

# Sacred Heart by the numbers

## Who we are

Sacred Heart School of Theology is the **No. 1** seminary

in North America specializing in priestly formation for men over **30**. Located near Milwaukee, seminary enrollment averages **100**. We were established in **1932**, and we've specialized in training older men for the last **three** decades.

## What we do

We provide rigorous programs as prescribed by the Program of Priestly Formation, 5th Edition (PPF 5). We earn praise from bishops, religious superiors and vocation directors across North America. Currently, **37** sponsoring dioceses and religious orders 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.



### Academic 2010-2011 enrollment

Seminarians .....	107
Master of Arts students .....	19
Non-degree students .....	12
ESL / Focused missiology .....	36
TOTAL .....	174

*'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 **3%**, vs. **12 to 15%** for younger priests, according to Catholic University of America sociologist Dean Hoge. **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 **42**.
- ▶ We have a partnership with nearby Cardinal Stritch University to provide a pre-theology program for incoming seminarians with little or no college.
- ▶ Our location ensures a stimulating environment. Located in Hales Corners, Wis., we are **12** miles from downtown Milwaukee and **90** miles from Chicago.
- ▶ Sacred Heart is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools\*.



## What else we do

We also provide intensive instruction in English as a Second Language to religious from Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia. In any given year we typically serve around **30** ESL students.

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.

## 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.

## Current sponsors

### Religious

Bannakoroli Brothers  
Benedictines of Marmion  
Abby, Ill.  
Community of St. Paul  
Order of Friars Minor Conv.  
Priests of the Sacred Heart  
Society of the Catholic  
Apostolate  
Society of the Divine  
Savior

### Diocesan

Belleville	Juneau	Milwaukee
Cheyenne	Knoxville	Omaha
Crookston	Lafayette	Portland, Ore.
Davenport	Las Cruces	Seattle
Fairbanks	Lexington	Springfield, Ill.
Fort Worth	Little Rock	Superior
Gaylord	Louisville	Tucson
Grand Island	Mackenzie-Fort	Winnipeg
Green Bay	Smith, Canada	Youngstown
Honolulu	Marquette	
Jefferson City	Memphis	

**SACRED**  
school of theology  
**HEART**

A apostolate of the  
Priests of the Sacred Heart

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