





Dear Prospective Student,

Welcome to the Lay Division of St John Vianney Theological Seminary! Every year the Lord has blessed us with hundreds of brothers and sisters who desire to learn more about the Catholic faith and encounter Jesus Christ in our various programs.

We are excited that the Holy Spirit has brought you one of our supplemental programs, *The Wisdom of the Saints: The One Thing Necessary!* The purpose of this information session is to help you understand the scope of this exciting course and the requirements that we have for our students. Our Supplemental Programs are lecture based and do not have any small groups, homework, or tests. They are designed to guide you through the study of various topics on the Catholic faith and culture, to help you apply the lessons to your daily life, and to strengthen your relationship with God. On our part, we aim to accomplish this through dynamic and effective teaching. In turn, we ask you simply to dedicate yourself to a faithful attendance and participation in class throughout the year.

Enclosed you will find additional information, including our Academic Calendar and Policies & Procedures. In order to accurately anticipate class enrollment, we ask that you please register online at www.sjvdenver.edu/laydivision as soon as possible. Tuition for the entire year is \$445 including a \$20 registration fee (\$400 for ages 65 and older). Students can pay in full at the beginning of the year, once each semester, or monthly. There are various discounts (listed on the back of this sheet) available, and for those students in financial need, there is Tuition Assistance as well. Talk to your instructor for more information.

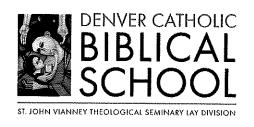
We are excited and encouraged that you are interested in participating in this course to grow in the knowledge and love of our beautiful faith. We pray that it will be as exciting and as life-giving for you as it is for us!

In the Sacred Heart of Jesus,

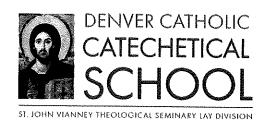
Widwa Joliel

Nicholas Lebish, D.Min., Ed.D

Director, Denver Catholic Biblical and Catechetical Schools







# St. John Vianney Seminary Lay Division **Enrichment Courses**

- ❖ Apologetics for the New Evangelization
- ❖ Dante's Divine Comedy: A User's Guide to Salvation
- ❖ Icon: An Exploration of Catholic Art and Culture
- Wisdom of the Saints: The One Thing Necessary

## **Quick Answers to Common Questions**

## **Registration:**

To register, please visit: sjvlaydivision.org/register/

Annual Tuition (all fees below include \$20 registration fee)

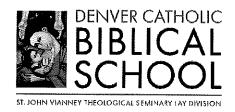
	Discount	Tuition
General Student		\$445.00
Senior (65+)	10%	\$400.00
Veteran / Active Military / First Responder *	10%	\$400.00
Parish Volunteer Catechist *	10%	\$400.00
Full-time employee of Catholic ministry/Diocesan department *	100%	\$20.00
Part-time employee of Catholic ministry/Diocesan department *	50%	\$232.50

<sup>\*</sup>Proof of military/employment/volunteer catechist status must be submitted to CBS office by 10/15/2020 to qualify. Failure to submit proof may disqualify discounted tuition rate.

### Tuition notes...

- Payable in one payment (Sept 2020), two payments (Sept 2020 & Jan 2021), or monthly payments (Sept 2020 through May 2021)
- First payment due no later than Sept 15, 2020.
- Tuition balance <u>must be paid IN FULL by May 15, 2021.</u>
- Limited Tuition Assistance available. Contact office for info.

Classes Begin: Week of September 14, 2020







#### Art of Living Student Testimonials

"The Art of Living class has opened my eyes & heart to the possibility that happiness can be achieved through the pursuit of perfecting human nature. I learned that my God-given nature is rooted in the Church's teaching on virtue & morality. In this often chaotic world, the Art of Living class has helped me to stay focused on God's final destiny for me – to spend eternity in His loving gaze." ~ Lisa

"The Art of Living class has given me the tools to better understand Church teaching & how it applies to my life & to the world around me. Being able to understand Aristotle & Aquinas is such a help for a foundation to understanding the natural law & the reactions against it in our world today. Being raised Catholic in the 60s & 70s, I learned that God is Love. But, what does that mean? Aquinas & the virtuous life helps me put that into action by understanding rightly God's love for me &, flowing from that, to naturally loving my neighbor for the love of God. This class advanced my learning enough so that I can now understand articles & blogs on sites such as First Things & The Catholic Thing. Daniel is great & so patient with questions & explanations. I recommend this class to anyone who wants a richer way of living as a faithful Catholic today." ~ Felicia

"Daniel is an excellent teacher & leader that brings an engaging & amiable style, has a seemingly inexhaustible knowledge of what it takes to live a virtuous life in today's increasingly secular society, & challenges one's intellect, will, & passions to embrace Jesus Christ & the Catholic faith. He does this by using Sacred Scripture & Tradition, the Catechism, Aristotle, St. Thomas Aquinas, & the cardinal & theological virtues. It has been a wonderful & essential class for me to more fully understand God's plan & to try to pursue living a virtuous life in accordance with that plan. This class is timeless & most worthwhile. I may take the class again just to keep learning & to keep the principles at the forefront of my mind." ~ Steve

"The Art of Living is a class that I would recommend to all Catholics. It is an excellent introduction to why we believe the things that we do, why they make complete sense, & how we can put them into practice in our lives. Daniel takes concepts that might seem complicated & breaks them down into parts that make sense. So much sense that not incorporating them into the way we think seems...irrational. Yet, the best part of the class is the wide ranging discussions we have (on topics perhaps not usually covered in a philosophy/theology class) that are always intensely real. Each person brings parts of their lives as Catholics, things that they love & things that they struggle with, & we help each other to work out different ways to see & solve things. We discuss things like: what am I actually supposed to be doing in 'The New Evangelization'? How should I talk to someone in order to help them see that the Church is right on this, but without making them defensive? Is it really important that I have a Catholic funeral if my whole family is agnostic? I really hope that Daniel continues to teach this class, & that he eventually expands it to more classes about St. Thomas. I am really going to miss it when it is over, both the challenges to incorporate the concepts & the camaraderie of watching us all grow in our faith." ~ Joanne

"I feel that it is a blessing to be able to devote an entire year to the study of the virtues & some of the foundational thought & Divine Wisdom of Thomas Aquinas. We all need to be educated & fortified with a solid understanding of what Truth is & is not & who we are & who we are not, so that we can be LIGHT to our confused & hurting world & bring Jesus to all we meet!" ~ Mary



#### Course description

As we repeatedly read in the Scriptures, we are exhorted to "be holy as the Lord your God is holy" (see Lev 11:44; 11:45; 19:2; 20:7; 20:26; 21:8; 1 Pet 1:15). But what does this holiness look like and how do we attain it?

In this new class, developed and taught by Mr. Daniel Campbell, we will study what God's plan is for our holiness, with a particular focus on law and the life of grace. We will first look at law, which St. Thomas Aquinas writes is God's instruction in our holiness. We will study how God's law (the eternal law, the natural law, the human law, the Old Mosaic Law, and the New Law of Christ) teaches us about His plan for our holiness. It is, then, our obedience to God's law that manifests our love for Him, for as Jesus Christ tells us, "if you love Me, keep My commandments" (Jn 14:15).

After studying law, we will then study the life of grace, which St. Thomas Aquinas writes is God's assistance in holiness. We will study what grace is, especially how the life of grace is lived out through the interior life and conversion. We will study the different kinds of prayer (unceasing, vocal, and mental prayer) and continue with how we are to pray – how to put oneself in the presence of God, the method of meditation, how to deal with difficulties in prayer, such as distractions and aridities, consolations and desolations, and other such obstacles to prayer. We will also see what the virtues necessary for the life of prayer are, as well as the fruits of prayer. When studying conversion, we will then study why and how God wants to draw us deeper into relationship with Him through conversion. We will discuss what the nature of the spiritual life consists of and how grace transforms the soul. Particular focus will be placed on the ordinary growth of union with God in the life of the baptized as we are drawn through the "three conversions" – justification, by which we enter the "Purgative Way", the dark night of the senses, by which we enter the "Illuminative Way", and the dark night of the spirit/soul, by which we enter the "Unitive Way".

In sum, this class will give a complete picture of what God's will for us is in the life of holiness, as St. Paul describes in Ephesians 1:3-6: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. He destined us in love to be His sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved."

#### Course syllabus

- The Art of Living
- The Beatific Vision
- Original Sin
- God's will for our holiness
- Law
  - o The philosophy of law
  - o The eternal law
  - o The natural law
  - o The human law
  - o The Divine law
    - The Old Mosaic Law
    - The New Law of Christ
- Grace
- The interior life
  - o Unceasing prayer, vocal prayer, and mental prayer
  - The stages of mental prayer
    - Meditation
    - Affective prayer
    - The prayer of simplicity
    - Infused contemplation
    - The prayer of quiet
    - Full/simple union
    - Ecstatic union/spiritual betrothal
    - Spiritual marriage
  - o The method of meditation
  - o Difficulties in mental prayer
    - Distractions and aridities
    - Consolations and desolations
    - Obstacles to prayer
  - o The virtues of the interior life
  - The fruits of the interior life
- Conversion
  - o The first conversion (justification) and the "Purgative Way"
  - The second conversion (the dark night of senses) and the "Illuminative Way"
  - o The third conversion (the dark night of the spirit/soul) and the "Unitive Way"
- The will of God
  - o Discerning God's will
  - o Living God's will

# **Denver Catholic Biblical and Catechetical Schools 2020-2021**

1300 S. Steele St, Denver CO 80210 -- Office 303.715.3195 -- Fax 303.715.2007 -- sivlaydivision.org

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NOTE:
Due to COVID-19 concerns, all Lay Division classes
will be offered online temporarily for the 2020-2021
year. Check school website for latest information.

	2020
Aug 15	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sep 7	Labor Day
Sep 14	All classes begin
Oct 25 - 31	Fall Break
Nov 1	All Saints' Day
Nov 7	Fall Workshop @ St Thomas More (Centennial)
Nov 22 - 28	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Dec 20 - Jan 2	Christmas Break
Jan 1	Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

	2021
Jan 4	All classes resume
Jan 18 - 23	Week 15 - End of First Semester
Jan 18	MLK Day
Jan 30	Servant of the Word Workshop - Status: TBD
Feb 14 - 20	Winter Break
Feb 27	Lenten Retreat
Mar 28-Apr 10	Holy Week and Easter Break
Apr 4	Easter Sunday
May 24	Final week for weekly classes
May 13	Ascension of the Lord
May 31	Memorial Day
TBD	Nebo Evening (CBS 4 students only)
TBD	Graduation Mass (CBS 4 & LAD 2)

Your notes:

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	While every attempt has been made to ensure the
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	change. Any calendar change(s) will be communicated
	to students and posted on our website as they are announced.

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