serve in ministerial and teaching roles in parishes as well as Catholic high schools and middle schools in the arch/dioceses of Atlanta, Camden, Fall River, Galveston-Houston, Gary, Indianapolis, Kalamazoo, Knoxville, Lafayette-in-Indiana, Milwaukee, Newark, Salt Lake City, Scranton, St. Augustine, and St. Petersburg. Alongside this full-time service,

students pursue summer coursework through the University of Notre Dame's Department of Theology as part of their M.A. in Theology. This past summer, Echo students complemented their academic studies with hands-on service at Our Lady of the Road, a Catholic Worker ministry.



The spring of 2025 marked several important milestones for the program. Echo celebrated the graduation of the Echo 20 cohort, whose members presented their Capstone Research projects and concluded their time in the program with a day of retreat. That same spring, the McGrath Institute welcomed Ryan Dainty, a graduate of Notre Dame's M.Div. program, as the new Program Director. Dainty joined the Institute after serving as Dean of Student Formation at Marian High School, bringing with him a deep commitment to pastoral and educational formation.

The program also celebrated the outstanding achievements of its students through the 2025 Echo program awards:

- **Nicole Marie Patterson**, recipient of the *Dr. John C. Cavadini Award for Academic Excellence in Service to the Church*
- **Jacqueline Regina Hale**, recipient of the *Dr. Gerard F. Baumbach Award for Excellence in Catechesis*

- **Courtney Quinn Schmidt**, recipient of the *Dr. Jan Poorman Award for Excellence in Theology & Pastoral Ministry*
- **Miranda Lynn Perkins**, recipient of the *Katarina Marie Goitz Memorial Award*

Fiat Program on Faith and Mental Health



When facing a mental health crisis, many people turn first to the Church for support. Since its founding in 2022, the Fiat Program on Faith and Mental Health has responded to this urgent need by equipping Catholic leaders to accompany individuals and families impacted by mental illness with competence, compassion, and hope.

To date, 335 Catholic leaders have completed the Fiat Course on Mental Health and Church Life and are now actively ministering in their communities. Leaders formed through the Fiat Program currently serve in more than 200 parishes across the United States, extending the Church's capacity to respond thoughtfully and faithfully to mental health concerns.

In 2025, the Fiat Program expanded to serve five additional dioceses, offering formation for more than one hundred men and women and equipping

more than 20 local leaders to serve as formators on mental health and Church life for others in their local dioceses. Also in 2025, the Fiat Program expanded its work in the Diocese of Green Bay, hosting a retreat to launch the second Fiat Course for the Diocese of Green Bay. Sixty men and women enrolled in the ten-week course, meeting weekly in small groups facilitated by local Fiat alumni. This peer-led model fostered both formation and community, strengthening participants' ability to serve effectively within their own parishes.

That same year, Beth Hlabse traveled to the Catholic Psychotherapy Association's annual conference to present research and impact evaluation developed by Mary O'Callaghan for the Fiat Program. Their poster presentation received first place and highlighted key findings: clergy and lay ministers who experience a strong sense of belonging within their

parishes report higher levels of flourishing and hope, along with lower levels of burnout and stigma toward mental illness.

In the fall, Beth delivered Hesburgh Lectures for the Alumni Clubs of Silicon Valley, Northeast New York, and Canton, Ohio. Titled *"Faith and Mental Health: A Way Forward,"* the lectures offered catechesis on mental health and articulated a compelling vision for the Church's communal response to those who suffer.



Notre Dame Vision

Participation in the 2025 Vision program for high school students increased significantly from the previous year, with nearly 560 students from 33 states and seven countries attending Vision summer conferences to explore God's call in their lives and to learn from the witness of the saints. This growth reflects the program's continued resonance with young people seeking formation, discernment, and community.

Interest in Vision's leadership opportunities also rose markedly. The number of undergraduate students applying to serve as Vision Mentors for the summer sessions continued to rise, demonstrating a strong desire among Notre Dame students to accompany high schoolers in their faith journeys. Selected mentors completed two weeks of retreat and orientation to prepare for their ministry, while Vision's Band of Saint Cecilia arrived early to rehearse music for liturgies, prayer, and the program's much-anticipated musical.

Vision also saw a notable increase in participation from campus and youth ministers in 2025, welcoming 85 attendees. Through one of two week-long conferences, ministers from high schools and parishes across the country deepened their commitment to serving young people in the Church.

In the fall, the University of Notre Dame recognized the impact of this work by awarding Notre Dame Vision the Presidential Team Irish Award, which honors staff teams that exemplify the University's core values. The Vision team was celebrated at the Notre Dame vs. Navy football game in November, where a special video played on the jumbotron as the team was recognized on the field.



Science & Religion Initiative

In August, the Science & Religion Initiative (SRI) was awarded an unprecedented sixth grant from the John Templeton Foundation, extending by three years the longest sustained grant relationship between the Foundation and the University. The grant, *"Forming Leaders in Faith and Science Integration for Catholic Secondary Education,"* will continue through fall 2028. In addition to sustaining core programs such as Faith & Reason Days, the St. Albert Initiative, and the Foundations and Capstone summer seminars, the grant also supported the MICL symposium, *"The Relation between Science and Faith as a Pastoral Issue in an Age of Disaffiliation,"* which took place in February 2026.

In April, SRI hosted the final teaching conference in its Organs & Origins series, titled *"To What End?: Purpose and the Universe."* Co-sponsored by the Notre Dame College of Science and the Society of Catholic Scientists, the two-day conference welcomed more than 110 participants for sustained interdisciplinary engagement.

SRI's summer programming continued its strong reach, with 59 teachers from 23 schools across the United States and the Caribbean attending the Foundations seminar in DeWitt, Michigan. The team also traveled to Kraków, Poland, for the Capstone Seminar, aligning with the University's strategic commitment to global engagement. There, 30 teachers from the



SRI began the new year with a robust slate of programming, launching with a Faith & Reason Day at Bishop Kelley High School in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Additional Faith & Reason Days followed in Sacramento, California; and Lancaster and Worcester, Massachusetts, continuing SRI's national outreach to Catholic secondary schools.

That momentum carried into the spring, as SRI set another registration record for the 2025 St. Albert Initiative on Science and the Catholic Faith. More than 450 Catholic high school students, teachers, and parents participated in the event, held at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Kentucky. Representing 20 Catholic high schools from Louisville, Evansville, Owensboro, Nashville, and Cincinnati, the initiative was hosted in partnership with the Society of Catholic Scientists and Bellarmine University and was supported by the John Templeton Foundation.

United States and Spain traced the scientific legacy of Copernicus at the Jagiellonian University and confronted the moral realities of evil and suffering through a visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau.

In support of classroom instruction, SRI published four new lesson units in its teaching materials database. New middle school resources included *"Geology and Theology: Does God Rock?"*, *"How Can the Study of Life Teach Us About Faith?"*, and *"Sums, Songs, and Saints: How Do Catholic Minds Make a Difference?"* A new high school unit, *"Relating the Biological Characteristics of Living Things to the Philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas,"* was also released.

Finally, in honor of the feast day of St. Hildegard von Bingen, the Society of Catholic Scientists Chapter at Notre Dame hosted its third annual Faith and Science Week. The event, co-sponsored by the College of Science and SRI, celebrated the enduring dialogue between scientific inquiry and faith.

Notre Dame Office of Life and Human Dignity

In the spring, the Notre Dame Office of Life and Human Dignity (LHD) hosted *Conversations That Matter: Immigration and Human Flourishing at the Southern Border*, a webinar that explored the Church's call, articulated especially in the teaching of Pope Pius XII, to contemplate the mystery of Christ's life as a path toward deeper solidarity with those forced to flee their homelands. The conversation featured Fr. Daniel Groody, C.S.C.; Bishop Mark J. Seitz, D.D.; and Maureen Sweeney, J.D., each offering theological and legal perspectives on migration and human dignity.

In the fall, LHD continued its *Conversations That Matter* series with *Witnessing Hope and Reconciliation: Human Dignity and the Death Penalty*. This webinar, co-sponsored by Catholic Mobilizing Network, examined the current state of the death penalty in the United States in light of the Church's teaching on the intrinsic dignity of every human life, while also lifting up stories of hope, restoration, and reconciliation from death row. Featured panelists included Herman Lindsey, who was wrongfully convicted and sent to Florida's death row in 2006; Emmjolee Mendoza Waters; and Bishop William A. Wack, C.S.C. Across the year, more than 800 participants attended LHD's *Conversations That Matter* webinars.

In July, the LHD team welcomed more than 100 educators to the Teaching Life and Human Dignity Symposium. Participants were invited to deepen their understanding of human dignity within the Catholic intellectual tradition and to engage in workshops focused on effectively integrating life and human dignity themes across academic

disciplines. The symposium also explored practical strategies for fostering a culture of human dignity within classrooms and school communities.

In 2025, LHD partnered with the Sisters of Life and CampCampo Films to produce a Spanish-language adaptation of its 12-part video series, *INTO LIFE: Love Changes Everything*. Titled *LA ESENCIA DE LA VIDA: El Amor Todo lo Puede*, the series mirrors the original in its goal of forming participants to accompany women experiencing the uncertainty and fear of an unexpected pregnancy. Intentionally developed for Spanish-speaking audiences, the series aligns with the University's strategic emphasis on global Catholicism and responds to the changing demographics of the Catholic Church.

In 2025, the Office of Life and Human Dignity, in collaboration with Essential Partners, also piloted a year-long fellowship for Catholic educators called the Catholic Civil Dialogue Initiative. Responding to the Church's call that Catholic schools "practise the 'grammar of dialogue,' not as a technical expedient, but as a profound way of relating to others" ("Educating to Intercultural Dialogue in Catholic Schools Living in Harmony for a Civilization of Love," §57), cohort members participated in monthly formation and education sessions on effective practices of dialogue and the meaning and purpose of dialogue for the Church as making possible an encounter with one another and with truth. During the next phase of the project, we will research the effectiveness of dialogue in strengthening belonging, recognition of human dignity, and the ability to sustain relationships across differences.



Notre Dame Center for Liturgy

In celebrating its 55th anniversary, the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy (NDCL) looked back with gratitude on decades of leadership development and looked forward in prayerful discernment, asking how God might be calling the Center to shape new directions for the future.

As part of this season of reflection and renewal, the NDCL welcomed Helen Rajkumar as Program Coordinator. Helen brings more than a decade of experience, having previously served in University Relations and the Alumni Association.

Today, all three of the Center's initiatives, offered through the Mathis Liturgical Leadership Program, focus on cultivating leaders who foster communities rooted in the Church's liturgical and sacramental life. What follows is a snapshot of how each program has responded to the evolving needs of the Church.

Eucharistic Culture Project

The Notre Dame Center for Liturgy, in partnership with the Church Properties Initiative (CPI), housed in Notre Dame's Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate, welcomed 24 lay Church leaders to Notre Dame's campus for the orientation gathering of the 2025-27 Eucharistic Culture Project (ECP). Led by Carolyn Pirtle and the CPI's Madeline Johnson, cohort members heard from a dozen experts who presented on issues surrounding Church property through a Eucharistic lens. In the fall, cohort members then took a six-week online course. Over their two years of formation and coursework, cohort members will research and design projects focused on the pastoral issue of Church property in a rapidly changing ecclesial landscape.

The research question guiding the ECP's work is: how can the Church develop strategies for property management that take into account both the sacredness of Eucharistic space and the Church's responsibility to the common good in neighborhoods? Inspired by the Eucharistic Revival, the ECP focuses on the ecclesiological and cultural dimensions of Eucharistic worship—those who celebrate the sacrament of the Mass and adore Christ in the Eucharist are also responsible for the common good of our local communities. By the end of the week, the cohort gained a shared, foundational grammar that will allow members to spend the next two years developing a project related to Church property and the common good.



Members of the previous 2022–24 ECP cohort continued to offer excellent theological and pastoral formation throughout the country. Cohort member Katie Jenkins, director of music and liturgy at Our Lady of Victory Parish in Baltimore, Maryland, presented a series of three workshops to teachers in the Archdiocese of Chicago. These workshops, titled *Awakening Wonder: The Beauty of the Eucharist Through the Arts*, are drawn from the project Katie developed during her time with the ECP, which explored the role of beauty in religious education. ECP, which explored the role of beauty in religious education.



Contours of Wonder

Timothy P. O'Malley and Lesley Kirzeder presented Contours of Wonder Formation Workshops in the Dioceses of St. Petersburg, Florida, and Charleston, South Carolina, as well as the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The workshops brought catechists, religious education directors, pastors, teachers, and diocesan leaders into a conversation on childhood today and formation as accompaniment into lifelong dispositions of wonder and worship.

Contours of Wonder, a Lilly Endowment-funded initiative, launched the first of its Contours of Wonder MeetUps in January. These MeetUps bring together those who minister to children from across the U.S. to form a community of mutual support and learning. Catechists, teachers, choir and liturgy directors, DREs, ministers, and diocesan leaders gather online for one hour each month to hear from each other, get feedback on projects or questions they have from the field, and learn from experts in children's formation, liturgy, the arts and more.

In October, the NDCL announced its first Contours of Wonder Leadership Cohort, a year-long initiative that gathers 20 pastoral leaders from dioceses across the United States to reimagine religious formation for children. Participants engage with the research and themes of the Contours of Wonder initiative, which emphasizes formation as something beyond preparing children for the singular moment of receiving a sacrament for the first time, but as accompaniment into a fully liturgical life and lasting sacramental vision. Participants reimagine formation in their own ministries and inspire others to do the same.

In the fall, and in celebration of the UDCL's 55th anniversary, Contours of Wonder offered research grants of up to \$5,000 for Notre Dame, Saint Mary's College and Holy Cross College students interested in cultivating worshipful wonder among children in a digital age.



SAVORING THE MYSTERY

Members of the 2023–25 cohort of the Lilly Endowment-funded initiative *Savoring the Mystery: Preaching in an Age of Disaffiliation* gathered at the University of Notre Dame in June for their capstone convening. The cohort included priests, deacons, and lay ministers representing 11 dioceses across the United States. During the capstone convening, these men and women shared presentations highlighting the work they had undertaken over the past two years to design and implement projects in parishes, dioceses, and schools. These projects aimed to strengthen the quality of Catholic preaching and to deepen the capacity of the lay faithful to encounter and receive the Word of God.

During the preceding spring semester, participants engaged in guided study on preaching through a reading of selected homilies by Episcopalian priest and theologian Fleming Rutledge, drawn from her book *The Undoing of Death*, a collection of homilies for Holy Week and Eastertide. Facilitated by Joshua McManaway, these sessions invited the cohort to reflect on what makes preaching compelling and how the preacher can make Christ, present in Scripture, present to those who hear it.

In the summer, *Savoring the Mystery* entered its next phase, which includes the development of an online curriculum informed by insights from the cohort's work, as well as visits to dioceses across the country to offer workshops on effective and compelling preaching.

In collaboration with the John S. and Virginia Marten Program in Homiletics and Liturgics, the McGrath Institute announced a national homily contest focused on preaching the Blessed Virgin Mary. Ordained Catholic bishops, priests, and deacons were invited to submit a five- to seven-minute homily, in English or Spanish, for one of three Marian solemnities: the Annunciation, the Assumption, or the Immaculate Conception. The winning homilies, announced in May, exemplified a homiletic approach that integrated careful engagement with Scripture and spiritual exegesis, illuminating the significance of Marian feasts for the lives of the faithful today.

Pastoral Enrichment Programs

Through a wide variety of specialized offerings, Pastoral Enrichment Programs support those who have been called to a life of ministry through intellectual and spiritual renewal and guidance on navigating pastoral challenges, and promoting affiliation within the multicultural Church.

Programs include the Bishop D'Arcy Program in Priestly Renewal, the Holy Family Initiative for Family Catechesis, Strong Foundations for Catholic Leaders, Pathways to Communion, and the Young Adult Innovation Hub partnership with Iskali, along with ongoing partnerships with Porticus focusing on the needs of the multicultural church.

These programs serve to uphold and guide those who have chosen a life of service and ministry, and promote the health and vitality of our present and future Church.

Pathways to Communion

In the spring, the McGrath Institute welcomed partner organizations to Notre Dame's campus for the inaugural sessions of Pathways to Communion, a program supported by Lilly Endowment, Inc. Pathways aims to strengthen the ecosystem of theologically informed service opportunities for young Catholics in the United States.

Over five years, the leaders of the 10 partner organizations will participate in more gatherings on campus, receive on-site visits by program directors, and experience ongoing supervision with robust guidance in program evaluation and improvement.



Pathways to Communion welcomed Francesca Patti as Program Director of Pathway's young adult programs. Francesca received her M.A. in Theology and a B.A. in Spanish with minors in International

Development Studies and Theology from the University of Notre Dame. In addition, she served as an apprentice parish catechetical leader with the Echo program.



Chase Hawkins also joined the Pathways to Communion team in 2025 as Program Director of its teen programs. Chase received his M.Div. from the University of Notre Dame and a B.A. in Theology with secondary degrees in Philosophy and Communication Studies from Marquette University.

Holy Family Initiative for Family Catechesis

The Holy Family Initiative for Family Catechesis offers dioceses and parishes new methods of affiliation to overcome divisions between immigrant parents and growing numbers of first- and second-generation Hispanic individuals born in the United States while strengthening faith transmission within the domestic church.

In the spring, the Initiative concluded its three-year partnership with the Archdiocese of San Antonio, where approximately 80% of participating families received recognition for their consistent engagement with the program. This collaboration facilitated the development of 12 family sessions, which will constitute the core of a video series titled "The Heart of the Family," a bilingual, free resource to strengthen the domestic church.

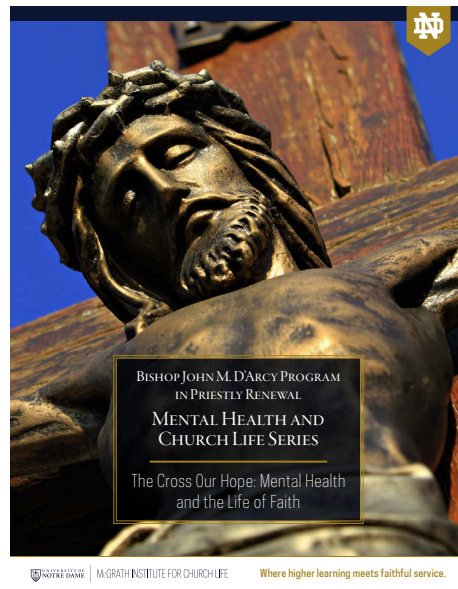


Furthermore, the Initiative completed its year-long series for young adults within the archdiocese, focusing on relationship themes in preparation for the vocation of marriage and the creation of holy families. Also, Benito Medrano visited partners of the Holy Family Initiative in Raleigh, North Carolina, where the Initiative finished its second year of a three-year partnership.

In total, more than 230 families are being served in three ongoing pilots: Raleigh, North Carolina; Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana; and San Jose, California. Additionally, 120 attendees from our local diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend gathered on Notre Dame's campus to celebrate the end of the first year of the pilot program.

The Bishop John M. D'Arcy Program in Priestly Renewal

The Bishop John M. D'Arcy Program in Priestly Renewal is an experience of intellectual and spiritual renewal for diocesan priests across the United States. The program is named after Bishop John M. D'Arcy, who served as the eighth bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend from 1985 to 2009.



The 2025 video series, which has reached more than 250 priests, offers perspectives on mental health, addressing how pastors and lay associates can best respond to crisis situations and ongoing experiences of mental illness among

individuals and families. The series also addresses the mental health of priests, recognizing that the burdens associated with the priesthood can present significant stress, sometimes leading to emotional distress and burnout. The series offers practical, pastoral solutions for Catholic priests endeavoring to navigate the present mental health landscape. It offers a vision for how the Church, including our clergy and lay faithful, can more fully receive and accompany those experiencing mental illness and their loved ones.



Strong Foundations for Catholic Leaders

In July 2025, Strong Foundations marked its sixth year and celebrated the graduation of its third cohort. During week-long programming, the 14-member cohort, representing 12 dioceses, met under the theme *Braving and Leading from Thin Places*, to celebrate accomplishments, and learn strategies to lead with hope, build faith and healing, and embrace change. Nearly every participant in the first cohort of Strong Foundations has obtained new jobs in leadership in their area of ministry.

Strong Foundations supports young lay leaders to enhance their professional service in the Church through professional and pastoral development, financial and career planning, personal support, networking, and the ongoing accompaniment of a mentor-minister. In 2026, the cohort will begin a one-year model.



In 2025, the Pastoral Enrichment Programs team welcomed Edith Torres Monzon as the Program Director for Thriving in Ministry. In this role, she leads two key initiatives: Strong Foundations for Catholic Leaders and the Young Adult Innovation Hub, a partnership with Iskali. Edith was a member of Echo 17, during which she served the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana.

Young Adult Innovation Hub (Iskali)

Young Hispanic leaders gathered for the third annual Iskali Leadership Conference in the summer of 2025, where Katherine Angulo served as a keynote speaker. This conference was organized by the Young Adult Innovation Hub, a collaboration between the McGrath Institute and Iskali, a Chicago-based organization, that empowers and equips young Latinos with high-quality faith formation. This program creates cultures of affiliation at the parish level, addressing the particular needs of first-, second-, and third-generation Hispanics in the United States.

As part of a faith formation program, MICL staff meet with Iskali leaders advising them on the formation offered to young adult leaders. Iskali, in turn, partners with 19 Catholic parishes in the arch/dioceses of Chicago, Milwaukee, and Indianapolis to re-envision their ministry to Hispanic young adults, reaching nearly 230 young adults in 2025 alone. This model will be used as a pilot for implementation at additional parishes across the county. In 2025, MICL staff members including Benito Medrano, Scott Boyle, Craig Gould, and Katherine Angulo, provided expertise in the areas of research, curriculum design, coaching, teaching, and network access. The goal is to help Iskali fine-tune its outreach methodology in a way that best meets the Hispanic Church's unique pastoral challenges.



Saturdays with the Saints



Saturdays with the Saints, now in its 15th season, has established itself as a popular Notre Dame football pregame ritual that combines the university's rich traditions of Catholic faith with spirited game days. Notre Dame Theology and McGrath Institute faculty and staff deliver dynamic lectures on saints chosen for their uncommon virtue and their willingness to let their faith stand in contradiction to the wisdom of the world.

The 2025 season of Saturdays with the Saints drew unprecedented crowds, composed of both visitors to campus and students—causing lectures to be standing-room-only. The seven-lecture season, themed Saints of the Sacred Heart, included presentations by McGrath Institute faculty members John Cavadini, Leonard DeLorenzo, Michael Baxter, and Timothy P. O'Malley. The audience learned about holy people, such as St. John Henry Newman and Servant of God Julia Greely, as well as the exposition of the Sacred Heart by recent popes.

Take a Second Look

In 2025, Take a Second Look launched a new Capstone program for senior Theology majors. The program is designed to help students discern how best to place their academic formation in service to the Church and the world, particularly as they pursue a wide range of lay professions, including medicine, business, and education. The inaugural cohort of approximately twenty students completed a one-credit fall course, *After Notre Dame: The Responsibilities of a Lay Theologian*, taught by Joshua McManaway. The course challenged the notion that those whose work lies outside formal ecclesial structures are merely passive recipients of the Church's ministerial life, instead inviting students to develop a more robust vision of lay participation and responsibility. In January 2026, the cohort traveled to Rome and Assisi for a period of academic and personal discernment, reflecting on the history of the Church while engaging their own emerging vocations as lay theologians through pilgrimage.

Bishop Erik Varden of Trondheim, Norway, delivered a public lecture entitled *Living with Wounds: The Passion in Theology and in Our Lives* to a full auditorium, with an introduction by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. The lecture was sponsored by the McGrath Institute, the de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture, and the Department of Theology. The day prior, Bishop Varden also met with students in undergraduate Theology courses.



Annunciation Days

Under the direction of Leonard DeLorenzo, the McGrath Institute celebrated Annunciation Days as part of a new initiative to deepen Marian devotion on campus. On the vigil of the Solemnity of the Annunciation, members of the Notre Dame community gathered in prayer in anticipation of the feast, participated in devotional prayer to Mary throughout the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, and offered personal intentions to the Blessed Mother following a candlelight procession to the Grotto. On the feast day itself, undergraduates attended the first annual Alma Mater Dinner after Mass at the Basilica, followed by a reflection from Professor Anthony Pagliarini on Gerard Manley Hopkins's poem *The Blessed Virgin Compared to the Air We Breathe*.



The Inklings Project

In summer 2025, the McGrath Institute announced Inklings Project Fellows for the academic year 2025-26. Hailing from 11 different colleges and universities and a variety of academic disciplines, these faculty are teaching Inklings courses that are innovative, engaging, and joyful. The Inklings Project fosters discussion of meaningful themes on campuses around the world by encouraging and supporting faculty to teach courses that promote the works of the Inklings, particularly C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien. Fellows who create and teach these courses receive a small grant and are brought together for an in-person gathering where they are able to conduct research at the Marion E. Wade Center and to share experiences and ideas with one another.



In the Footsteps of Dialogue:
CHINA and the Legacy of MATTEO RICCI

with Guest Speaker
ANTHONY E. CLARK, Ph.D., FRHistS, FRAS

Few people have left a greater mark on the history of China-West Exchange as Matteo Ricci, S.J. 利瑪竇 (1552-1610). As the Catholic Church considers Ricci's canonization, much of the world's attention has turned toward him to better understand the long history of China's relationship with the West.

This talk offers a new way to imagine the life and influence of Matteo Ricci, considering how his life helped inspire transformations within China, Europe, and across the entire landscape of global history.



Church Life Asia

In March, the McGrath Institute's Church Life Asia team invited guest speaker Anthony E. Clark to present *In the Footsteps of Dialogue: China and the Legacy of Matteo Ricci*, a lecture that concluded with an open discussion and reception. As the Catholic Church considers Ricci's canonization, much of the world's attention has turned toward him to better understand the long history of China's relationship with the West. This talk offered a new way to imagine the life and influence of Matteo Ricci, considering how his life helped inspire transformations within China, Europe, and across the world.

Last fall, McGrath Institute faculty and staff were invited to learn about the Church in China through a special presentation and discussion with John Lindblom and Fr. Michael Agliardo. In November, Rev. Gianni Criveller offered *Present Challenges Facing Catholics in China*. John Lindblom and Fr. Agliardo also collaborated on a new edition of the influential journal *ChinaSource Quarterly*.

Highlights



True Genius: The Mission of Women in Church and Culture

In late March, the McGrath Institute welcomed nearly 200 participants to *True Genius: the Mission of Women in Church and Culture*, a conference developed by Abigail Favale. Featuring speakers such as Erika Bachiochi and Helen Alvaré, the conference included panels and plenaries on topics ranging from *Modern Heresies about Women* to *Called to be Woman: Mary's Genius and Ours*. The conference provided an opportunity for much fruitful discussion and reflection on the role of women in our Church and culture, and it was featured as a series in ThinkND's summer digest.



Digital Advent and Christmas Crèche Calendar

From the first Sunday in Advent through the Baptism of our Lord, more than 3,600 people received a daily devotional email. Each message featured a beautiful image of Nativity scene from around the world, accompanied by a reflective description and prayer. In total, more than 141,000 emails were opened. This digital calendar has been made possible through the Marian Library's continued generosity in partnering with the McGrath Institute, a collaboration that began in 2014 when the Institute first worked with the Marian Library at the University of Dayton to bring an exhibit of crèches from around the world to Notre Dame's

campus. The impact of this initiative is perhaps best captured in the words of one participant, who shared their gratitude: "I want you to know how meaningful and valued your daily crèche reflections have been throughout the Christmas season. I am very thankful for the grace of your writing and the excellence that you model. I have looked forward to reading the reflections each day and taking part in the daily prayer. Just want to say thanks... and let you know that your work is important and touches the hearts of many. I truly appreciate your work on behalf of the McGrath Institute."



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS & DEMOCRACY SUMMIT SUMMER 2025

Catholic Schools and Democracy Summit

Catholic schools make vital and distinctive contributions to the strength of democracy in the United States. To explore and deepen this role, the Catholic Schools and Democracy Summit convened Catholic school educators, academic experts, and other stakeholders for a series of four virtual sessions, offered twice during the summer. Developed by Clare Kilbane in partnership with the Alliance for Catholic Education, the Summit fostered thoughtful dialogue on critical issues and generated insights to inform future programming and scholarship focused on how Catholic schools can more intentionally support democratic life.

The Summit featured contributions from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and University of Notre Dame

Provost John McGreevy, along with Jessica Keating and Christina Leblang of Notre Dame's Office of Life and Human Dignity, who shared their expertise and perspectives.

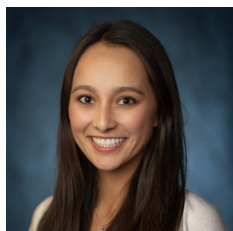
The series drew 150 participants from three countries, representing seven institutions of higher education and 55 arch/dioceses. As one participant reflected, "The Summit gave me a new perspective, especially on how deeply democracy is woven across the curriculum, not only in social studies. I cannot say enough positive things about this experience."



Magnify

Emerging from the Church Communications Ecology Program and led by Brett Robinson, Magnify is a McGrath Institute outreach initiative designed to provide a shared communications infrastructure for Catholic leaders. Through Magnify, participants can exchange experiences, build relationships, and collaborate in addressing the challenges of Church life. The initiative invites engagement with McGrath Institute programming, creates pathways between Institute offerings, organizes resources by topic area, and serves as a hub for participant contributions. Its overarching goal is to extend the Institute's reach and, in doing so, to *magnify* the impact of its existing

programs. In its pilot phase, Magnify focuses on resourcing and connecting Church leaders working at the intersection of faith and mental health, with particular attention to alumni of the McGrath Institute's Fiat Program.



In 2025, the McGrath Institute welcomed Elizabeth Zenger as Program Director of Magnify. In this role, she cultivates ongoing fellowship among former program participants and strengthens their connection to the broader Institute community. Elizabeth also oversees the Inklings Project, an intercollegiate initiative of the McGrath Institute that supports college and university faculty in developing and teaching courses on the Inklings.



Sullivan Undergraduate Saints Fellowship

Through the generosity of Tim and Mary Sullivan, the McGrath Institute developed the Sullivan Undergraduate Saints (SUS) Fellowship, a formative initiative that prepares Notre Dame undergraduates for leadership grounded in the study and spirituality of the saints. In its inaugural spring semester, the first cohort of 12 fellows enrolled in a one-credit course, *Praying with the Saints*, taught by Professor Leonard DeLorenzo, who leads the program, and participated in a pilgrimage to France. Because the fellowship's ultimate aim is to form students who can lead their peers in prayer and service inspired by the saints, the fellows began forming and guiding undergraduate prayer and charity groups in the fall.

In December, the McGrath Institute welcomed 12 students into the 2026-27 cohort of the SUS Fellowship. Selected from a highly competitive pool of 81 applicants, this second cohort reflects strong campus-wide interest and the program's growing reputation as a distinctive formational opportunity within Notre Dame's undergraduate experience. The applicants represent 28 residence halls and 115 academic disciplines spanning the sciences, engineering, social sciences, humanities, and technology.

"The opportunity to move beyond intellectual study and into communal practice—embodying the virtues of the saints—is profoundly exciting, and I know it will be a defining experience of my time at Notre Dame," said Sullivan Undergraduate Saints Fellow Ella Bussell.



Carlo Acutis Roadmap to Reality

After much joyful anticipation, *Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality* premiered in theaters in the spring of 2025. This documentary film was produced in collaboration with Castletown Media and the National Eucharistic Revival and featured McGrath Institute faculty John Cavadini, Brett Robinson and Timothy P. O'Malley. This film received much attention, including from news outlets such as *EWTN Vatican* and *America Magazine*. In addition, the McGrath Institute developed a discussion guide created for schools and families that illuminates the prayerful habits that allowed St. Carlo Acutis to experience the world as a gift of love from God.



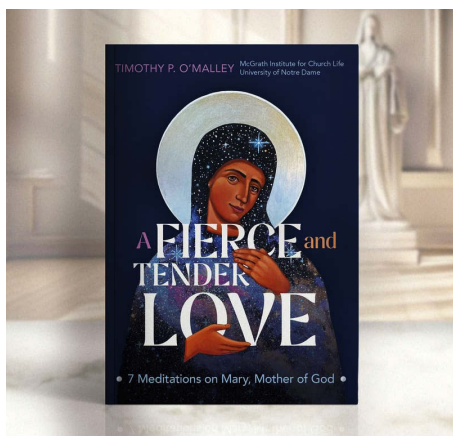
Communications, which included an audience and Mass with Pope Francis and events with colleagues at the Dicastery for Communication. In addition, they met with various media professionals and Church communicators from across the world, learning from their stories and sharing the work of McGrath.

In the summer, the Communications team welcomed Cecilia Cervantes as Project Manager. Before joining the McGrath Institute, she served as the Programs Manager at the Hildebrand Project, an organization devoted to the exploration of the Christian personalist philosophical and theological traditions.



Communications and Outreach

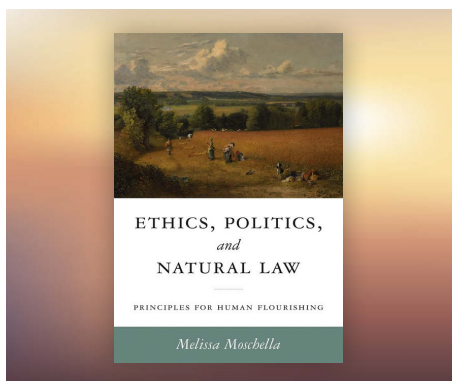
The Communications & Outreach Team attended the Communication & Evangelization conference at the Pontifical University of Santa Croce in Rome, where Director for Outreach Brett Robinson presented research on media ecology and digital evangelization, including the results of the Catholic Media Influencer Summit that McGrath hosted at Mundelein Seminary in the fall of 2024. Then, the team attended the Vatican's Jubilee for World



Engaging Catholicism

Published in the spring in partnership with Ave Maria Press, the latest volume in the McGrath Institute's Engaging Catholicism series is *A Fierce and Tender Love: Seven Meditations on Mary, the Mother of God* by Timothy P. O'Malley. In this work, O'Malley invites readers to contemplate how Mary forms believers into authentic disciples by leading them ever more deeply to Christ. As he writes, "Mary's vocation is also to be ours. Like her, we are called to find our meaning and our identity most completely in the tender mercy of God revealed in the face of the Son."

In conjunction with the book's release, O'Malley also presented a webinar for Ave Maria Press. The Engaging Catholicism series seeks to help readers discover the beauty and truth of the Catholic faith through concise treatments of the Church's most essential—yet often challenging—doctrines, as well as key pastoral and spiritual practices.



Ethics, Politics, and Natural Law

In the spring, the McGrath Institute celebrated the launch of Melissa Moschella's newest book, *Ethics, Politics, and Natural Law: Principles for Human Flourishing*, published through University of Notre Dame Press. A *Book Launch and Discussion of Ethics, Politics and Natural Law*, included comments from Daniel Philpott and David Cloutier as well as a reception. This timely book explores critical topics such as morality's relationship to God, virtues, and civil liberties.



Laudato Si' Africa Conference 2025

Heather Foucault-Camm gave an invited paper at the Laudato Si' Africa Conference 2025 in Uganda, which was also attended by Cardinal Peter Turkson, Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences. The conference examined how far Africa has gone in implementing the landmark ecological document authored by Pope Francis in 2015. Her paper will be featured in a conference volume published by "Springer Nature."



The Changing Face of Life-Limiting Prenatal Diagnoses

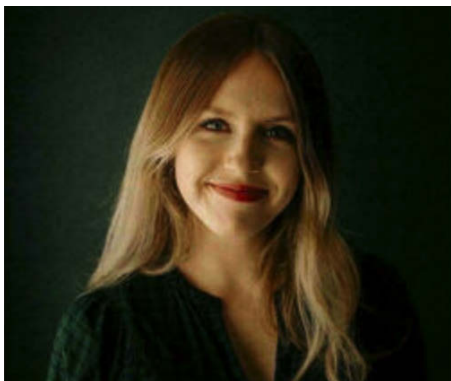
The McGrath Institute co-sponsored the conference *The Changing Face of Life-Limiting Prenatal Diagnoses: Clinical, Pastoral, and Ethical Considerations* with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. At the event, which took place in October, Mary O'Callaghan presented "Lessons Learned from Down Syndrome."



Catholic Pathways for Dialogue and Depolarization

In December, the McGrath Institute announced it had received a \$45,020 grant from Porticus to support a new initiative, *Bridging the Digital Divide: Catholic Pathways for Dialogue and Depolarization*. This project explores how digital technologies can be leveraged to foster encounter and civil dialogue within Catholic contexts, particularly among young adults who are increasingly shaped by online environments.

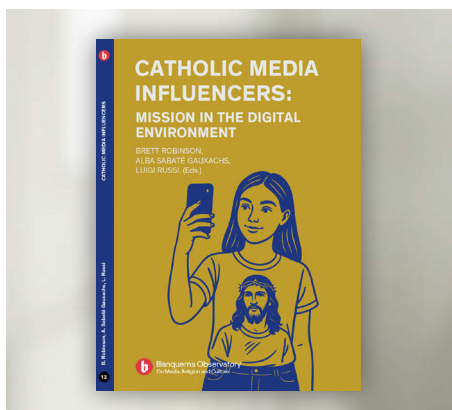
Faith communities remain among the few institutions capable of bringing together people of differing backgrounds in sustained, face-to-face encounter. Yet these same communities now minister in an age when polarization is intensified by digital platforms and when many young people feel disconnected from traditional faith settings. With Porticus's support, the McGrath Institute seeks to equip Catholic leaders with new tools for navigating this rapidly evolving landscape.



2025 Sullivan Saints Research Fellow

The Sullivan Family Saints Initiative at the McGrath Institute for Church Life welcomed Corynne Staresinic as its 2025 Sullivan Saints Research Fellow. As part of her yearlong fellowship, Staresinic created resources on female saints of her choosing, focusing on those who resisted the idols of their particular age, and embodied the faithful, maternal nature of the Church with courage, endurance, and love.

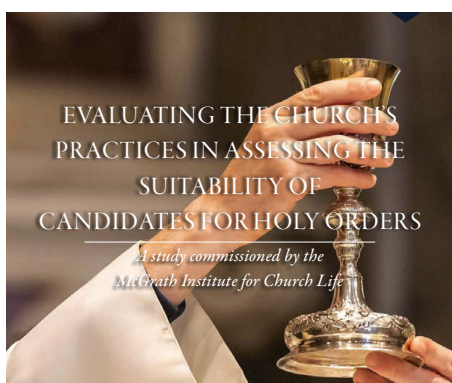
One of her objectives was to create devotional resources that enrich the faithful's understanding of their place in the Church through the witness of these saints, as well as invite readers into each saint's distinctive disposition toward God and neighbor.



Catholic Media Influencers: Mission in the Digital Environment

Launched in fall 2025, *Catholic Media Influencers: Mission in the Digital Environment* offers a comprehensive global study of the role of social media in contemporary Catholic evangelization. Edited by Brett Robinson of the McGrath Institute, along with Alba Sabaté Gauxachs, of the Blanquerna Observatory on Media, Religion and Culture, and Luigi Russi, of the Catholic University of the West, the volume brings together new data and interdisciplinary analysis on digital evangelization.

Grounded in a McGrath Institute-led research project supported by a Porticus grant, the book features contributions emerging from an international conference held at Mundelein Seminary in Chicago and was launched in November at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. Across its chapters, the volume examines the social, psychological, and spiritual dimensions of online ministry, highlighting the enduring importance of authentic encounter and incarnational relationships for leading people to Christ amid rapid cultural and technological change.



Assessing the Suitability of Candidates for Holy Orders

Led by Fr. Thomas Berg, the McGrath Institute commissioned a study with the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University examining how seminaries and dioceses assess the suitability of seminarians for ordination.

The study reports survey data on a host of questions related to how seminaries determine the suitability of candidates for the priesthood today. The study had a particular focus on discerning the appropriate role of psychological services in assisting candidates in their needed growth and on what role those services should play in seminary formation going forward. The CARA survey forms the basis for what will be the fourth McGrath Institute report on priestly formation as part of the McGrath Institute's Seminary Renewal Project.



Planning the U.S. Jubilee for Young Adults

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops invited McGrath Institute staff members to help plan the U.S. Jubilee for Young Adults in Rome. For the event, which had 4,000 participants took place at the Papal Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, Katherine Angulo and Craig Gould were part of an executive team tasked with identifying and preparing witness stories of faith from individuals representing various vocations, as well as curating stories of saints who hold wide appeal to members of the young church. This event was part of the programming offered by the Vatican for the Jubilee for Young Adults. Delegations from Ireland and England also attended the event.



Motherhood in Today's World

Abigail Favale spoke at the United Nations in New York on behalf of the Holy See. In her remarks, Abigail advocated for a vision of women's dignity and rights that is grounded in a deep respect for female embodiment. The event was titled "A Singularly Important Role: Motherhood in Today's World," and was part of the UN's 69th Commission on the Status of Women.



Early Christian Perspectives on the Holy Land

In the fall of 2025, Joshua McManaway gave a paper at a workshop hosted by Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem. titled, "Early Christian Attitudes Towards the Holy Land." Organized by Notre Dame Jerusalem, the event is part of a broader effort to strengthen the university's connections with the global Church. The McGrath Institute continues to support the Church worldwide through initiatives that foster fellowship, faith, and shared mission.



Planning for World Youth Day 2027

Katherine Angulo traveled to South Korea to assist in preparations for World Youth Day 2027. Sponsored by Porticus, this delegation was the first international group invited to support the event's planning. The initiative aims to ensure that, following World Youth Day, both laity and clergy in South Korea are equipped to implement a new format, currently under development, for catechesis and youth and young adult ministry in the country.

McGrath Institute for Church Life

FACULTY & STAFF



Fr. Michael Agliardo, S.J.
Visiting Associate Professor of
the Practice



Katherine Angulo, M.A.
Director, Pastoral
Enrichment Programs



Christopher Baglow, Ph.D.
Academic Director, Science &
Religion Initiative; Professor of
the Practice, Theology



Gerard F. Baumbach, Ed.D.
Emeritus Faculty, Director
Emeritus, Echo Program



Michael Baxter, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of the Practice,
Faith Formation and Service



Patricia Bellm, M.Div., M.Sc., J.C.L.
Grant Finance Manager,
McGrath Institute



Fr. Thomas V. Berg, Ph.D.
Visiting Professor of the Practice



Elizabeth Serafin Berruecos, M.A.
Program Director,
Camino



Scott Boyle, M.A.
Director, Undergraduate
Engagement & Student
Recruitment, McGrath Institute



Noah Bradon, M.A.
Director of Communications;
Executive Producer,
McGrath Institute



Geoffrey Burdell, M.T.S.
Associate Director,
Echo Program



John C. Cavadini, Ph.D.
McGrath-Cavadini Director,
McGrath Institute for Church
Life; Professor, Theology



Cecilia Cervantes
Project Manager, Communications,
McGrath Institute



Susan Coyne
Assistant Director, Events and
Administration, McGrath Institute



Ryan J. Dainty, M.Div.
Program Director,
Echo Program



Brian Dean, M.S.
Director of Finance and
Operations, McGrath Institute



Leonard J. DeLorenzo, Ph.D.
Professor of the Practice, Theology;
Director, Sullivan Family Saints Initiative



Janet Effron, M.A.
Director, Online Learning,
McGrath Institute



Abigail Favale, Ph.D.
Professor of the Practice,
Theology & Literature



**Heather Foucault-Camm,
PGCE, M.Sc., M.A.**
Program Director, Science &
Religion Initiative



Grant Gasse, Ph.D.
Postdoctoral Research Associate



Meghan Gieske, M.M.
Administrative Assistant,
Fiat Program, and Science &
Religion Initiative



Craig Gould, M.A.
Program Director,
Notre Dame Vision



Laura Hartz
Administrative Assistant,
STEP and Camino



Chase Hawkins, M.Div.
Program Director, Pathways to
Communion-High School



Cathy Henry
Senior Administrative Assistant,
Echo Program



Alejandra Herrera, M.Div.
Program Associate,
STEP and Camino



Beth Hlabse, M.S., LMHCA
Program Director, Fiat Program
on Faith and Mental Health



Angela Hubbard
Custodian



Jessica Keating, M.Div.
Program Director, Notre Dame
Office of Life and Human Dignity



Clare Kilbane, Ph.D.
Director for Research and Development for
Digital Education; Senior Learning Designer,
McGrath Institute; Professor of the Practice



Julia King, M.Div.
Associate Director,
Notre Dame Vision



Lesley Kirzeder, M.A.
Program Director, Contours
of Wonder Initiative



Michele LaCrosse
Senior Administrative Assistant,
Notre Dame Vision



Christina Leblang, M.T.S.
Associate Program Director,
Notre Dame Office of Life and
Human Dignity



John A. Lindblom, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
of the Practice



Joshua R. McManaway, Ph.D.
Program Director, Savoring the Mystery;
Academic Director, Take a Second Look;
Assistant Professor of the Practice



Benito Medrano
Program Director,
Holy Family Initiative



Colleen Moore, M.Div.
Associate Director,
McGrath Institute



Melissa Moschella, Ph.D.
Professor of the Practice,
Philosophy



Mary O'Callaghan, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of the
Practice; Academic Advisor,
Fiat Program on Faith
and Mental Health



Timothy P. O'Malley, Ph.D.
Associate Director for Research,
McGrath Institute; Academic Director,
Notre Dame Center for Liturgy;
Professor of the Practice, Theology



Francesca Patti, M.A.
Program Director, Pathways to
Communion-Young Adults



**Carolyn Pirtle, M.M.,
M.S.M., M.A.**
Program Director, Notre Dame
Center for Liturgy



Timothy Pisacich, M.Div.
Associate Director, Echo Program



Helen Rajkumar
Program Coordinator, Center for
Liturgy and Notre Dame Office of
Life and Human Dignity



Brett Robinson, Ph.D.
Associate Director for Outreach;
Associate Professor of the Practice



Artur Rosman, Ph.D.
Editor-in-Chief, *Church
Life Journal*; Associate
Research Professor



Diana Salgado Huicochea, M.A.
Associate Director, Echo Program



Sr. Damien Marie Savino, FSE, Ph.D.
Concurrent Professor,
McGrath Institute



Maggie Scroope
Program Director, Communications,
McGrath Institute



Edith Torres, M.A.
Program Director, Thriving in
Ministry Initiatives



Brittany Tull, M.A.
Program Coordinator,
Catechist Academy



Elizabeth Zenger
Program Director, Magnify

The McGrath Institute for Church Life
partners with Catholic dioceses, parishes, and
schools to address pastoral challenges with
theological depth and rigor. By connecting
the Catholic intellectual life to the life of the
Church, we form faithful Catholic leaders for
service to the Church and the world.



mcgrath.nd.edu