



Co-Creating with God

Humanae Vitae Today

September 20, 2008

**Save money.
Use the
form inside
to register
early by
Sept. 5, 2008**

The fortieth anniversary of the landmark encyclical *Humanae Vitae (On Human Life)* of Pope Paul VI is being celebrated this year. Catholics are generally misinformed about the Church's teaching on birth control. In response, Sacred Heart Major Seminary has developed a one-day conference, "Co-Creating with God: *Humanae Vitae Today*," which will examine the encyclical's vital and prophetic teachings.

Sacred Heart hopes through this conference to give witness to our confidence that human

experience and divine wisdom demonstrate the truth of *Humanae Vitae*. The conference features eight nationally known speakers on life issues who are ardent supporters of *Humanae Vitae*. It is aimed at those who already embrace the document and wish to understand it more deeply, and to those who are skeptical about it.

This special conference will bear lasting fruit in the lives of those who attend.



**SACRED HEART
MAJOR SEMINARY**

2701 Chicago Boulevard
Detroit, Michigan 48206

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Important Information Inside!

Your registration material for
"Co-Creating with God:
Humanae Vitae Today"



A one-day conference
presented by
Sacred Heart Major Seminary
Detroit, Michigan

September 20, 2008

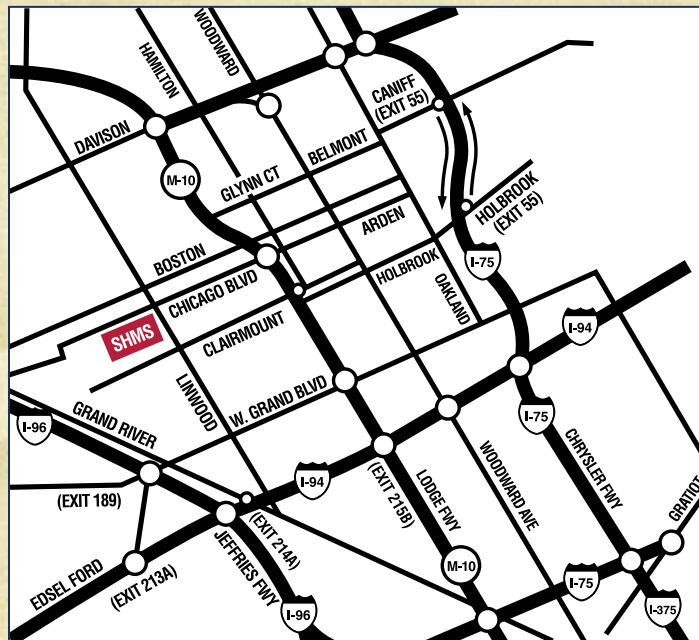
Things to Know

Location

The one-day conference, Co-Creating with God: *Humanae Vitae* Today, will be held at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, 2701 Chicago Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan 48206, 313-883-8500 switchboard, 313-883-8792 conference information.

Sacred Heart's Tudor Gothic building is set on a twenty-two acre campus near the Boston-Edison historic district in north central Detroit. The seminary is only one mile east of the Chicago Boulevard exit (5C) of the Lodge Freeway (M-10), and is easily reached from all parts of Metro Detroit using the major freeways.

Enter the campus parking lot through the gated entrance on Linwood Avenue near the intersection of Chicago and Linwood. Maps and driving directions are downloadable from our website, www.shms.edu.



Registration and Payment

To receive the early registration rate, please register using the attached form by **September 5, 2008**. Additional forms can be downloaded or register online at www.shms.edu. There is no phone registration, but you may call **313-883-8792**, or email HumanaeVitae@shms.edu, with any questions prior to the conference.

The conference welcome desk will be in the first floor lobby inside the main entrance, where you will pick up your conference packet and name tag. On-site registration will be available but at a higher rate of \$10 extra for a full day and \$5 extra for a half day. Make check/money order payable to Sacred Heart Major Seminary.

Presentations and Meals

The presentations will be held in the auditorium on the first floor. Lunch and dinner will be served in the parlor on the first floor. There will be signs and welcome guides to direct you.

Liturgies

Mass, Morning Prayer and Night Prayer will be celebrated in the main chapel on the first floor. Priests wishing to concelebrate Mass should bring an alb and stole.

Accommodations

Conference participants must make their own hotel accommodations. There are no overnight rooms available at the seminary. However, we have secured special conference rates at two nearby hotels.

Hotel St. Regis

3071 W. Grand Boulevard
Detroit, Michigan 48202
313-873-3000
800-223-5652
www.hotelstregisdetroit.com
Regular room \$129/Suite \$189
Reference "Sacred Heart Conference"

Best Western Greenfield Inn

3000 Enterprise Drive
Allen Park, Michigan 48101
800-342-5802
www.bestwesterngreenfield.com
Single or double \$79
Reference "Sacred Heart"

Transportation

Conference participants must make their own transportation arrangements. Sacred Heart is located about eighteen miles from the Detroit Metropolitan Airport (I-94 in Romulus) and about three miles from the Amtrak train Station (W. Baltimore, Detroit). There is no shuttle bus service between the airport and the seminary. Consider using Metro Connections, 734-347-4007, Millennium Limousine Service, 888-238-0083 or ABC Taxi Service, 734-591-3888. There are numerous car rental agencies at the airport.

The Hotel St. Regis offers a shuttle bus to the seminary for \$5 per person round trip.

Forming the Body of Christ for Ministry

Sacred Heart Major Seminary prepares candidates for the Roman Catholic priesthood for service in the Archdiocese of Detroit and dioceses nationally and internationally. Founded in 1919, Sacred Heart became a major seminary in 1988, when a Graduate School of Theology was added to its College of Liberal Arts. That same year, the Institute for Ministry was established to educate individuals for the permanent diaconate and lay apostolic service.

Sacred Heart's Gothic Revival building sits on a twenty-two acre campus in north central Detroit, near the Boston-Edison Historic District. The seminary's urban location and a variety of certificate and degree programs provide students a rigorous, thoroughly Catholic education with an emphasis on pastoral outreach.

Sacred Heart is dedicated to fulfilling the vision of Adam Cardinal Maida, Archbishop of Detroit, that it be the "premier seminary in the region . . . for the sake of the New Evangelization in the Third Christian Millennium." A pastorally-oriented Licentiate in Sacred Theology in the New Evangelization, approved by the Congregation for Catholic Education in 2004, is the first STL of its kind in the United States. The MA Theology and MA Pastoral Studies programs also have concentrations in the New Evangelization.

Six endowed academic chairs support Sacred Heart's challenging academic programs, which include the STL, a Master of Divinity, a Bachelor of Sacred Theology, a Bachelor of Pastoral Theology and a Bachelor of Philosophy. The seminary has expanded access to theological education through its interactive "smart classroom" suite. With 115,000 volumes and 18,000 bound periodicals, the completely automated Edmund Cardinal Szoka Library is the largest theological library in the State of Michigan.



**SACRED HEART
MAJOR SEMINARY**

2701 Chicago Boulevard
Detroit, Michigan 48206

Questions about the Conference?

Call 313-883-8792

HumanaeVitae@shms.edu

Download additional
registration forms or register
online at www.shms.edu

Conference Registration

CO-CREATING WITH GOD: *HUMANAE VITAE* TODAY

Sacred Heart Major Seminary
Detroit, Michigan
Saturday, September 20, 2008

Name (Fr. Sr. Bro. Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms.)

Address


City State Zip

Phone

Email

How would you like your name to appear on your name tag?

Do you have any special needs?

 **Please return this form with payment or register online by September 5, 2008, to receive the early registration discount.**

Early Registration Discounted Rates

- \$75. All sessions with two meals (lunch and dinner)
- \$50. All sessions without meals
- \$35. Morning sessions with lunch
- \$25. Morning sessions only
- \$45. Afternoon sessions with dinner
- \$30. Afternoon sessions only

Payment Method

- Check Money order
- (Payable to Sacred Heart Major Seminary)

- Visa MasterCard

Card number Exp. Date

Signature

Use the enclosed envelope or mail this form with payment to:

Sacred Heart Major Seminary
Humanae Vitae Conference
2701 Chicago Boulevard
Detroit, Michigan 48206



Registration Information

We highly encourage participants to register early using this registration form by the cut-off date of September 5. In this way, you will help us to estimate our requirements for dining and seating.

Walk-in registration will be accepted on the day of the event, but there will be an additional charge of \$10 for a full day and \$5 for a half day. There is no phone registration.

Hotel reservations and travel arrangements must be made directly by the participant. Refer to the "Things to Know" section on the reverse side of this mailer for suggested accommodations, including special conference rates.

Register online at www.shms.edu

Co-Creating with God: *Humanae Vitae* Today

Sacred Heart Major Seminary • Saturday, September 20, 2008

7:45-8:30 Registration
8:30-8:50 Morning Prayer

Morning Sessions

9:00-9:50 Dr. Pia de Solenni: "Generations X and Y and *Humanae Vitae*"
9:50-10:00 Break
10:00-10:50 Greg and Julie Alexander: "Sex, Lies and the Truth of *Humanae Vitae*"
10:50-11:10 Break
11:10-12:00 Dr. Patrick Fagan: "Contraception as a Social Justice Issue"
12:00-1:15 Lunch
12:25-1:05 Dr. Mark Latkovic: "Overview of *Humanae Vitae*"

Afternoon Sessions

1:15-2:00 Panel Q & A
2:00-2:15 Break
2:15-3:05 Dr. Janet E. Smith: "Parents as Co-creators with God"
3:05-3:20 Q & A
3:20-3:40 Break
3:40-4:30 Dr. Michael Waldstein: "Theology of the Body and *Humanae Vitae*"
4:30-4:45 Q & A
4:45-5:00 Break
5:00-6:00 Mass: Celebrant/Homilist Most Rev. Robert J. Carlson
6:15-7:30 Dinner
7:30-8:15 After Dinner Speaker: TBD
8:15-8:30 Q & A
8:30 Night prayer

Who Is the Conference For?

"Co-Creating with God: *Humanae Vitae* Today" will draw upon many sources to demonstrate the wisdom of *Humanae Vitae*: personal witness, social sciences, theology, philosophy and the experience of bishops as teachers. As Catholics become more enthusiastic about its principles, they will be able to reach out to their extended families, neighbors and friends, including non-Catholics, that a generous openness to life is a marvelous aid to becoming holy in addition to having a joy-filled life.

The conference will be of immense value to those who are intending to marry and those who are married. It will help them to understand the vocation to marriage as a vocation to parenthood and that abstinence before marriage is a great preparation for marriage. They will come to understand that chastity within marriage is a great aid to a strong and satisfying marriage, as is recourse to natural methods of family planning.

Priests, seminarians and religious will understand more deeply how they can assist married couples to be faithful to their calling as co-creators with God. Many priests, seminarians and religious have found the Church's instruction on contraception to be an obstacle to their full commitment to the Church. When that obstacle is lifted, they often have a renewed love for the Church as teacher.



What Will You Learn?

"Co-creating with God" refers to Pope John Paul II's repeated description of parents as "co-creators with God's creative love." Drawing upon the wisdom of Paul VI and *Humanae Vitae*, John Paul II stresses the fundamental principle that God creates out of love and that God has chosen spouses to be co-creators with him of new life.

The Church understands children as a great gift from God and the vocation to parenthood to be one that reveals to man "his natural greatness." This conference will focus on how

beneficial it is for those who engage in sexual intercourse to be consciously aware of the possibility that they will become parents. It will explain how contraception diminishes that awareness, whereas natural family planning preserves it.

Why Now?

The Church customarily celebrates the fortieth anniversary of pivotal documents. The year *Humanae Vitae* was promulgated, 1968, was, in a myriad number of ways, a pivotal year, both for the secular world and the Church.

The phenomenon of dissent from Church teaching entered the public realm dramatically. A noteworthy example was a press conference held on the steps of the Catholic University of America within twenty-four hours of the release of *Humanae Vitae*. There it was announced to lay Catholics they were free to disregard the document.

And, in fact, for forty years, Catholics have largely done so and matched the alarming rate of the rest of the culture of engaging in pre-marital sex, abortion and divorce. Pope Paul VI predicted in his encyclical that if contraception became widely used there would be a "general decline in morality." Few can deny that that has happened.

On the other hand, some in the Church have embraced and promoted the teachings of *Humanae Vitae*. Certainly John Paul II could not have done more to support the encyclical. His great book *Love and Responsibility*, written in 1959, and his series of talks known as the "Theology of the Body" contain profound defenses of *Humanae Vitae*. His encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* acknowledged that a contraceptive mentality has been a seedbed for the culture of death.

Some bishops, theologians and lay people have worked hard to relay the wisdom of *Humanae Vitae*. Where Catholics have accepted this teaching, they have reaped the great rewards of more stable marriages, stronger families and stronger faith.

Guest Presenters



Most Rev. Robert J. Carlson, Bishop of Saginaw, will be the homilist for the Mass. He has written powerfully on the need for Catholics to be faithful to Church teaching about contraception.



Dr. Pia de Solenni is an ethicist and a moral theologian who owns her own consulting firm, Diotima Consulting. She is known nationally for her many writings and media appearances in response to Church issues, particularly on women's concerns. She has been a guest on MSNBC, Fox News Network, CNN and ABC News, and her writings have appeared in *The*

Wall Street Journal Europe, *The Washington Post*, *National Catholic Reporter*, *Our Sunday Visitor* and *National Review Online*. She will speak on the fallout of the sexual revolution on young people today.



Dr. Patrick Fagan, director of the Center for Family and Religion at the Family Research Council and holder of a PhD in social policy, will disclose how studies done in the social sciences support the wisdom of the Church. He will trace the effect between use of contraception and such problems as fornication, abortion, poverty and divorce. He will show

how the social sciences can demonstrate the benefits of abstaining from sex before marriage and the benefits of marriage to parents and children.



Greg and Julie Alexander were raised Catholic and married in the Church. After two children, Greg had a vasectomy. They will give a powerful testimony of how, when seeking a divorce, they were challenged by a priest to live a true Christian marriage. Greg had a reversal of his vasectomy, they renewed their marriage and since have devoted their lives to helping other couples. Greg and Julie co-host a show on EWTN

and founded Alexander House, an apostolate dedicated to the enrichment of marriage and family life.



Dr. Michael Waldstein, Francis of Assisi Professor of New Testament at the International Theological Institute in Gaming, Austria, has recently retranslated Pope John Paul II's *A Theology of the Body*, and is writing a book on its theological and philosophical underpinnings. He has been a member of the Pontifical Council for the Family since 2003.

He will explain how the vision of conjugal love laid out in *A Theology of the Body* enhances our understanding of the truth of *Humanae Vitae*.



Dr. Janet E. Smith holds the Fr. Michael J. McGivney Chair of Life Ethics at Sacred Heart Major Seminary and is one of the foremost theologians defending *Humanae Vitae*. She is serving a second term as a consultant to the Pontifical Council on the Family. Over a million copies of her talk, "Contraception: Why Not?" have been distributed. She will

report on Pope John Paul II's unique contributions to our understanding of *Humanae Vitae*.



Dr. Mark Latkovic, professor of moral and systematic theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, is a frequent speaker, lecturer, panelist and consultant on various moral issues. His work has appeared in journals such as *National Catholic Register*, *Crisis*, *Ethics and Medics*, *National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly*, *Linacre Quarterly*, *The Catholic*

Answer and many others. He will review the principles of *Humanae Vitae* for the attendees during the lunch hour.