



# Sacred Heart by the Numbers

## Who we are

Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology is the No. 1 seminary in North America specializing in priestly formation for men over **30**. We also have a solid cohort of men in their 20s. Located near Milwaukee, seminary enrollment averages about **90**. We were established in **1932**, and we've specialized in training older men for the last **four** decades.

## What we do

We provide rigorous programs as prescribed by the *Program of Priestly Formation, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (PPF)*. We earn praise from bishops, religious superiors and vocation directors across North America. Dioceses and religious orders from across the United States and Canada entrust their men to Sacred Heart. Not surprisingly, our apostolic visitation team gave us high marks.

## Why we do it

We do it because men ordained over 30 make great priests. The maturity and rich life experience of our students enhance their faith life and pastoral effectiveness. Additionally, retention of our grads is much higher than among men ordained at a traditional age. Moreover, older men learn more effectively in an environment among peers.



*The school presents a sound concept of priesthood. Solid doctrine permeates the academic curriculum and is reflected in the programs of spiritual and pastoral formation.*

— Apostolic Visitation Report





# What you should know

- Our alums are committed to a life of priesthood. Their five-year attrition rate is less than **3%**, vs. **10 to 12%** for younger priests, according to the late Dean Hoge, former Catholic University of America sociologist. **Twenty** years after ordination only **6%** of our grads have left priesthood.
- Students come from diverse backgrounds; **45%** come to us with graduate degrees. Many are widowers or have annulments. Their average age is **40**.
- We have a partnership with nearby Cardinal Stritch University to provide a combined B.A./M.Div. Program for incoming seminarians with little or no college.
- Candidates may enroll in our English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) Program and, as their skills permit, transition into the seminary program.
- Our location ensures a rich pastoral and cultural environment. Located near Hales Corners, Wis., we are **12** miles from downtown Milwaukee and **90** miles from Chicago.
- Sacred Heart is accredited by major accrediting organizations.\*

## Why older vocations?

Men over 30 have:

- A proven work ethic and follow-through.
- Depth and commitment in their faith lives.
- Demonstrated maturity in personal relationships and boundaries.
- Valuable experience that shortens their path to pastorship.

## What else we do

We also teach ESL to religious from five continents, typically serving around **60** ESL students a year.

Sacred Heart also offers a Master of Arts Program, which is open to the public. We typically have about **20** students in our M.A. Program.

We offer seminarians and others the opportunity to participate in hands-on archeological digs at two sites in the Holy Land. These summer trips, with SHSST faculty, include visits to other significant sites in Israel.



## Trusted across North America

2016-2017 sponsors:

### Religious

- Community of Saint Paul
- Glenmary Home Missioners
- Priests of the Sacred Heart
- Society of Our Mother of Peace
- Society of the Divine Savior (Salvatorians)

### Diocesan

- Belleville, Illinois
- Chicago, Illinois
- Davenport, Iowa
- El Paso, Texas
- Green Bay, Wisconsin
- Honolulu, Hawaii
- Joliet, Illinois
- La Crosse, Wisconsin
- Little Rock, Arkansas
- Louisville, Kentucky
- Lubbock, Texas
- Madison, Wisconsin
- Memphis, Tennessee
- Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Pueblo, Colorado
- Richmond, Virginia
- Salina, Kansas
- Springfield, Illinois
- Springfield-Cape Girardeau, Missouri
- Tucson, Arizona

\*Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Higher Learning Commission is at: 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604. Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology is also accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in the United States and Canada. The seminary's Master of Divinity and Master of Arts degree programs are approved.

[www.shsst.edu](http://www.shsst.edu) | 414-425-8300

P.O. Box 429, 7335 South Hwy. 100  
Hales Corners, WI 53130-0429

An apostolate of the Priests of the Sacred Heart



**SACRED HEART**  
Seminary and School of Theology