



Saint Francis de Sales SEMINARY

Saint Francis de Sales
SEMINARY



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“You are the salt of the earth.” -Matthew 5:13a

Since 1845, Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, has formed men for ordination to the priesthood of Jesus Christ in the tradition and teaching of the Roman Catholic Church. Formation integrates the human, pastoral, spiritual and intellectual dimensions of the Program of Priestly Formation. Intellectual formation is fulfilled in collaboration with Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology. Pastorally, seminarians experience the ministry and rhythm of parish life through the parish teaching program. A robust spiritual formation program roots the men in the life of Christ, while human formation, a particular emphasis at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, provides a solid foundation for the other dimensions.



Mission Statement

Saint Francis de Sales Seminary forms the hearts, minds and souls of men called by Jesus Christ to serve God's people as priests in the Roman Catholic Church.



Zeal for the House of the Lord Consumes Me

Saint Francis de Sales Seminary is one of the oldest seminaries in the United States. Bishop John Martin Henni established the seminary in 1845 in his own home. By 1856, construction of a new seminary building was complete, and what is now called Henni Hall became the new home for priestly formation in Wisconsin and beyond. Throughout our nearly 180 year history, thousands of seminarians and priests have called, and still call, the Salesianum “home.”

Vos Estis Sal Terrae

It is with great admiration and gratitude that I salute Saint Francis de Sales Seminary and its 178 years of ministry dedicated to the formation of priests for the Catholic Church of the great Ecclesiastical Province of Wisconsin, the United States Midwest region, and beyond.

Generations of faithful and committed priests, religious, and laity have served this remarkable institution throughout all these years. Their dedicated work in the spirit of Saint Francis de Sales – a spirit of culture, perseverance, and holiness of life – is deeply engraved into the Seminary’s tradition. The seminary motto, *Vos estis sal terrae* (*You are the salt of the earth*), truly reflects the zeal, faith, and enthusiasm of its alumni.

May our beloved Seminary prosper under the sacred patronage of Saint Francis de Sales and the abundant blessings of the great High Priest, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

+ Jerome E. Listeski

**Most Reverend Jerome E. Listeski,
Archbishop of Milwaukee**



Fr. Luke Strand

**Very Reverend
Luke N. Strand, Rector**

Saint Francis de Sales: Our Patron

St. Francis de Sales was born on August 21, 1567, into the noble Sales family in Thorens, Savoy, France. He began studies at the University of Paris in 1583 where he studied the humanities, including philosophy and theology. After completing his studies in Paris, Francis went on to receive a doctorate in law from the University of Padua. He was poised to follow in his father's footsteps and embrace a successful political career. However, to his father's initial dismay, Francis chose to forgo marriage and a career in order to pursue ordination to the priesthood.

Francis was ordained a priest by the Bishop of Geneva on December 18, 1593, in the parish church of Thorens. In 1602, less than ten years later, he was consecrated the Bishop of Geneva. As both

**"Nothing is
so strong as
gentleness, nothing
is so gentle as real
strength."**

SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES

a priest and bishop, Francis vigorously opposed Calvinism in Geneva. Together with St. Jane Frances de Chantal, he founded the Order of the Visitation. He wrote extensively, including his most notable work, the spiritual classic *Introduction to the Devout Life*. St. Francis de Sales died in Lyons on December 28, 1622, and was canonized in 1665. Pope Blessed Pius IX proclaimed him a Doctor of the Church in 1877.

When Bishop John Martin Henni arrived in Milwaukee, he chose St. Francis de Sales as the patron of his newly founded seminary. Bishop Henni, a German-speaking Swiss, had a deep devotion to this saint of his homeland. Moreover, Henni found in him an ideal model of Christian virtue for men preparing for priestly ordination. Known as "the gentleman saint,"

St. Francis de Sales provides a worthy example of what it means to be a learned man, a holy priest, and a loving pastor.

St. Francis de Sales, pray for us!

Formation Faculty

Very Rev. Luke N. Strand
Rector

Rev. Robert J. Kroll, SJ
Director of Spiritual Formation

Rev. John C. LoCoco
Vocation Director

ADJUNCT SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS

Rev. John J. Baumgardner
*Vice Rector, Director of Human
Formation, Vocation Promoter*

Rev. Brad A. Krawczyk
*Director of Worship and
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Rev. James Kubicki, SJ
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Associate Director of Vocations
and Formation*

Rev. Kevin Barnekow
Pastoral Counseling

Very Rev. Robert Weighner

Dr. Agnieszka Kosmecka
Director of Liturgical Music



The Saint Francis de Sales Seminary Tradition

“MAKE
THIS
PLACE
HOLY”



Bishop John Martin Henni – the first bishop of the Diocese of Milwaukee – founded Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, the third Roman Catholic seminary in the United States, in his own residence in 1845.

The Diocese of Milwaukee was still in its infancy, having been established only two years earlier, and urgently needed priests to serve the growing number of German Catholic immigrants. To better serve the diocese, Bishop Henni hoped to move the seminary to a permanent location, just south of Milwaukee's city limits. In 1853 a papal envoy accompanied him to this proposed site. Legend has it that the envoy, overcome by the site's beauty, exclaimed: "Make this place holy!"

Ten years after its original founding in Bishop Henni's home, Saint Francis de Sales Seminary moved to its current site. The new building, designed by Victor Schulte and built from Cream City brick, was dedicated on January 29, 1856, the feast day of St. Francis de Sales. This building, now called Henni Hall, is also home to Christ King Chapel, which was dedicated in 1861, a few months after the start of the Civil War. Since its dedication, Henni Hall has remained the center of seminary life.



Forming Priests in the Image of Jesus Christ

Motivated by its time-honored motto, *Vos estis sal terrae* – "You are the salt of the earth," the seminary has prepared more than four thousand men for the priesthood. Faithful to the tradition and teaching of the Roman Catholic Church, Saint Francis de Sales Seminary continues to fulfill this holy mission.

In 2016, Saint Francis de Sales Seminary regained its status as the provincial seminary of Wisconsin, once again serving seminarians from each diocese in the state. Over the last decade, the seminary has seen a steady increase in enrollment, so much so that in 2017 and 2022, renovations of the fifth-floor attic and of Meyer Hall, respectively, were necessary to have enough dorm rooms for seminarians. Continuing its sacred history, Saint Francis de Sales Seminary shows tremendous promise of a rich and fruitful future, continuing the great work of forming holy and faithful priests for the Church of today and tomorrow.

Board of Trustees

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Most Reverend Jerome E. ListECKi
Archbishop of Milwaukee

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Program of Priestly Formation

Stages of Seminary Formation

Saint Francis de Sales Seminary has had the honor of preparing men for the Roman Catholic priesthood since 1845 and continues this mission and tradition today.

Seminarians reside on the Saint Francis de Sales Seminary campus and participate in a formation program specific to the demands of ordained ministry. It is a program rooted in the human, spiritual, pastoral, and intellectual dimensions of priestly formation as outlined by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in the 6th edition of the *Program of Priestly Formation*.

The 6th Edition of the *Program of Priestly Formation* (PPF) specifies four stages of formation:

PROPAEDEUTIC STAGE | The propaedeutic stage is the first stage of seminary formation “with its own specific character” (*Ratio fundamentalis* 59) which “seeks to provide seminarians with the basic groundwork they need to engage in priestly formation” (PPF 119). The word propaedeutic means preparatory; thus, this stage provides an initial foundation in formation in preparation for each of the subsequent stages. During this stage, formation focuses particularly on the human and spiritual dimensions, which “allows the seminarians to lay a foundation for a new way of life by developing a life of prayer, study, fraternity, and appropriate docility to formation” (PPF 120).

Beginning each spring, the propaedeutic stage at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary is lived “in a community distinct from the major seminary” (PPF 127). It is a year set apart where men grow in familiarity with the local and universal Church. A robust media fast deepens men’s opportunity for silence, prayer, study, and intentional community

life. Weekly apostolic work, manual labor, and a four-week service immersion provide a pastoral impetus for the deep interior work required by this stage.

This stage lasts not less than 12 calendar months, and concludes with each seminarian making “a firm resolution to dedicate himself to the work of priestly formation or, alternatively, ‘to follow a different path in life’ as a faithful lay Catholic” (PPF 122).

DISCIPLESHIP STAGE | The discipleship stage builds upon the foundation laid in the propaedeutic stage and further prepares a man to enter the configuration stage. This stage provides the man with “a systematic and rigorous formation that has at its core the goal of growing in an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ...as well as the training of one’s character in Christian virtue” (PPF 132). During this stage, seminarians study philosophy and complete the necessary pre-theology requirements.

Seminarians in the discipleship stage at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary integrate fully into the major seminary community. An intense discernment accompanies this stage, and by its conclusion, the seminarian “can clearly articulate his call and his conviction to be a priest” (PPF 134). Upon the successful completion of this stage, seminarians receive the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders and advance to the configuration stage.

CONFIGURATION STAGE | During the configuration stage, seminarians move beyond discernment and embrace priestly formation and proximate preparation for holy orders, seeking to be configured to Jesus Christ the High Priest. The seminarian “models his life on the self-donation of Jesus Christ, Shepherd and Servant,” and cultivates a “properly priestly spirituality” (PPF 135-136).

This stage demands the integration of the various dimensions of formation into the seminarian's "greater awareness and personal assumption of priestly identity" (*PPF* 136). Theological studies accompany the formation in this stage, as well as the conferral of the ministries of lector and acolyte. At the conclusion of this stage a man petitions for diaconate ordination and is approved for holy orders.

VOCATIONAL SYNTHESIS STAGE | Upon successful completion of the configuration stage and having received diaconate ordination, the man transitions into the vocational synthesis stage. This time of formation allows the newly ordained deacon "to enter into the life of a cleric, incorporating the entirety of the formation he has received from

the moment of baptism until his reception of holy orders" (*PPF* 138). The vocational synthesis stage provides the opportunity for the deacon "to adjust well to the life of ministry before advancing to priestly ordination" (*PPF* 138). This stage occurs "outside the seminary building" and "within the ecclesiastical entity," as the deacon "resides full-time in a pastoral setting, usually the parish" for six months (*PPF* 139; 137). Periodic returns to the seminary during this stage allow seminary formators to continue to accompany the deacon and provide opportunities for "prayer, group reflection, and fraternity in order to process the experience of diaconal ministry and engage in sacramental and pastoral practica" (*PPF* 143).



Human Formation



“The foundation and center of all human formation is Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. In his fully developed humanity, he was truly free and with complete freedom gave himself totally for the salvation of the world” (PPF 181).

Human formation is the necessary foundation of priestly formation. The priest, in and through his humanity, is called to be an instrument of Christ and his redemptive gifts. For this reason, *Pastores dabo vobis* describes the basic principle of human formation as such: “The human personality of the priest is to be a bridge and not an obstacle for others in their meeting with Jesus Christ the Redeemer of the human race” (43; PPF 182). In his fully developed humanity, the priest brings others to an encounter with Christ. He imitates Christ as a man of communion. This means that the priest is called not

only to enter into deep relationship with God, but also to communicate this relationship to God’s people in the community that he serves. It is the priest’s human personality which allows him, in service to the Church, to share effectively the gifts of Christ with the community he shepherds.

Moreover, human formation prepares the priest for a life of celibacy, simplicity of life, and obedience. In a particular way, human formation emphasizes the importance of a healthy and balanced celibate sexuality, and thus demands a comprehensive program on celibacy and human sexuality. The program of human formation at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary “fosters the growth of a man who is a free person, of solid moral character, prudent and discerning, a man of communion, a good communicator, a man who respects his body, who relates well with others, a good steward of material possessions and a conscientious public person” (PPF 183). By receiving this formation, seminarians build the foundation necessary to proclaim the Gospel, bringing Jesus Christ to the world.



Spiritual Formation



The fundamental principle of spiritual formation is “to live in intimate and unceasing union with God the Father through his Son, Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit. This is the foundational call to discipleship and conversion of heart.

Those who aspire to

be sent on mission, as the apostles were, must first acquire the listening and learning heart of disciples” (PPF 226; *Pastores dabo vobis* 45).

Spiritual formation is the core which unifies and enlivens the other dimensions of a man’s formation. There are certain areas of spiritual formation considered essential to the spiritual growth of both the individual and the community at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary:

- Daily Mass
- Liturgy of the Hours
- Daily holy hour and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Daily schedule of personal prayer and meditation
- Weekly opportunity for confession
- Marian devotion, especially the rosary
- Regular spiritual direction
- Solitude and asceticism
- Annual community retreat
- Priestly and diaconate ordination retreats
- Spiritual renewal days and Eucharistic days each semester

The spiritual formation program at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary guides and encourages seminarians in the ongoing process of their own transformation in Christ. Seminarians also receive resources to help

Liturgical Formation

“In seminaries and houses of religious, clerics shall be given a liturgical formation in their spiritual life” (*Sacrosanctum concilium*, 17). *Pastores dabo vobis* affirms that “a totally necessary aspect of the formation of every Christian, and in particular of every priest, is liturgical formation, in the full sense of becoming inserted in a living way in the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ, who is present and active in the Church’s sacraments” (*Pastores dabo vobis*, 48). Thus, drawing from the rich heritage of the Church’s liturgical tradition, Saint Francis de Sales Seminary forms seminarians—through its liturgical life and weekly formation sessions—to acquire a loving reverence for and understanding of the sacred liturgy.

Moreover, in preparation for their future life as priests of Jesus Christ, “seminarians must learn to celebrate all of the Church’s sacred rites according to the mind of the Church” (PPF, 342). To this end, Saint Francis de Sales Seminary offers opportunities for seminarians to learn and practice these rites in liturgical practica, particularly the celebration of holy Mass and the sacrament of penance. Seminarians also receive robust training in liturgical music and chant as integral to their liturgical formation. Believing that “the liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed,” and that “it is the font from which all her power flows” (*Sacrosanctum concilium*, 10), Saint Francis de Sales Seminary prepares its seminarians to lead a parish’s liturgical life as stewards of these sacred mysteries, faithful to the living tradition of the Church.

them develop a fruitful interior life centered on the Eucharist, which is the source of their intimacy with Jesus Christ. Spiritual formation supports the seminarian’s commitment to attend more fully, accept more graciously, and respond more lovingly to a unique call to serve Jesus Christ and the Church.

Intellectual Formation

Intellectual formation “is a fundamental demand of man’s intelligence by which he ‘participates in the light of God’s mind’ and seeks to acquire a wisdom which in turn opens to and is directed towards knowing and adhering to God” (*Pastores dabo vobis* 51; *Gaudium et spes* 15). Seminarians seek and come to know the truth of God which has been revealed in Jesus Christ and is passed on by the Church through sacred Scripture and tradition. This knowledge enables a deeper love of God and a more effective proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The *Program of Priestly Formation* finds the basic principle of intellectual formation for seminarians in *Pastores dabo vobis*: “For the salvation of their brothers and sisters, they should seek an ever deeper knowledge of the divine mysteries” (*Pastores dabo vobis* 51; *PPF* 263). This “knowledge of the divine mysteries” always has an ecclesial and ministerial dimension for the candidate preparing for priesthood. The priest is called to share the truth of Jesus Christ

that he receives in his intellectual formation in seminary with the people and the parish that he serves.

The propaedeutical stage offers an initial intellectual formation in Christian doctrine and the Catholic intellectual tradition. Seminarians then study philosophy in the discipleship stage. The study of philosophy cultivates a love of wisdom, helping seminarians understand the complementarity between faith and reason. It provides the necessary foundation for the culmination of their intellectual formation – graduate theological studies in the configuration stage. Theology, faith seeking understanding, allows seminarians to deepen their knowledge and love of Jesus Christ and his Church. “Finally, intellectual formation through the study of theology enables priests to contemplate, share, and communicate the mysteries of faith with others” (*PPF* 267). Men at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary receive their intellectual formation in collaboration with Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology in Hales Corners, Wisconsin.





Salzmänn Library

Salzmänn Library, located on the campus of Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, serves the seminary community, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and the general public. The library collection contains over 83,000 volumes which support the seminary curriculum and theological studies. Additionally, the library currently receives over 200 periodical titles and indexes. Catholic Periodical and Literature Index, Religion Database, and many journals are available online. Salzmänn Library belongs to SWITCH, a consortium of eight academic libraries in the Milwaukee area that share the online catalog TOPCAT.

HOURS

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: Noon – 8 p.m.

Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Thursday: Noon – 8 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

*Salzmänn Library
is available to seminarians
and faculty 24 hours a day,
7 days a week.*



Pastoral Formation

“The whole formation imparted to candidates for the priesthood aims at preparing them to enter into communion with the charity of Christ the Good Shepherd; therefore ‘priestly formation must be permeated by a pastoral spirit’” (*PPF* 366; *Pastores dabo vobis* 57; *Ratio fundamentalis*, 119).

Pastoral formation is the culmination of the entire formation process, and the *Program of Priestly Formation* designates its basic principle: “The whole training of the students should have as its object to make them true shepherds of souls after the example of our Lord Jesus Christ, teacher, priest, and shepherd” (*Optatam totius* 4; *PPF* 369). Pastoral formation at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary provides a prayerful, reflective, and instructive program where seminarians integrate personal and academic knowledge with the skills and abilities that will be needed to be true shepherds of souls.

Saint Francis de Sales Seminary provides opportunities for seminarians to minister at approved and supervised sites. These include:

- Societal ministry
- Teaching parish (see page 19)
- Clinical Pastoral Education
- Apostolic charity
 - Catholic Charities
 - Campus ministry

Pastoral formation challenges seminarians, requiring them to become more mature and effective ministers of the Gospel. They develop an ability to recognize how God is actively and profoundly present within every life experience through theological reflection. Such insights prepare them to serve the Church and the parish community as pastors.

Teaching Parish Program

The Teaching Parish Program is an essential element of pastoral formation at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary. Seminarians serve regularly at an assigned teaching parish during their years in the configuration stage. This model offers seminarians the opportunity to serve in the life of a parish consistently, which enhances their preparation for priestly ministry. The primary goal of the program is to help seminarians integrate the formation they receive at the seminary with real world experience. Seminarians in the Teaching Parish Program will be involved in the following areas of parish life during the four-year process:

- Liturgy
- RCIA/adult formation
- Catechesis/child and youth ministry
- Evangelization
- Human concerns
- Administration

Requirements

Seminarians are held accountable through an ongoing formal evaluation process that includes feedback from the teaching parish's pastor, pastoral staff, and teaching parish committee, which is composed of select parishioners. Seminarians are required to meet regularly with their supervisors and the teaching parish committee to review and discuss goals, accomplishments, and areas of further growth. They also maintain a log of hours served at the parish, which is reviewed, collected, and filed for credit each semester.

To supplement the program, seminarians have regular formation seminars at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary with the director of pastoral formation. Seminars include reflection and discussion on ministerial experiences and parish life and presentations by

pastoral leaders. In addition to these seminars, seminarians take two courses that orient the seminarian to parish life and ministry:

- Parish as Teacher (fall semester)
- Foundations of Pastoral Ministry (spring semester)

Prerequisites

Before beginning any pastoral formation experiences, seminarians:

- Must be in full compliance with the archdiocese's Safeguarding All of God's Family and must have completed the Safe Environment Education training.
- Must sign an acknowledgment form stating that they have read and understood the Code of Ethical Standards for Church Leaders and the mandatory reporting responsibilities.
- Must have had a criminal background check as part of the admissions process.



Summer Formation

Formation at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary is a year-round program. Each summer, seminarians participate in various apostolates and formation programs.

Summer formation is determined in collaboration with an individual's local diocese. Seminarians at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary are often involved in the following:

- Propaedeutic summer
- Parish internship
- Vocation Office work
- Summer youth camps
- Parish mission trips
- Spanish immersion
- Institute of Priestly Formation
- The Rome Experience
- Lourdes service
- Clinical Pastoral Education
- Diaconal parish ministry



Formational Pilgrimages

ROME

Saint Francis de Sales Seminary leads theologians on an eight-day pilgrimage to Rome every four years. Highlights of this pilgrimage include:

- St. Peter's Basilica and the other three major basilicas
- Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel
- Audience with the Holy Father
- Tour of the Pontifical North American College
- Trips to Assisi, Subiaco, and Orvieto

HOLY LAND

Saint Francis de Sales Seminary leads theologians on a ten-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land every four years. Highlights of this pilgrimage include:

- Jerusalem: Church of the Holy Sepulchre (Our Lord's tomb)
- Jerusalem: The Via Dolorosa (Site of the Stations of the Cross)
- Nazareth: Church of the Annunciation
- River Jordan
- Sea of Galilee



Formation Advising & Evaluation Process

Role of the Formation Advisor

“Priest formators monitor seminarians assigned to them in all four areas of formation, and they assist in the evaluation process” (*PPF* 451). Formation advisors accept the responsibility of being spiritual fathers to seminarians. A formation advisor assists in cultivating a seminarian’s priestly character, while developing a comprehensive vision of the man as he moves through each stage of formation.

Engagement in this comprehensive formation program requires ongoing support, guidance, and accountability. The rector ensures that seminarians are assigned an advisor who meets with them every three weeks to help set formation goals, to monitor their progress, and to challenge them in the demanding and life-giving process of formation.

Evaluation Process

Education and growth are gradual processes, and thus regular evaluations are essential for seminarians to give them clear and accurate information about their growth toward the life and ministry of a priest. Evaluations at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary take place following a threefold process: goal-setting, ongoing conversation, and an annual written evaluation.

Goal Setting

Seminarians develop a statement of formational goals for the coming year within the first two weeks of the academic year. Goals are developed in collaboration with the seminarian’s formation advisor, who reminds the seminarian of the previous year’s goals and recommendations from the evaluation team. The seminarian formulates particular goals using concerns articulated by the faculty and personal reflection on his strengths and weaknesses, and

the benchmarks outlined by the *Program of Priestly Formation*.

Ongoing Meetings and Conversations

Seminarians meet at least every four weeks with their formation advisor. These meetings provide an opportunity to review how the semester is going, to evaluate the student’s progress, and to address any issues that may arise. Advising includes the consideration of human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral formation issues.

Annual Formal Evaluation

Seminarians receive a formal evaluation every year. The components of these evaluations are:

PROPAEDEUTIC STAGE

Faculty evaluation
Self evaluation

DISCIPLESHIP STAGE

Faculty evaluation
Self evaluation

CONFIGURATION I

Faculty evaluation
Self evaluation
Peer evaluation
Teaching parish evaluation

CONFIGURATION II

Faculty evaluation
Self evaluation
Peer evaluation
Teaching parish evaluation

CONFIGURATION III

Faculty evaluation
Self evaluation
Peer evaluation
Teaching parish evaluation
Clinical Pastoral Education evaluation

CONFIGURATION IV

Faculty evaluation
Rector’s interview



Sequential Formation Classes

DISCIPLESHIP I

Men of Communion

HUMAN FORMATION

Virtuous Use of Digital and Social Media

Seminary Life

Etiquette - New Men

Public Person and Ministerial Boundaries I

Affective Maturity I

Affective Maturity II

The Evangelical Counsels: Poverty

The Evangelical Counsels: Chastity

The Evangelical Counsels: Obedience

Celibacy I

Celibacy II

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

The Theological Virtues: Faith, Hope, and Love

Developing a Prayer Life I

Developing a Prayer Life II

Developing a Prayer Life III

PASTORAL FORMATION

Integrating Seminar I

Integrating Seminar II

Introduction to Theological Reflection

Theological Reflection Practicum

Pope's Pastoral Perspectives

LITURGICAL FORMATION

Liturgical Vocabulary

Proclaiming the Word of God Practicum

Ministry of Altar Serving

Introduction to the Roman Missal and Liturgical Calendar

LITURGICAL MUSIC

Introduction to Music Practice and Gregorian Chant

Principles of Sacred Music

Principles of Liturgical Music

Music Literature

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

CCC 1-184 Divine Revelation and Man's Response

CCC 185-267 God and the Trinity

CCC 268-354 Creation and Divine Providence

CCC 355-421 Man, the Fall, and Original Sin

CCC 422-511 The Mystery of Christ: The Incarnation

CCC 512-570 Christ's Hidden and Public Life

CCC 571-682 The Paschal Mystery

CCC 683-747 The Holy Spirit

CCC 748-987 The Holy Catholic Church

CCC 988-1065 The Last Things

CCC 1066-1209 Sacramental Economy: Liturgy and the Church's Sacramental Life

CCC 1210-1284 Sacrament of Initiation: Baptism

CCC 1285-1321 Sacrament of Initiation: Confirmation

CCC 1322-1419 The Eucharist in the Economy of Salvation

CCC 1420-1498 Sacrament of Healing: Penance/Reconciliation

CCC 1499-1532 Sacrament of Healing: Anointing of the Sick

CCC 1533-1666 Sacrament at the Service of Communion & Mission: Holy Orders and Matrimony

CCC 1667-1690 Sacramentals and Funerals



DISCIPLESHIP II

Men of Communion

HUMAN FORMATION

Men of Communion

Celibacy III

Celibacy IV

Affective Maturity III

Affective Maturity IV

Priestly Maturity

The Cardinal Virtues: Fortitude and Temperance

The Cardinal Virtues: Prudence and Justice

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Spiritual Formation and Confession

Spiritual Formation and the Eucharist

Introduction to the Devout Life I

Introduction to the Devout Life II

Introduction to the Devout Life III

Introduction to the Devout Life IV

Principles of Discernment in the Spiritual Life I

Principles of Discernment in the Spiritual Life II

PASTORAL FORMATION

Integrating Seminar I

Integrating Seminar II

Integrating Seminar III

LITURGICAL FORMATION

Reflection on Candidacy

LITURGICAL MUSIC

Gregorian Chant Practice

Holy Scripture and Liturgical Music

Principles of Sacred Music

Practical Usage of Sacred Music in Liturgy

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

CCC 1700-1748 Man, Beatitude, and Freedom

CCC 1749-1802 Human Action and the Moral Conscience

CCC 1803-1876 Virtue and Sin

CCC 1877-1948 Morality and the Human Community

CCC 1949-2051 God's Salvation - Law and Grace

CCC 2052-2141 The Ten

Commandments - 1st Commandment

CCC 2142-2257 The 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Commandments

CCC 2258-2330 The 5th Commandment

CCC 2331-2557 The 6th-10th Commandments

CCC 2558-2597 What is Prayer? and Prayer in the Old Testament

CCC 2598-2649 Prayer in the Fullness of Time & the Church

CCC 2650-2696 The Tradition of Prayer

CCC 2697-2758 Life of Prayer

CCC 2759-2802 The Lord's Prayer

CCC 2803-2865 The Seven Petitions

EVANGELIZATION AND DISCIPLESHIP

Relational Evangelization I

Relational Evangelization II

Leading a One-on-One and a Small Group

Spirituality Year

The second year of the discipleship stage is also a spirituality year. Men in this year accept additional requirements in human, spiritual, pastoral, and intellectual formation, including:

- 8-day silent retreat
- Monthly desert day or cultural excursion
- Limited technology use and no social media accounts
- Additional reading each semester
- Manual labor

CONFIGURATION I

Priestly Character

HUMAN FORMATION

Public Person and Ministerial
Boundaries II

Priestly Identity I

Priestly Identity II

Celibacy V

Celibacy VI

Chaste Spouse

The Foundations -- Parish Team
Formation

The Application of the MBTI in Parish
Team Leadership I

Affective Maturity V

Affective Maturity VI

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Journey of the Interior Life I

Journey of the Interior Life II

Journey of the Interior Life III

Journey of the Interior Life IV

Discipleship in Mark's Gospel I

Discipleship in Mark's Gospel II

Are You Weak Enough to Be a Priest?

Communion to the Sick Practicum

The Eucharist and Priestly Spirituality

PASTORAL FORMATION

Integrating Seminar I

Integrating Seminar II

Integrating Seminar III

Integrating Seminar IV

Directory for Ministry & Life
of Priests I

Directory for Ministry & Life
of Priests II

Directory for Ministry & Life
of Priests III

Direction for Ministry & Life
of Priests IV

LITURGICAL FORMATION

Reflection on Rite of Lector

LITURGICAL MUSIC

Chanting the Roman Missal I

Chanting the Roman Missal II

Chanting the Roman Missal III

Chanting the Roman Missal IV

Chanting the Roman Missal V

Chanting the Roman Missal VI

Music for Liturgical Year I

Music for Liturgical Year II

Music for Liturgical Year III

Gregorian Chant in Liturgy - Practice

Parish Music Resources

EVANGELIZATION AND

DISCIPLESHIP

Ministering in High Schools

Ministering on College Campus

CONFIGURATION II

Mission and Evangelization

HUMAN FORMATION

Public Person and Ministerial
Boundaries III

Contemporary Challenges to Human
Sexuality

Priestly Identity III

Affective Maturity VII

Affective Maturity VIII

The Application of the MBTI in Parish
Team Leadership II

Alcohol and Substance Use and the
Priesthood

Celibacy VII

Celibacy VIII

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Virtues for Priestly Ministry:
Generosity and Simplicity

Virtues for Priestly Ministry: Humility
and Obedience

Virtues for Priestly Ministry: Integrity
and Prudence

Virtues for Priestly Ministry: Apostolic
Zeal & Perseverance

Virtues for Priestly Ministry: Celibate
Chastity

Priest as Spiritual Physician

Compassion in Luke's Gospel I

Compassion in Luke's Gospel II

PASTORAL FORMATION

Integrating Seminar I

Integrating Seminar II

Integrating Seminar III

Societal Ministry in the Parish

Pastoral Care of the Sick Practicum I

Pastoral Care of the Sick Practicum II

LITURGICAL FORMATION

Reflection on Rite of Acolyte

LITURGICAL MUSIC

Gregorian Chant in Liturgy - Practice

Chanting the Roman Missal I

Chanting the Roman Missal II

EVANGELIZATION AND DISCIPLESHIP

Parish Evangelization I

Parish Evangelization II

Parish Evangelization III

Catechesis and Religious Education



CONFIGURATION III

Spiritual Fatherhood

HUMAN FORMATION

Affective Maturity IX

Affective Maturity X

Communion with Bishops & Priests

Celibacy IX

Celibacy X

Role of the Ordained

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Spiritual Fatherhood

Deepening Prayer Life I

Deepening Prayer Life II

Deepening Prayer Life III

Discernment of Spirits

Discerning Ordinary and Extraordinary Spiritual Problems

PASTORAL FORMATION

Reflection on CPE Experience

Integrating Seminar I

Integrating Seminar II

Integrating Seminar III

LITURGICAL FORMATION

Rite of Baptism: Practicum I

Rite of Baptism: Practicum II

Rite of Baptism: Practicum III

Rite of Baptism: Practicum IV

Exposition and Benediction Practicum I

Exposition and Benediction Practicum II

Devotions and Blessings Practicum I

Devotions and Blessings Practicum II

Mass Practicum I: Deacon

Mass Practicum II: Deacon

Mass Practicum III: Deacon

Mass Practicum IV: Deacon

Mass Practicum V: Deacon

Funeral Vigil Practicum

Funeral Practicum

Rite of Marriage Practicum I

Rite of Marriage Practicum II

Rite of Marriage Practicum III

Rite of Marriage Practicum IV

Reflection on Rite of Ordination of Deacons

LITURGICAL MUSIC

Chanting the Roman Missal I

Chanting the Roman Missal II

Chanting the Roman Missal III

Chanting the Roman Missal IV

Chanting the Roman Missal V

Liturgical Music

Music and Evangelization

CONFIGURATION IV

Priestly Life

HUMAN FORMATION

Affective Maturity XI

Affective Maturity XII

Celibacy XI

Celibacy XII

Making a Successful Transition I

Making a Successful Transition II

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Revisiting the Spiritual Autobiography

Priesthood in the Letter to the Hebrews I

Priesthood in the Letter to the Hebrews II

Priest as Image of the High Priest

PASTORAL FORMATION

Integration to Case Study and Formal
Integrating Seminar [Reflections on
Diaconal Summer]

Integrating Seminar I

Integrating Seminar & Parish
Documents

Canonical Issues and Documentation
Related to Marriage Prep

Nuts and Bolts of Parish Finances

Clergy Manual - Salary Implications

Tribunal Services

LITURGICAL FORMATION

Devotions and Blessings Practicum III

Mass Practicum I: Priest

Mass Practicum II: Priest

Mass Practicum III: Priest

Mass Practicum IV: Priest

Mass Practicum V: Priest

Penance Practicum I

Penance Practicum II

Penance Practicum III

Penance Practicum IV

Penance Practicum V

Penance Practicum VI

Penance Practicum VII

Penance Practicum VIII

Penance Practicum IX

Penance Practicum X

Anointing Practicum I

Anointing Practicum II

Anointing Practicum III

Anointing Practicum IV

Reflection on Rite of Ordination
of Priests

LITURGICAL MUSIC

Chanting the Roman Missal I

Chanting the Roman Missal II

EVANGELIZATION AND DISCIPLESHIP

Fostering Parish Stewardship

Creating an Evangelizing Parish





Workshops and Formation Days

NEW SEMINARIAN ORIENTATION

(Every August, required for all new seminarians)

- Community life at the Seminary
- Liturgical life of the Seminary
- Introduction to seminarian evaluation process
- Introduction to human, spiritual, pastoral, liturgical, and intellectual formation
- Seminarian Handbook and Rule of Life
- Safe Environment Education, Code of Ethics, mandatory reporting

ST. JOHN PAUL II OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS FORMATION DAY

Formation day offered in collaboration with Archdiocese of Milwaukee St. John Paul II Office of Evangelization and Catechesis. Topics may include:

- Pastoral issues related to marriage and family life
- Contemporary challenges to human sexuality
- Human formation and affective maturity
- Pastoral issues related to human psychology
- Evangelization and discipleship

DESERT DAYS

One formation day each semester is designated as a desert day. Men are encouraged to spend the day in:

- Silence
- Prayer
- Reflection
- Leisure
- Time alone with God

COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL FORMATION

- Two spiritual renewal days each year
- Annual seminary community retreat
- Diaconal ordination retreat
- Priestly ordination retreat
- Daily Mass, holy hour, and Liturgy of the Hours
- Weekly rosary
- Weekly opportunity for sacrament of penance



“
Now it is God's desire for us to be perfect,
uniting ourselves to him,
and imitating him as closely as we can.
A proud and self-reliant man rightly fears to
undertake anything,
but a humble man becomes all the braver
as he realizes his own powerlessness;
all the bolder as he sees his own weakness,
for all his confidence is in God.”

- SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES,
Introduction to the Devout Life



Admissions Process

The Application Process

The admissions office at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary accompanies the prospective seminarian through the application process in collaboration with his diocesan vocation office. All men applying for propaedeutic, discipleship, or configuration stages at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary must request the application from their respective vocation director or his delegate.

For application to the configuration stage, applicants must have completed the propaedeutic and discipleship stages, with adequate courses in philosophy as specified in the *Program of Priestly Formation*. Applicants for the discipleship stage must have completed the propaedeutic stage. During the discipleship stage, they will pursue the formational benchmarks and philosophical studies necessary for entrance into the configuration stage as outlined in the *Program of Priestly Formation*. Men applying for the propaedeutic stage undergo the full seminary admissions process, and advance to each subsequent stage of formation after adequately completing the formational benchmarks as determined by the evaluation process.

Requirements for Applicants from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Men applying from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee are to return the fully completed application to the director of admissions at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary. The admissions office will then issue further instructions regarding these additional requirements:

- Psychological interview
- Three interviews by priests of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee
- Medical exam
- School transcripts
- References and letters of recommendation



Requirements for Applicants from Sending Dioceses

Applicants from dioceses other than the Archdiocese of Milwaukee must have a letter of sponsorship from their bishop or religious superior in order to be considered for admission to Saint Francis de Sales Seminary. Men applying from other dioceses are to return the completed application and all other items required by the sponsoring diocese to their diocesan vocation director. The vocation director will forward these application materials with the requisite release forms to Saint Francis de Sales Seminary. These candidates will be contacted by the admissions office after a review of their application materials. A full list of the seminary admissions requirements is included in the application packets.

Requirements for ESL Applicants

Applicants whose first language is other than English and who reside locally may be accepted for residence for one year in an English language and cultural integration program selected by Saint Francis de Sales Seminary. With successful completion of an ESL program, an ESL candidate may be invited to apply for the full seminary program.

Applicants from outside the United States may apply to the Seminary if they are sponsored by a local diocese but will not be considered without an extensive application process including a psychological interview completed in their homeland and an international criminal background check.





Contact Us

Join the Mission of Saint Francis de Sales Seminary

Learn More about Saint Francis de Sales Seminary

If you wish to learn more about Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, please contact us.

Fr. Luke Strand, Rector
rector@sfs.edu | 414-747-6400 | www.sfs.edu

Discern Your Vocation

If you are discerning a vocation to the diocesan priesthood, contact Fr. John LoCoco, Vocation Director for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Fr. John LoCoco, Vocation Director
jlococo@sfs.edu | 414-747-6425

Apply to the Seminary

If you have questions about the admissions process, contact William Hudson, Director of Admissions for Saint Francis de Sales Seminary.

Mr. William Hudson, Director of Admissions
Associate Director of Vocations and Formation
whudson@sfs.edu | 414-747-6437

Make a Gift

If you would like to join our mission of priestly formation by making a donation to Saint Francis de Sales Seminary, contact Lisa Brielmaier, Director of Seminary Advancement.

Ms. Lisa Brielmaier, Director of Seminary Advancement
lbrielmaier@sfs.edu | 414-747-6463



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