Introduction

4 The Congregation of Holy Cross: Anchors of the Mission
6 Introducing Father Garry Olinger, C.S.C., Vice President for Mission Engagement and Church Affairs
7 The Demolition and Reconstruction of Corby Hall

The Nature of the Education Offered to Students

10 Keough Hall: The First Parish for Father Brogan Ryan, C.S.C.
12 New Master of Global Affairs Degree
14 Kellogg Summer Entrepreneurial Internship
16 Life Lunches: Encouraging Conversations on Life and Human Dignity
18 Notre Dame’s Chapter of Engineers Without Borders

The Types of Discussions, Debates, and Inquiries that Take Place at the University

22 Darcia Narvaez Leads Program on Public Virtue
24 The Notre Dame Forum: "The Catholic Artistic Heritage: Bringing Forth Treasures New and Old"
26 Exploring Human Flourishing with Thomas Jay Oord
27 Center for Social Concerns Launches New Podcast
28 50 Years of the London Law Program

Service to the Catholic Church in a Manner Appropriate for a University

31 Alumni Association Inaugural Lennon Life Prizes
32 Solar Panels Installed at Our Lady of the Road
34 Father Jenkins Celebrates Mass with Mothers of Veracruz
35 ND ICL Hosts Vision for Campus and Youth Ministers
36 Notre Dame Deloitte Center for Ethical Leadership
The essential character of the University as a Catholic institution of higher learning shall at all times be maintained ... [and] the University retain in perpetuity its identity as such an institution.

—STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY
Since its founding by Rev. Edward F. Sorin, C.S.C., on November 26, 1842, the University of Notre Dame has sought to be at the center of Catholic intellectual life. Notre Dame’s Catholic character informs its every endeavor: from the nature of the education it offers, to the kinds of discussions and inquiries that take place at the University, to its service to the Church.

Notre Dame’s Catholic character is grounded in its Holy Cross identity. As “educators in the faith,” Holy Cross priests and brothers anchor the University’s Catholic character, working to fulfill the vision of the Congregation’s founder, Blessed Basil Moreau, to “make God known, loved, and served.”

This report provides a small sampling of the research, teaching, and service occurring on campus and around the world to fulfill the mission of Notre Dame and the expectations of Catholic universities that have been articulated by the Church. These expectations took form in an apostolic exhortation issued by Pope John Paul II in 1990, titled Ex Corde Ecclesiae. The exhortation was adopted by Catholic bishops in the United States in 1999, and states four attributes that comprise Catholic identity at an institution such as Notre Dame.

1. A Christian inspiration not only of individuals but of the university community as such;
2. a continued reflection in the light of the Catholic faith upon the growing treasury of human knowledge, to which it seeks to contribute by its own research;
3. fidelity to the Christian message as it comes to us through the Church;
4. an institutional commitment to the service of the people of God and of the human family in their pilgrimage to the transcendent goal which gives meaning to life.

The following is not an exhaustive listing of every way in which the University maintains its Catholic character; it would be impossible to detail everything Our Lady’s University has done, is doing, and will do. Rather, the report provides a small sampling of the good work people are doing across campus and around the world to fulfill Pope John Paul II’s vision for Catholic institutions of higher learning and Father Sorin’s vision for Notre Dame.
The Congregation of Holy Cross: Anchors of the Mission

Holy Cross priests and brothers anchor the University’s Catholic character and spirit. Of the members of the Congregation on campus, 38 live in residence halls, and nine of them serve as rectors. Twenty-two Holy Cross religious teach in the classroom in some capacity.

This is the essence of the Holy Cross model of education: forming students both inside the classroom and beyond it.

“Moreau inspired his band of Holy Cross religious to prepare useful citizens for society, but also to set ourselves to the task of preparing citizens for heaven. The Congregation of Holy Cross at Notre Dame—and around the world—continues with this mission today,” said Rev. Gerry Olinger, C.S.C., vice president for mission engagement and church affairs.

Today, members of the Congregation are found across campus, working in administration, serving in chapels, living in residence halls, and teaching in classrooms. They gather for meals and common prayer, oversee the daily operations of campus life, celebrate Mass, counsel students, and provide instruction in everything from science to social justice to liberal arts.

Literally, since day one, the Congregation has been working to fulfill the vision of its founder, Blessed Basil Moreau, to cultivate the hearts and minds of students.

In the troubled times following the French Revolution, a young priest named Basil Moreau assembled other priests to educate and revitalize the Catholic community in the region around Le Mans, France. Shortly thereafter, he accepted responsibility for the Brothers of St. Joseph, a group founded 15 years earlier. In 1841, Blessed Basil united the priests and brothers within a single association, the Congregation of Holy Cross, and the community began to grow internationally through its educational and missionary activity.

In one of the Congregation’s first missionary efforts, Moreau sent Rev. Edward Sorin, C.S.C., and a group of brothers to the American frontier in the early 1840s to found a university. Today, priests and brothers of the Congregation continue to animate the University of Notre Dame with their mission to be “educators in the faith.”

holycrossusa.org

“Moreau inspired his band of Holy Cross religious to prepare useful citizens for society, but also to set ourselves to the task of preparing citizens for heaven. The Congregation of Holy Cross at Notre Dame—and around the world—continues with this mission today.”

—REV. GERRY OLINGER, C.S.C.
C.S.C. Priests and Brothers on Campus

Count

- TENURED AND TENURE-TRACK
- STAFF
- OTHER FACULTY
- PASTORAL RESIDENTS

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Note: Personnel at Notre Dame’s off-site locations are included.
Introducing Father Gerry Olinger, C.S.C., Vice President for Mission Engagement and Church Affairs

“I look forward to continuing to serve the University and its mission by cultivating the Catholic and Holy Cross mission of Notre Dame and catalyzing its service to the Church.”

In June 2018, Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., announced the appointment of Rev. Gerard J. Olinger, C.S.C., as the new vice president for mission engagement and church affairs, which became effective in August. In this role, Olinger stewards Notre Dame’s Catholic mission while serving as a liaison between the University and the Congregation of Holy Cross, the U.S. Bishops, the USCCB, and the Holy See. He also oversees the Tantur Ecumenical Institute in Jerusalem and the Notre Dame–Newman Center for Faith and Reason in Dublin.

“Father Olinger has proved a thoughtful, engaged member of our Board of Trustees and a great administrator at Portland,” Father Jenkins said, adding: “We’re grateful and excited to have Gerry steward and deepen Notre Dame’s Catholic and Holy Cross mission, enhance our contributions to the Church, and advance ecumenical and interfaith understanding and cooperation at Notre Dame and around the world.”

A native of Springfield, Pennsylvania, Father Olinger is a triple Domer. He earned his bachelor’s degree in history and government in 2001, his juris doctor from the Law School in 2004, and his master of divinity in 2009. Since then, he has spent much of his career at the University of Portland, serving as vice president for university relations, vice president for student affairs, executive assistant to the president, and assistant professor of political sciences. Olinger is also a member of the state bars of Indiana and Pennsylvania, and has been a member of Notre Dame’s Board of Trustees and King’s College’s Board of Directors.

“I am humbled by Father Jenkins’ invitation to serve the University,” Father Olinger said. “Notre Dame has helped form me academically and spiritually. I am grateful to have served this truly excellent institution for the last four years as a Trustee, and I look forward to continuing to serve the University and its mission by cultivating the Catholic and Holy Cross mission of Notre Dame and catalyzing its service to the Church.”

Olinger’s predecessor, Rev. William M. Lies, C.S.C., had been elected provincial superior of the Congregation of Holy Cross, United States Province of Priests and Brothers.
The summer of 2018 ushered in the demolition of one of the oldest buildings on Notre Dame’s campus—Corby Hall, the iconic home of the priests of the Congregation of Holy Cross. The building was razed in June in order to make way for a new hall similar in design and use, but which will include key updates to bring it into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, make better use of the space, and allow for the installation of new technology.

Rev. Austin Collins, C.S.C., rector of the building, said a group met for several months with the hope of renovating and adding to the historic hall while keeping it intact, but it was ultimately determined that the structural integrity of the building could not accommodate the necessary changes. Construction of the new building is expected to be complete in spring 2020 and has been made possible by a generous $20 million gift from Jay and Mary Flaherty, in addition to $10 million from the University.

Corby Hall was originally built in 1895 as a home for priests but was converted to a student residence hall in 1899 in response to rapid increase in student enrollment. It was then that it was named Corby Hall in honor of Rev. William E. Corby, C.S.C., a former Notre Dame president and Civil War chaplain. The statue outside the building, casually referred to as “Fair Catch Corby,” is a replica of the one at Gettysburg National Military Park. It depicts Corby giving general absolution to soldiers from the Union’s Irish Brigade at the Battle of Gettysburg. While the building is under construction, the statue will be located across the street from its usual location but will remain visible.

In the mid-1930s, the building returned to its use as a home for the priests and brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Corby Hall has since offered a necessary space where religious can gather, pray in community, and grow in brotherhood, essential tenets mentioned in the congregation’s constitutions. Before demolition, Corby Hall most recently housed 28 priests and brothers, though an additional 43 priests, brothers, and seminarians regularly frequent Corby for meals, prayers, Mass, and community life. They are being temporarily housed in other rooms around campus.

Corby’s notable yellow façade, matching nearby Sorin Hall and the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, is a result of bricks made from marl from the depths of Saint Mary’s and Saint Joseph’s Lakes. Efforts were made during demolition to preserve those bricks, but rather than being used in the reconstruction, the bricks will be saved for renovating other older buildings at Notre Dame and will be distributed to the University’s friends and donors. The new Corby Hall will be made of new, but matching, bricks, Father Collins said.

Once finished, the new hall should look very similar to its predecessor and will still feature a notable porch and the same large statue of the Virgin Mary.
The Nature of the Education Offered to Students

As a Catholic university, Notre Dame is inspired by the spirit of Christ to create an authentic community dedicated to the truth, the dignity of the human person, the message of Christ, and the education of the whole person. Respecting both the Catholic tradition and the University’s own roots, and as articulated in its mission statement, Notre Dame endeavors to be “an environment of teaching and learning that fosters the development in its students of those disciplined habits of mind, body, and spirit that characterize educated, skilled, and free human beings.”

“The mind will not be cultivated at the expense of the heart. While we prepare useful citizens for society, we shall likewise do our utmost to prepare citizens for heaven.”

—BLESSéd BASIL MOREAU
The University of Notre Dame continues to carry out its educational mission in the spirit of Blessed Basil Moreau, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, by fostering intellectual, moral, and spiritual growth in its students, both those who are Catholic and those of other faiths. As part of its Catholic mission, Notre Dame strives for inclusion of all members of its community, and works to create an environment of mutual respect.

**Catholic Students (Incoming Undergraduates)**

- **PERCENT IDENTIFYING AS CATHOLIC IN TOTAL CLASS**
- **PERCENT IDENTIFYING AS CATHOLIC FOR THOSE STUDENTS DISCLOSING RELIGION**

Note: Survey data suggests other four-year Catholic colleges average about 50-55% Catholic
When Blessed Basil Moreau founded the Congregation of Holy Cross, he called his priests and brothers to be “educators in the faith” and asked them to form both the minds and the hearts of their followers. Rev. Edward Sorin, C.S.C., founded the University of Notre Dame in the same tradition. In a circular letter in 1885, he reiterated the necessity of dual formation, writing, “Education, in its proper sense, implies the expansion and cultivation of all the faculties, mental and physical—the cultivation of the heart as well as the mind; and of these the formation and enrichment of the heart is undoubtedly the most important of the two.”

Today at Notre Dame, that cultivation of the heart happens throughout the undergraduate experience, but perhaps nowhere more richly than in the residence halls where 80 percent of the student body lives, studies, sleeps, prays, plays, succeeds, and occasionally fails. There, the rectors play a crucial role in developing communities that allow for growth and formation, all while ministering to individual students.

New to the helm of Keough Hall as rector is Father Brogan Ryan, C.S.C. Father Ryan is a Notre Dame alumnus with a bachelor’s degree in business, a master’s degree from ACE, and a master of divinity degree. He professed his perpetual vows and was ordained a deacon in August 2018 and was ordained a priest in April 2019.

Undaunted by the task of juggling his new role as a rector, he enthusiastically talked about the blessings of living among undergraduates in the hall.

“In a lot of ways, this is my first parish. The experiences I have with these guys, whether they know it or not, are teaching me how to be a pastor to them,” he said.

Some of those experiences are formal ministries, he acknowledged. In addition to Keough’s popular and occasionally standing-room-only Sunday-evening Mass, Wednesday nights are a popular time for church, as Father Ryan serves up root beer floats, along with a serving of fellowship, afterward. There’s also a weekly men’s group, and Keough Hall hosts its own student-led annual retreat, the Roo-treat, with approximately 65 men in attendance.

But the formation of the men in the hall happens just as richly in the day-to-day activities as it does in the sacramental and scheduled ones, Ryan noted. The men grow simply by living in a community where everyone is known, welcome, supported, and loved.

“I tell my guys at the beginning of the year, and I tell their parents, that my primary mission here is to get to know your sons and to grow in relationship with them in order to help them grow in relationship with each other, and ultimately with Christ,” he said. “The shepherd knows his sheep.”

Keough Hall: The First Parish for Father Brogan Ryan, C.S.C.

“The shepherd knows his sheep.”
Ryan noted that not all his residents take that final step to deepen their relationship with Christ, but he said he hopes that in living among the men, cheering them on, helping them when they stumble, he can build authentic relationships and provide a model of love and faith that they can imitate.

And they have. At his August diaconate ordination, Ryan looked out to the pews to see a large group of Keough Kangaroos supporting him, just as he has for them.
New Master of Global Affairs Degree

In 2017, when Notre Dame opened the doors to the Keough School of Global Affairs, the first new school at the University in nearly a century, President Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., boldly proclaimed, "Through the Keough School, Notre Dame will prepare students for effective and ethically grounded professional leadership in government, the private sector and global civil society, engaging them in the worldwide effort to address the greatest challenges of our century: threats to security and human dignity that come in the form of crushing poverty and underdevelopment; failed governance and corruption; resource wars; civil wars; and other forms of political violence and human rights violations."

Within the Keough School, the master of global affairs degree is designed to train students to address these problems from leadership positions in government, nongovernmental and civil society organizations, and the private sector. The two-year, full-time professional degree program offers a curriculum founded on themes pertaining to integral human development, ethical reasoning, and a commitment to the common good. It requires courses in global affairs—which promote both large-scale global understanding and engagement with one specific language, culture, and religion—and methods classes—which enhance skills in organizational leadership, negotiation, project management, policy formulation and implementation, conflict analysis, effective communications, and strategic peacebuilding.

The curriculum also includes a policy seminar that introduces scholars to government and military officials, activists, journalists, religious leaders, and others with global expertise. Policy seminar instructors have included Denis McDonough, former White House Chief of Staff; Horst Koehler, former president of Germany; Gen. James Clapper, former U.S. director of national intelligence; and Ignacio Walker, former Foreign Minister of Chile.

Finally, the program requires participation in the Integration Lab (i-Lab), a series of theory-to-practice engagements that teach students how to grapple with real-world challenges ranging from climate adaptation to conflict transformation to food and water scarcity. The i-Lab, led by professors Tracy Kijewski-Correa and Steve Reifenberg, requires four semesters of courses in addition to a summer spent working in the field with partners in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East.

In a blog about her fieldwork experience, Loyce Mrewa, a Keough master’s student from Zimbabwe who holds L.L.B. and L.L.M. degrees, wrote about how her time in Kenya shifted her notions of effective peacebuilding and allowed her to better understand and accompany the people with whom she was working.

"Being in Nairobi, Kenya, for five months has enabled me to witness and learn about the importance of having long-term engagement. My perspectives about how to engage Kenyans in peacebuilding work have shifted over time, with greater exposure and interaction with locals. Working with a local partner has provided space for interrogation and inquiry about the dimensions and nuances that influence peacebuilding work," Mrewa wrote.

“The immersion process into Kenya, its culture, and the peacemaking interventions implemented by our partner organization has also provided space to practice accompaniment by learning from others through observation and providing assistance with projects. This has exposed me to strategies for effectively engaging in foreign spaces and working with persons from varying identity groups to enhance adaptability, social bridging skills, and cultivate an acceptance of differences. These traits are vital for relationship building and working in foreign environments, particularly since soft forms of power such as relationship building (social harmony) are utilized in making societies more peaceful and just."

The first class of 38 master’s students from 22 different countries graduated in May 2019, prepared to tackle global issues and serve the common good.
Theology Degrees Awarded
Counts of baccalaureates completing majors offered by the Department of Theology
Counts of post-baccalaureate degrees awarded in Theology programs

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Note: Includes degrees conferred in Early Christian Studies master’s program, which is jointly offered by the Classics and Theology departments.
Kellogg Summer Entrepreneurial Internship

As Notre Dame pushes its students to learn, achieve, and recognize their own capabilities, so too does it hope to instill in them a sense of responsibility and a sensitivity to poverty, injustice, and oppression.

One way to expose undergraduates to those tenets is through the Kellogg Summer Entrepreneurial Internship, a program that funds student collaborations with non-governmental organizations and policy institutes in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the United States for a minimum of eight weeks. The students are expected to use knowledge and skills gleaned from their time at Notre Dame in order to return with a better understanding of the needs of the communities and countries that welcome them. Because the internships are entrepreneurial in nature, students are required to develop a unique program that fits both their academic interests and the needs of the partner organization. While Kellogg has a list of partners and communities with whom they’ve previously worked, students are welcome to propose new projects and partners. These organizations not only provide summer opportunities for students, but they also expand Notre Dame’s global network of partners interested in collaboration, learning, and service.

Last summer, 11 students were awarded Summer Entrepreneurial Internships, which brought them to Uganda, Argentina, South Africa, India, Morocco, Rwanda, and Ghana. They worked in fields ranging from maternal antenatal care, to medical access in rural areas, to English-language comprehension for at-risk youth. Though the key takeaways varied from student to student, improved linguistic proficiency, eye-opening cultural immersion, and gained knowledge applicable to future professional endeavors were some repeated themes.

One student, Erin Albertini ’20, spent her summer with Child Family Health International (CFHI) in Argentina. At the end of the program, she summarized her experience by writing:

“I expanded my understanding of Latin American health and culture, improving my cultural competency, linguistic proficiency, and understanding of health and health care.”

As the Notre Dame community maintains and expands its dedication to the education of the whole person as specified in Blessed Basil Moreau’s vision, internships like those offered by the Kellogg Institute for International Studies provide vital opportunities for students to grapple with questions of human dignity, to witness and live with those who are less fortunate, and to realize their moral obligations to serve those around them.
Participation in Community Service by Seniors
Percent of graduating seniors reporting having participated in volunteer or community service activities in the past year (CIRP College Senior Survey)

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Life Lunches: Encouraging Conversations on Life and Human Dignity

As part of an effort to share pro-life scholarship with the University community, the Office of Life and Human Dignity hosts a series of lectures titled “Life Lunches.” These presentations, offered three times each semester, encourage discourse on human life and dignity.

Jessica Keating, the program director for the Office of Life and Human Dignity, said the series began in 2016 with the hope of creating an ongoing discourse. “Our goal is to engage the Catholic Church’s teachings on the sanctity of life and human dignity and to do so with the best scholars in the world. Life Lunches draw from faculty across the academic disciplines, ranging from economics and philosophy to law and marketing, to present on pro-life issues related to their area of expertise.”

Past Life Lunch subjects have included “Recognizing the Embryo as a Person,” by theology professor Gerald McKenny; “Are There Too Many People in the World? What Can Economics Tell Us?” with economics professors Kirk Doran and Joe Kaboski; and “The Death Penalty—An Affront to Life,” hosted by Jennifer Mason McAward, associate professor of law and the director of the Klau Center for Civil and Human Rights.

As of the conclusion of the 2018-19 academic year, the program has hosted 17 Life Lunches, which do, as the name suggests, provide lunch. According to Keating, there are typically in the range of 40 to 65 attendees, including Notre Dame faculty, students, staff, and local residents.

While Notre Dame aspires to be a preeminent research university, it also maintains its commitment to have the Catholic faith inspire its endeavors, including lectures and opportunities for open discussion.

Keating said, “The Life Lunch series contributes to the Catholic intellectual mission of the University in a real and tangible way by encouraging conversation around issues of life and human dignity.”

“Our goal is to engage the Catholic Church’s teachings on the sanctity of life and human dignity and to do so with the best scholars in the world.”
Residence Halls with C.S.C. Religious
Count of undergraduate residence halls

- **RESIDENCE HALLS WITH NO C.S.C. RELIGIOUS**
- **RESIDENCE HALLS WITH AT LEAST ONE C.S.C. RELIGIOUS**
- **W** WOMEN'S RESIDENCE HALL
- **M** MEN'S RESIDENCE HALL

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ADDITIONAL C.S.C. RELIGIOUS IN RESIDENCE HALLS:
0 16 0 11 0 13 0 14 0 10
Notre Dame’s Chapter of Engineers Without Borders

In a small town in southern Cameroon, a community was devastated by disease. Stomach issues, skin rashes, and other problems plagued the people who were taking water from springs and open-faced wells contaminated with bacteria causing waterborne illness. But thanks to a group of Notre Dame undergraduates, a new well provides safe, potable water to the residents of Sangmélima, Cameroon.

Notre Dame’s chapter of Engineers Without Borders was matched with the Alfred and Sarah Bilingual Academy in Sangmélima and was tasked with building a well that could serve the school’s 300 students and the surrounding village of 2,000 residents.

One of the residents and the head of the Rural Women Development Association (RUWADA), Minlo Hanna N-Mokake, said, “The well is of great importance to the community. For several years, so a long time, the community has not been able to have a good water system source where they can drink. The community has been suffering and going long distances to get water.”

In response to the community’s needs, in 2014 and 2016 Notre Dame undergraduates, led by civil engineering professor Melissa Berke, went to assess the site, sample local water sources, survey potential locations, interview contractors, collaborate with local partners, and teach hygiene and women’s health programs. Students designed the well and hired a local contractor to begin building. In January 2017, students traveled back to Cameroon to help complete the well alongside local crews, and taught residents how to test the water and maintain the well. Now, the residents of Sangmélima have access to clean water through the use of a hand pump. By working with community members, students ensured not just the immediate success of their project, but also the long-term sustainability.

With phase I complete, now the group is focused on installing an electric pump, water tower, and distribution system so water can be delivered more quickly to the community. A tap system, as opposed to the manual pump, will allow for more than one person to gather water at a time and will make collecting water easier for the elderly, children, and disabled patrons who may currently find the pump challenging. The group also plans to construct latrines for the school, which currently has only one for more than 300 students and faculty. The project serves as a model for what Notre Dame hopes of its students—to use their knowledge and skills to serve others in sustainable and meaningful ways.

One participant, Sarah Drumm ’18, said, “Once you get a taste of EWB and the community we are working with and the kind of work that we are doing, you can’t stop. I mean it’s incredible that we are able to do this as undergrads.”

Beginning in spring 2017, Engineers Without Borders–Notre Dame also began an academic course that allows for students to plan and execute engineering projects in the South Bend area, in addition to the Sangmélima Water Project.
The Types of Discussions, Debates, and Inquiries that Take Place at the University

Notre Dame is committed to creating a culture of inquiry imbued with the lived experience of Catholicism. While the University seeks to attract and retain greater numbers of Catholic scholars, scientists, and artists, it also believes that faculty members of all faiths are absolutely indispensable to promoting scholarship, building community, provoking debate, and ensuring a diversity of perspectives at Our Lady’s University. As Notre Dame endeavors to fulfill its vision to be a great Catholic university for the 21st century and one of the preeminent research institutions in the world, seekers of truth who hold a variety of beliefs and opinions are vitally important, especially if it is to meet the Ex Corde Ecclesiae requirement that a Catholic university exists as a “privileged place for a fruitful dialogue between the Gospel and culture.”

“... being both a University and Catholic, it must be both a community of scholars representing various branches of human knowledge, and an academic institution in which Catholicism is vitally present and operative.”

—EX CORDE ECCLESIAE
THE TYPES OF DISCUSSIONS, DEBATES, AND INQUIRIES THAT TAKE PLACE AT THE UNIVERSITY
As an academic institution committed to inquiry and truth, the University of Notre Dame expects its faculty, as well as students, to orient their work toward the pursuit of truth in their field of expertise.

For Darcia Narvaez, a professor in the Department of Psychology whose work wrestles with moral development and education, a $3.9 million Templeton Religion Trust grant has allowed her to search for truth as part of her “Self, Virtue and Public Life Project.” The project began in September 2018 and will continue through 2021.

“It is a particularly opportune time to be funding projects focused on public virtue,” said Narvaez. “We are all struggling to understand how to be virtuous in the public sphere in a globalized world with heated tempers and instant and easily misleading communication.”

The grant will fund 10 unique research projects with $190,000 each, along with four conferences, two edited volumes, and community outreach activities. One of those activities is the “Civic Virtues Project,” a partnership with select Oklahoma high schools and middle schools. The project will deliberately teach students about virtues like civility, fairness, and compassion, to test the hypothesis that they will then be more likely to understand, appreciate, and practice those virtues. To implement the project, “A Teachers’ Guide to Civic Virtue: Civility, Compassion and Fairness” will be created to train participating teachers on strategies to integrate teaching virtue into their classrooms. The guide will also be available for any and all educators.

The project will be housed at the University of Oklahoma’s Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing, where Narvaez will work with the institute’s director, Nancy Snow. The duo previously collaborated on an interdisciplinary initiative focused on virtue, character, and the development of the moral self, also funded by the Templeton Religion Trust.

Because Notre Dame’s mission underscores the need for faculty to encourage and inspire its students to be moral citizens, Narvaez’s interest in what best creates moral citizens is particularly appropriate research here.

Narvaez has been a member of the Notre Dame psychology faculty since 2000. In that time, she has published widely, including her 2014 Neurobiology and the development of human morality: Evolution, culture and wisdom, which won the William James Book Award from the American Psychological Association and the Expanded Reason Award by the Foundation of Pope Benedict XVI.
THE TYPES OF DISCUSSIONS, DEBATES, AND INQUIRIES THAT TAKE PLACE AT THE UNIVERSITY

Since 2005, Notre Dame has hosted an annual forum that tackles a subject or issue with national, global, or local importance, and invites the campus community to explore that question or theme through a number of events and discussions throughout the academic year. This year’s forum, “The Catholic Artistic Heritage: Bringing Forth Treasures New and Old,” was inspired by Catholicism’s long tradition of sponsoring artistic works that reveal and rouse faith, and was named after a New Testament parable.

The Forum’s events surveyed the history and heritage of artistic expression ranging from Renaissance paintings to modern literature, the grandeur of medieval cathedrals to contemporary artistic explorations of injustice and oppression. Thoughtful consideration was also given to how these diverse expressions help enrich and deepen faith.

The Forum’s keynote address was offered in September by Pulitzer Prize–winning novelist Marilynne Robinson. Gilead, her most famous novel, is the story of a dying preacher who grapples with concepts of vocation, beauty, relationships, and the human condition, which ultimately prods the reader to do the same.

About Robinson, Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., said, “Marilynne Robinson’s novels help us to see the complexity of human beings, making it more difficult for us to believe in simplistic thoughts about this ‘sinister other.’ They help us to see the dignity of each human being—their being made in the image and likeness of God. Few things are more important for building the kind of community we want to build, both at this University and in this nation.”

During her talk, Robinson discussed not only her work, but also the art of writing as a necessary, creative expression
of faith. She said, “Anyone has the possibility of making [religion] the best possible expression of this yearning that human beings have…. If you are deeply committed to what you and other people find most beautiful in it and are loyal to that, then you’re doing something that the civilization yearns to have you do.”

She also noted the impact that contemporary, agnostic society can have on the artists of today who wish to express their religious beliefs. “How many people who could write about their religious faith, who would want to, who would create a beautiful religious art out of the fact of their faith, are stymied and silenced because they are afraid that someone might say ‘I don’t really believe any of that,’” she said. “There is no reason in my experience to keep people from being absolutely candid about what they believe.”

Robinson’s assessment of modern faith and art was complemented by other events including a lecture on Shakespeare and prayer by the former archbishop of Canterbury, a concert of Gregorian chant by a Roman Vatican choir, a celebration of African-American sacred music, a screening of Pope Francis: A Man of His Word, and a discussion with Jennifer Pascual, director of music and organist at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City. The wide variety of events explored the many ways artists have interpreted, and continue to interpret, traditional Christian themes of faith, love, suffering, grace, injustice, and atonement.

The Forum, now a rich and anticipated centerpiece of the academic year, has previously explored topics such as immigration, sustainable energy, the 50th anniversary of Vatican II, and women in leadership.
On November 27, 2018, Thomas Jay Oord, a theologian, philosopher, scholar, and author, offered a lecture titled “Defining Love for Interdisciplinary Research on Human Flourishing” at the University of Notre Dame.

In his introduction, Oord remarked that the study and understanding of love is both a scholarly and an ethical pursuit. He said, "At the very heart of it is my intention to be a loving person, to love in the moment, to develop a kind of character, a virtuous kind of way of living in the world, not only to my fellow human beings but to all of creation. So my subject tonight, the issue of love, is not just a theoretical, academic kind of thing. It’s at the heart of who I want to be in my life.”

He enumerated why it’s important to define love—to best express love, to have societies with love, to create self-love, to love strangers, enemies, and non-humans, and to make sense of divine love. And then offered his perspective on how to create a definition of love.

“I think we ought to formulate the best definition of love we possibly can. And I think a very robust definition will not just draw from the Christian scriptures. It will draw from theology more generally, philosophy, science, arts, humanities, various disciplines, and everyday life. If we’re going to construct a definition of love that really makes sense, we’re going to need a multidisciplinary approach.”

Oord’s lecture provided a rich example of how faith can inform research and research can enhance faith. He made clear that he believes the two strands ought to be in constant dialogue, as does the Notre Dame mission. Oord himself is not Catholic, and instead he offered a more general Christian perspective during his reflection. Open dialogues with those of different faiths, like Oord, is considered essential to the community of scholars and to the education of students, even at a Catholic university. Respect derived from interreligious dialogue is one of the hallmarks of a Notre Dame education and something the University hopes to instill in its students.

The talk was hosted by Notre Dame’s Center for Theology, Science, and Human Flourishing, a multidisciplinary group that seeks understanding at the crossroads of science and the humanities. The lecture was open to the public and is now available on YouTube in its entirety.
Center for Social Concerns Launches New Podcast

The goal of the Church is to serve the world, not to be served by the world, so it has to understand what’s happening in the world to serve it well.

As part of its mission to enact Catholic social teaching, Notre Dame’s Center for Social Concerns has launched a new, biweekly podcast that explores questions of human dignity, solidarity with the marginalized, and service to the common good.

JP Shortall, the director of communications and advancement for the center, said the podcast is an extension of the center’s wealth of speakers and events, and provides an opportunity for those speakers to reach a wider audience. Podcast guests also include Notre Dame faculty, staff, and students who are eager to share their insight and expertise in these fields.

Podcast guests are invited to initiate dialogues about issues impacting humankind and human dignity. Thus far, more than 13 speakers ranging from Cardinals to students to lawyers to center staff have appeared on the podcast to share their perspective and knowledge on a societal challenge, or sign of the times, with which they tangle. Recent guests have discussed topics including just war, contemplative spirituality, the refugee crisis, and justice for farmworkers.

The title of the podcast, Signs of the Times, comes from Gaudium et Spes, the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, and one of the resulting publications from the Second Vatican Council, said Rev. Kevin Sandberg, C.S.C., the Leo and Arlene Hawk Executive Director of the Center for Social Concerns. In the inaugural podcast, Father Sandberg explained that in the 1960s, the Church reengaged with society and shifted its focus to better understand how to serve that society.

He stated, “The goal of the Church is to serve the world, not to be served by the world, so it has to understand what’s happening in the world to serve it well. What it does is reads what’s taking place in the world and interprets what it sees in light of the Gospel. Signs of the times is really a symbol of the Church meeting the world, the Gospel meeting everyday life. It tells us not just what to look for, but how to assess what we see.”

But he noted that the call is not just to diagnose society’s challenges, but to understand the issues at the heart of those challenges, and to address those. Migration, for example, is a result of economic disparity and warfare. Or, closer to home, the opioid crisis suggests a loss of meaning and a lack of community to help pull people through difficult times. This podcast, as well as the Center for Social Concerns’ other offerings, intends to get listeners closer to the crux of those issues and other signs of the times.
50 Years of the London Law Program

“In the fall of 1968, 20 Notre Dame law students were enrolled in the Faculty of Law, University College, University of London, for the academic year. A program abroad for law students was a novel experiment designed to give students a better understanding of British law—the basis of American law—and to provide an invaluable learning experience for students interested in international or comparative law. It proved successful. In the 50 years since, more than 1,500 students have attended the program, either for a semester or academic year. Notre Dame’s London Law Program is now the oldest study abroad program offered by an American law school and the only full-year London program approved by the American Bar Association.

In 2018, the London Law Program celebrated its 50th anniversary with a year of speakers and events, culminating with a four-day Golden Jubilee celebration in October.

At the Jubilee, Lord David E. Neuberger, former president of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, offered a keynote address in which he said, “The idea of giving law students a proper understanding of other countries by coming here, and other jurisdictions by studying around the world, is a very noble one.”
“It makes the student a more civilized person, generally, a more informed person, a more understanding person—which is particularly important in these times,” he explained. “But I think it also makes you a better lawyer. If you know about other systems of law, you can put your system of law in context.”

Indeed, Neuberger’s comments reflect those of the former dean of the Law School, William B. Lawless ’44 J.D., who oversaw the London Law Program’s conception. In 1969, after becoming dean, he gave an overview of the future of the Law School. Lawless said, “The practitioner of the future must understand in a general way, at least, legal systems other than his own.

“Indeed, to study law without some deep understanding of the moral basis for all law is both futile and hopeless. Hence, the Notre Dame Law Center must...relate law to human morality and human purpose. It is our mission to rise above the new wave of utilitarianism and secularism.”

Five decades later, that moral basis remains at the heart of the Notre Dame Law School mission. The school now claims to “educate a different kind of lawyer”—one who is a servant, a force for good, and in constant pursuit of justice of truth.

Today, the need for lawyers who can operate in an ever-more global society is also perhaps even more valuable. In response to the Catholic call to love one another, the London Law Program reminds its participants that in order to love one another it is imperative to know one another. And to know one another, immersion and experiential learning courses can be hugely beneficial for the lawyers of tomorrow.

Current dean of the Law School, Nell Newton, said, “It’s a great and appropriate time for us to celebrate the past, but also to prepare for a future in which it’s essential for lawyers to operate not just on a local, but on a global scale.”

Looking forward, Michael Addo, director of the London Law Program, said he hopes to see the program expand so every Notre Dame law student can and will benefit from an experience in London.
Service to the Catholic Church in a Manner Appropriate for a University

As a Catholic university, Notre Dame is aware of its privileged responsibility to place itself in service to the Church. To demonstrate how the pursuit of truth is put to use in a life of faith, the University is committed, as envisioned in *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*, to serve the Church by including the study of serious contemporary problems among its research, by communicating to society those ethical and religious principles that give full meaning to human life, by serving others for the promotion of social justice, and by modeling cooperation between disciplines in common research projects.

“I pray that we will be people who see the world and its problems with a steady, honest, unflinching gaze; that because of our faith in God’s goodness, we will apply all our knowledge and skill to a thoughtful, fair, balanced analysis of those issues; that we never flag in seeking solutions … that we will have the courage and conviction to act when action is called for, and that we inspire others to act as well.”

—REV. JOHN I. JENKINS, C.S.C.
Alumni Association Inaugural Lennon Life Prizes

As part of the Notre Dame Alumni Association’s new Chuck and Joan Lennon Gospel of Life Initiative—a set of programs which encourage alumni clubs to be forces for good and to encourage the value of life—in 2018, three Notre Dame clubs were awarded the inaugural Lennon Life Prize, along with $5,000. The funds are intended to help the clubs partner with community organizations to serve vulnerable populations, such as the unborn and their families, the elderly, the terminally ill, the poor, the imprisoned, the disabled, and immigrants and refugees. Proposals should also be inspired by the University’s Catholic character.

The winning clubs, Lehigh Valley, Greater Boston, and Indianapolis, were selected based on submitted proposals for how their club could contribute to pro-life causes while increasing club involvement.

Lehigh Valley used the funds to launch a partnership with a local crisis pregnancy center where club members and high school students cleaned and organized the center. They also held a Christmas drive to gather supplies for the moms and babies at the center. The club also organized a pro-life Mass and a trip for 350 high school students from three local high schools to join club members at the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.

The Club of Greater Boston formed a connection with the Boston Healthcare for the Homeless Program, founded by Dr. Jim O’Connell ’70, while the Club of Indianapolis joined together with five Alliance for Catholic Education Academies to provide needy students with food over the Christmas holiday break. In the selected schools, 95 percent of students qualify for federal free and reduced lunch. Volunteers filled the “Shamrock Sacks” to help reduce food insecurity for the students and their families during the break. The event saw such success that there are plans to repeat it annually.

The clubs of Charlotte, Lake County, St. Joseph Valley, Staten Island, and Wichita won honorable mentions and were awarded $500 toward their proposed projects.

Dolly Duffy, executive director of the Notre Dame Alumni Association and associate vice president of University Relations, said, “We were so pleased to receive such numerous and impactful submissions from our clubs in this first year of awarding the Lennon Life Prize. Our alumni and friend volunteers are the lifeblood of our outreach to the country and the world, and we are incredibly encouraged by so many expressing the desire to be a voice for the voiceless in society.”

Both the award and the initiative are named in honor of Chuck Lennon ’61, ’62 M.A. and his wife, Joan. Chuck served as associate vice president of University Relations and as executive director of the Notre Dame Alumni Association for 31 years before retiring in 2011. During his tenure, the number of Notre Dame alumni clubs grew from 151 to 276.

Before he passed away on May 4, 2019, Chuck Lennon said, “Joan and I have been blessed by our involvement. Our Lady’s University is truly our home, and we are grateful to be helping those in most need in her name. This model of empowering our alumni and friends in Notre Dame clubs worldwide to further act to support life in their local communities is so gratifying to us.”

The call for club proposals is open from October until March, and winners will be announced annually in April at the Alumni Association Leadership Conference.

“Alumni and friend volunteers are the lifeblood of our outreach to the country and the world.”
Solar Panels Installed at Our Lady of the Road

As part of Notre Dame’s minor in sustainability, students are required to complete a senior capstone project that provides an action plan to address an issue ranging from plastic pollution in Taiwan to clean power in Puerto Rico to decreasing waste in restaurants. The capstones need to be at once ambitious and achievable, but rarely does a student execute the plan they’ve designed, said Rachel Novick, a biology professor and director of the sustainability minor. Emily Clements ’18 did.

South Bend’s Our Lady of the Road (OLR) is a laundromat café that provides breakfast, a hot shower, and clothing for the homeless population in South Bend. It is sponsored by the St. Peter Claver Catholic Worker and Notre Dame’s Center for Social Concerns, and is funded by individual donations. Clements was volunteering at OLR during the summer of 2017 when she heard Margaret Pfeil, a Notre Dame theology professor and co-founder of the St. Peter Claver Catholic Worker, mention that solar power could significantly reduce OLR’s monthly electricity bills, which ranged from $500 to $1,200.

“Part of the charism of the Catholic Worker movement is a return to the land and a more intentional caring for God’s creation, so sustainability is a focus of the ministry,” Clements explained in a summary of her project. “Unfortunately, the main source of Indiana’s electricity is coal and Our Lady of the Road requires a large amount of energy to operate.”

For a more sustainable option, the 11,000-square-foot building would require a solar array, and though solar energy was outside the chemical engineer’s expertise, she put together a team and a plan. Clements worked with her advisor, engineering professor Svetlana Neretina, to design the array. Clements then asked Bill Jordan ’85 and Nancy Brennan-Jordan ’85, co-creators of the Let’s Share the Sun Foundation, which provides solar panels to needy organizations in Haiti, to supply the panels. She recruited volunteers to donate labor and engineering work, and raised money to cover the remaining $30,000 project price tag.

After graduation, when her classmates departed South Bend to start engineering jobs, Clements stayed behind to manage the installation of the solar panels. Installation was complete in August 2018.

Clements said the project “recognizes the importance of caring for the environment as something that goes hand-in-hand with caring for the poor and vulnerable, because the people who are most affected by changing climate are people who live on the streets and live outside.”

She is now enrolled in an environmental engineering master’s program at Notre Dame.

“The capstones need to be at once ambitious and achievable, but rarely does a student execute the plan they’ve designed”—but Emily Clements ’18 did.
In a secluded Mexican hillside, located just behind an unremarkable housing complex, are the bodies of hundreds of missing men and women, victims of Mexico’s 12-year drug war. The mass grave, now known as Colinas de Santa Fe, was discovered by some of the mothers of the missing.

In October, it was there, at this burial site, that Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., concelebrated Mass alongside His Excellency Bishop Luis Felipe Gallardo Martín del Campo of Veracruz as part of Notre Dame’s recognition of and solidarity with the mothers who discovered the graves, a group known as the Colectivo Solecito de Veracruz. The Colectivo was presented the 2018 Notre Dame Award, an honor given to groups or individuals devoted to faith, peace, justice, and education. Since its start in 1992, the award has been bestowed upon only 10 people, including Saint Teresa of Calcutta and Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter. This year, the University chose to honor this group of mothers because of their dedication to seeking truth and justice, especially when authorities were hesitant to help or investigate.

In accepting the award, Lucia de Los Angeles Díaz Genao, one of the Colectivo, said the mission of the mothers grew out of their frustration that no one was willing to seek the truth or find their children.

“We learned at once that it was much easier and less painful to fight than to stay passive and wait,” Díaz said.

The group began in 2014 with eight mothers who began digging in areas where they suspected there might be human remains. An anonymous tip in 2016 led them to the Colinas, where 295 bodies and 22,000 human fragments have since been discovered. The group now has support from a university archaeologist, forensic experts from the federal police, and a new governor who has promised to work alongside the Colectivo to uncover the truth about the victims.

In his homily, Father Jenkins said to the Colectivo, “The weapons and the violence of those who took your children are strong. But your courage and your love are even stronger.” He continued, “Thank you for your courage. Thank you for your love. Thank you for asking for the truth. Thank you for insisting on justice.”

“You have come together to reveal the truth about your loved ones who were taken from you,” he said. “In this you are so much like Mary, our Lady, who endured such sorrows, but endured them with love and faith.”

Notre Dame also hosted a one-day conference titled “The Challenges of Transitional Justice in Mexico,” which brought together government officials, victims and their families, international scholars, and members of civil society to explore how truth, justice, and reconciliation might be found in the midst of the ongoing war.
ND ICL Hosts Vision for Campus and Youth Ministers

“Accompanying young people on their journey of faith demands leaders who not only walk with them listening to their stories but who also proclaim and give witness to the fullness of the Catholic faith.”

Notre Dame’s Vision program has long been a draw for high school students looking to understand discipleship and vocation through a lively and approachable experience, but perhaps equally important is its sister program, Notre Dame Vision for Campus and Youth Ministers (CYM), a summer conference specifically designed to engage, enrich, and rejuvenate those who minister to young people.

Vision CYM grew out of a 2007 grant from the Lilly Endowment as a follow-up to ND Vision’s success, and was designed to serve the dual purpose of forming youth ministers and helping sustain the impact of Vision for the high school participants once they left campus. Now, 13 years later, more than 700 ministers have been enriched by the gifts of this experience.

Megan Shepherd, the program director for Notre Dame Vision, explained that nurturing the faith of young Catholics is one of the most important contemporary challenges in the Church. Vision CYM, she said, helps prepare those who minister to young people to do so fully.

“The Vision CYM program provides the essential formation for those ministering to the young Church,” she said. “Accompanying young people on their journey of faith demands leaders who not only walk with them listening to their stories, but who also proclaim and give witness to the fullness of the Catholic faith. We are called to accompany them towards something—mature Christian discipleship as an ordering of one’s life in response to the self-giving love poured out in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

Through its four one-week sessions each summer, Notre Dame Vision CYM trains approximately 200 high school campus ministers, diocesan directors of youth ministry, parish youth ministers, and high school religion teachers. CYM sessions are led by nationally recognized speakers in the field of youth ministry, as well as Notre Dame theology faculty and staff from the McGrath Institute for Church Life. Through keynote speeches, discussions, prayer, and reflection, the conference explores ideas of vocation, faith, and God’s call through the lens of a selected theme, like “Word Made Flesh” or “Revelation in the Parables.” The 2019 sessions will focus on God’s mercy as seen in the Parable of the Prodigal Son.

Today, both Vision and Vision CYM are housed in Notre Dame’s McGrath Institute for Church Life, where they play an important role in the institute’s outreach.

Shepherd said, “The mission of the McGrath Institute for Church Life is to partner 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, the institute forms faithful Catholic leaders for service to the Church and the world. Through Notre Dame Vision CYM, the McGrath institute forms those who serve the young Church every day in their parishes, schools, and dioceses, enriching the ministry offered around the country.”
The Mendoza College of Business has long asked its students and faculty to “ask more of business”—that is, to imbue ethics, integrity, and a commitment to the common good into their professional endeavors. But thanks to a partnership with Deloitte, the Notre Dame Deloitte Center for Ethical Leadership can now take that same goal and ask more of business leaders who work far beyond campus.

“We’re translators, basically,” he said. “We’re translating the science into best practices.”

Drawing from academic papers and industry-specific studies, insight is culled and synthesized into palatable articles, videos, and two-page downloadable dispatches that discuss practical and engaging ways of implementing the research. These productions, along with links to curated content from other sources, are sent out in a weekly newsletter to a growing list of followers.

There is also a robust library of stories available on the center’s website that tap into fields ranging from neuroscience to economics and psychology to management. These articles have titles like “Do What’s Right, Sleep Well Tonight,” “It (literally) pays to be generous,” and “How High-Integrity Leaders Can Help Employees Speak Up,” which serve as factually based affirmations of the benefits of ethical business. The topics for these studies vary widely, from the timeless—integrity, power, trust—to the timely—how to create speak-up culture and inclusive cultures. Looking ahead, Adkins predicts that ethical uses of data analytics and artificial intelligence are likely the next frontier, but his group is also open to suggestions.

While the primary audience for the center is the greater business community, that does not mean that Notre Dame students don’t benefit. As a professor, Adkins uses the synthesized findings in his courses to shape the ethics curriculum for the Mendoza College of Business, so students will graduate already conversant in topics of ethical leadership. He said that the center also coordinates lectures and events open to the campus community as well.

The Notre Dame Deloitte Center for Ethical Leadership is the result of a 2011 gift from Deloitte. At the time of the gift, Deloitte’s then-chief ethics and compliance officer, Michael E. Zychinski, said, “Deloitte and Notre Dame share a common vision related to character ethics and leadership development. The center will contribute to the continued development of quality ethics initiatives in the Mendoza College of Business and make a positive impact on the business community.”