

### **Rev. Jan de Jong, SCJ, STD**



Fr. Jan de Jong, SCJ, was born in Ouder-Amstel, Netherlands, and became a professed member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart in 1957 in the Netherlands. He was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1964. After receiving his education in philosophy and theology in Holland, he began studies for graduate degrees in Rome in 1964. Fr. de Jong received a pontifical doctorate in moral theology from the Academia Alfonsiana, Rome, Italy, and a licentiate in theology from the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas, in Rome, Italy. He speaks six languages: English, Dutch, German, Italian, French and Spanish.

Fr. de Jong joined the faculty of Sacred Heart School of Theology, Hales Corners, Wisconsin, in 1969, remaining there until 1974 when he became the Roman Catholic chaplain at St. Luke's Hospital, Milwaukee. As chaplain he provided medical-moral counsel to physicians and medical residents. He was named interim director of pastoral care from 1982 to 1983 when he became coordinator of clinical pastoral education. In this role he supervised CPE programs and supervised 150 CPE students and 36 units. He continued hospital work as the manager of pastoral education at Hermann Hospital, Houston, Texas, from January 1987 to October 1995. From November 1995 until June 1996 he worked at Methodist Hospital, Houston, Texas, as a clinical pastoral education supervisor. He coordinated ministry to Catholic patients, developed programs for lay ministry, conducted in-services on theological and ethical issues, and supervised CPE residents and supervisors-in-training. In 1996 he became the novice master for his congregation at their Sacred Heart House in Chicago and remained there until 1999.

Fr. de Jong returned to Sacred Heart School of Theology in 1999 as professor of moral theology. He served on many committees including the rector's cabinet, spiritual formation committee, field education committee, and educational outcome committee. In 2003 he was promoted to professor of systematic studies.

"Teaching at Sacred Heart has been my greatest satisfaction. It is an honor to be asked to serve as the seminary's president-rector and its pastor," Fr. de Jong said. "The faculty, administration and staff of Sacred Heart School of Theology is committed to educating effective leaders for our Church whose faith is grounded in the Gospel and Tradition and who are faithful to the teachings of the Magisterium."