The Pontifical University of the Holy Cross recently unveiled the “Santa Croce Projects” exhibit, which highlights the numerous and diverse research centers, projects and initiatives of the university. The exhibit is installed throughout the first-floor hallway of the “Palazzo dell’Apollinare,” the building which hosts all of Santa Croce’s classrooms. The idea to foster a greater awareness of Santa Croce’s many research initiatives originated among professors as a way to inspire greater collaboration and to create new opportunities for further study through students’ licentiate theses and doctoral dissertations.

As Santa Croce’s Rector, Fr. Luis Navarro, explained on the occasion of the exhibit’s inauguration, “The purpose of a university is not just to provide courses or, ultimately, to confer degrees. A university is so much more. Its purpose is to conduct research, to work toward the advancement of the sciences.”

For this reason, Fr. Navarro continued, “A university is measured on the basis of the value of the research that it produces, of its publications, of the conferences that it organizes. Familiarity with a university’s research is a fundamental aspect of knowing that university.”

In this light, the exhibit offers a valuable look into the identity of Santa Croce as an institution, and the seriousness with which the university seeks to delve into breadth and depth of the sacred sciences. Each of its four schools – Theology, Philosophy, Canon Law, and Church Communications – boasts a range of research initiatives that embraces an extremely rich range of focus, in addition to the prestigious academic journals regularly published by each school.

The School of Theology alone is actively involved in eight substantial research projects, many of which are interdisciplinary in their approach. These initiatives include, among others:

- The Center for Interdisciplinary Documentation on Science and Faith, which in turn promotes the SISRI School of Interdisciplinary Formation.
- The “History of Councils” Research Project, which boasts numerous scholarly publications of a “Dictionary of Councils.”
• The Market, Culture and Ethics Center, which seeks to develop the social doctrine of the Church through educational and cultural programs involving business and finance, including Santa Croce’s prestigious Program of Church Management.

• The website “Etica e politica,” which places research, studies and opinion pieces regarding ethical and ethical-political issues at public disposal.

• The “Research in Relational Ontology” Group, which focuses on the metaphysics of the relational dimension of man.

• The Evangelization, Music and Beauty Project, which focuses on the theological study of sacred music.

The School of Philosophy is involved in:

• The development of an online encyclopedia “Philosophica”.

• Collaborates in the inter-University project “Science, Theology and the Ontology Quest,” focused on the faith-science dialogue.

• Promotes the Interdisciplinary Forum on Anthropology.

• Created the International Philosophy Award “Antonio Jannone” for contributions to the study of classical philosophy.

The School of Canon Law has developed:

• The “CASE” interdisciplinary research group, which focuses on the administration and sustenance of the Church, and especially the concept of “stewardship”.

• The Center for Juridical Studies on the Family, which has developed prolific studies, especially in the field of canon law of marriage.

• “Bibliotecanonica,” an online database of scientific articles.

• “Codex,” an online database of normative updates to Church law.

The School of Church Communications boasts numerous initiatives including:

• The “Center of Research into the Relationship Between Family and Mass Media”.

• The “Rhetoric and Anthropology Research Center”

• The “Poetics and Christianity” international study forum.

The great diversity of Santa Croce’s many research initiatives is a manifestation of the heart of Santa Croce’s approach to the sacred sciences and its dedication to their promotion through the serious dedication of study, enlightened by the universal call to holiness.

The exhibit is expected to inspire new research and doctoral thesis proposals.
The Center for Juridical Studies on the Family is one of the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross’s many new research initiatives. With its origin in the central role that marriage and the family hold within the field of canon law, the Center was founded with the aim of channeling the many years of research and experience developed within the Faculty of Canon Law surrounding these essential themes, putting scientific contributions at the service of marriage and the family.

The Center is directed by Fr. Héctor Franceschi, one of Santa Croce’s professors of matrimonial canon law, and the board is comprised of canon law professors who specialize in a variety of disciplines in relation to this field.

As a research center, the Center for Juridical Studies on the Family’s primary objective consists in uniting different activities and publications with the aim of contributing to scientific research in favor of marriage and the family. They are convinced that a canonist’s scientific approach to these topics is useful and essential not just within the Church, but rather contains a richness that benefits society as a whole.

Since marriage is a natural reality, the perspective of all of the Center’s research is characterized by an integral and authentic anthropological and ontological conception of the human person, as well as of the true nature both of the family and of the law. A true understanding of the nature of man and woman, of the authentic nature of the family, and of the nature and function of law, serve as the foundation and backbone of the Center’s approach to matrimonial canon law, which is understood according to the perspective of that justice which is naturally inherent in all family relationships.

Although a relatively new research center, the Center for Juridical Studies on the Family has already provided ample contributions to the field, organizing various initiatives including Interdisciplinary Days of Study focusing on the juridical anthropology of marriage and the family, specifically concerning the conjugal relationship and the relationship between parents and children. Additionally, every three years, they organize a week-long renewal course in marriage and procedural law at Santa Croce.

Additionally, the Center is working towards the goal of making various publications on relevant topics available to the public, in addition to publishing three new books. These will be an addition to the 45 books and over 350 articles or academic contributions on marriage and procedural canon law already published by the academic community represented on the Center’s committee.

In today’s society, where marriage and the family are increasingly attacked, the Center’s research is invaluable. With this in mind, the Center aims to assume the challenge of upholding a concrete commitment to society, to help and protect the institution of marriage by means of research and scientific contributions.
The Pontifical University of the Holy Cross recently hosted a one-day workshop on the topic “Educating Young People About Love and Friendship Through the Classics.” It was organized by the School of Church Communications’ research group, Family and Media, under the Chair endowed by Elina Gianoli Ginza. This international think tank analyzes the relationship between family, media and society. Family and Media is one of Santa Croce’s numerous research initiatives, which focuses on studying the different ways in which mass media and social media influence the family, according to “a two-fold approach: how the family is presented in the media (fiction and news) and how the institutions that promote the family communicate their message in the public space.”

The workshop, which was principally directed toward teachers and educational professionals, was presented by a team composed of both writers and educators from international backgrounds, each one of whom focused their attention on one of five literary classics, examining their role in the formation of young people in their understanding of love, friendship, and the various relational dimensions of life. The classic works examined were Leo Tolstoy’s Anna Karenina, Jane Austen’s Pride and Prejudice, W. Somerset Maugham’s The Painted Veil, Shakespeare’s Much Ado About Nothing, and Tolkien’s The Lord of the Rings.

For Italian Professor Alessandro Avenia, who presented on the topic “Every Story is a Love Story,” the workshop addresses an important issue in today’s society: a growing neglect of classic literature and all that great books have to reveal to us about the complexities of life. For Prof. Avenia, the life lessons presented by the classics naturally appeal to young people, and offer a myriad of insight into “life understood as a destination.” “What is the secret to bringing young people to the classics? The classics take care of this on their own,” Prof. Avenia explains, “The problem is that we don’t read the classics, and we don’t tell our young people about them. The problem lies with us teachers, who no longer believe that the classics can help people to encounter their destiny.”

For Bestselling Spanish author Natalia Sanmartin Fenollera and Italian writer Andrea Monda, who presented on Pride and Prejudice and The Lord of the Rings, respectively, the secret to transmitting a love for the classics is for teachers to foster their own passion for literature. “If someone has a love for classic literature, that person will talk about the classics,” Santa Croce Professor of Communications Norberto González emphasized.

Identifying concrete ways to transmit this passion to young people, including the use of theater and film, was the focal point of the workshop, given the importance of the classics as a means to form young people in the virtues necessary for interpersonal relationships characterized by love and friendship. In this light, as Santa Croce’s Prof. Antonio Malo explained, “It is necessary to understand that in every story, there is a story about love.”
In honor of the feast of St. Raymond of Peñafort, patron saint of the School of Canon Law, Santa Croce’s students and professors were welcomed at the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF), where they were met by the Congregation’s Under-Secretary, Rev. Matteo Visioli, who gave a brief tour of the Congregation’s office and spoke about the important work of the dicastery for the good of the Church.

The feast day of each of the four faculties at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross is an important occasion. Classes are suspended for the day as students and professors mark the occasion with a special celebration of the Holy Mass, a keynote lecture and, occasionally, another activity tied to the specific interests of students. In the past few years, the School of Canon Law has visited the Apostolic Tribunal of the Roman Rota, the Basilica of St. Mary Major, and the “Redemptoris Mater” chapel in the Apostolic Palace, in honor of the occasion.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, originally founded in 1542 by Pope Paul III under the name of the “Sacred Roman and Universal Inquisition” as a commission of six cardinals charged with addressing cases of heresy and schism, has evolved in its purpose over the years. Now, the CDF is the dicastery tasked with promoting and defending the doctrine of the faith and its traditions in all of the Catholic world.

“This mission is very beautiful,” explains Fr. Davide Cito, professor of penal canon law at Santa Croce. “Fundamentally, it is the mission of protecting the integrity and authenticity of the Faith that the Church has been given.”

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith also functions as an ecclesiastical tribunal for a select few, specific matters. Dean of the Faculty, Fr. Jesús Miñambres, found the opportunity for students to see first-hand some of the practical applications of canon law to be extremely beneficial. “The visit went very well,” he explains. “Students were able to see, in a new and more concrete light, many of the ways in which canon law practically serves the good of the Church.”

Third-year student Fr. Ángel Rustrian Lara was also struck by the focus on faith and love for the Church within the Congregation. “It was a privilege to hear Fr. Visioli’s experience and to see how much love he has for the Church. We heard how serving the Church, even as a canon lawyer, is a calling that must be carried out with complete and total willingness. He spoke of how the most important thing is love for Jesus, cultivating a profound interior life with Him, and love for Mary, praying the rosary every day.”

For first-year American lay student Michael Mazza, the visit brought home the connection between prayer and the work of the Congregation. “The first thing that stood out for me was our visit to the chapel, a quiet place of prayer and beauty inside this building where decisions are made that affect the lives and souls of so many people around the world,” Mr. Mazza reflects. “The second thing that stood out was the prayerful spirit of Rev. Visioli, who spoke to us about the work that is being done there every day, often hidden from the world, but both important and necessary.”

The visit highlighted the importance of uniting the many aspects of living out one’s vocation to holiness by serving the Church in different ways, including through dedication to canon law.
Fr. Tulio Andrés Pineda Montoya was ordained to the priesthood in 2012 to serve the Diocese of Pereira in Colombia. Now in his second year of studies for the Licentiate in Canon Law at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross, Fr. Tulio Andrés hopes to be able to apply the fruit of his studies by combining pastoral work with his expertise as a canonist.

After receiving a solid Christian formation as a child, especially through his close relationship to his late grandmother, Fr. Tulio Andrés began to feel called to the priesthood from the age of adolescence, struck by the strength of testimony of a new priest in his local parish. After a year of discernment, he entered the major seminary of his diocese, and was eventually ordained to the priesthood on the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul.

The Church in Colombia continues to enjoy cultural credibility, which Fr. Tulio Andrés describes as being manifested in the “joy of the people, their love for the Church and for the priesthood.” His diocese of Pereira is a pioneer in the Latin American experience of the New Evangelization, with a recently revised pastoral plan to combat the challenges presented by an increasingly secularized society, fostering a greater awareness of the Christian identity on the part of all the baptized that also permeates the formation of clergy in the diocese. For Fr. Tulio Andrés, the New Evangelization “is the response to all of the great challenges that today’s world presents.”

He views the formation he is receiving at Santa Croce as perfectly targeted for such a mission. “I think that my studies are providing me with all of the tools that I will need in the area of Canon Law, giving me a solid basis to carry out all of the activities that will be assigned to me in the future,” Fr. Tulio Andrés explains. “Furthermore, at a personal level, my formation has changed the vision that I had of Canon Law, helping me to see just how necessary it is to live out relationships in justice, and the importance of this justice for the fruitful pastoral activity of the Church.”

Beyond just a rigorous academic preparation, Fr. Tulio Andrés is taking advantage of his time at Santa Croce in a multidimensional way. “My time at Santa Croce has been a very special time for my ministry during which I have learned how to live out a different dimension of the priesthood of Christ through all that this experience in Rome has entailed,” he explains. “It has been a hugely rich experience in every dimension: spiritual, human, academic and pastoral; it is a time of preparation projected towards my dimension as a pastor. The witness I have received at Santa Croce has helped me to view my own priesthood from a different perspective, and to love this gift that I have received with even greater strength.”

Holy Mass Intentions

Masses offered for your intentions are wonderful remembrances and tributes to loved ones, both living and deceased. Your Mass will be assigned to a needy student priest as a means of his support beyond the bare minimum of tuition, room, and board. One hundred percent of the Mass stipend goes to the student priest who offers the Mass.

To request a Mass online, please visit:
www.universityholycross.org

Fr. Tulio in the chapel of “Pio Latinoamericano”, the residence in Rome for students from Central and South America.
We all want to leave a legacy of love with those we have known and who have enriched our lives. When thinking about our legacy, we have an unrepeatable opportunity to help people and organizations that have been important to us. Have you thought about how to remember your loved ones and your favorite charities?

You can create a legacy today that will help others grow in the Church. The beauty of this is that it costs you nothing today, but can help Santa Croce in the future. The amount of your estate doesn’t matter, but what does matter is that each of us have a plan and not leave our legacy to chance. After remembering our family loved ones, we should remember our favorite charities. If what Santa Croce is doing is important to your beliefs and values, please consider remembering us in your final plans.

Wills and other bequests have been important to the university’s financial health for many years. In addition to a will designation, there are other ways to make a charitable bequest through the naming of a beneficiary. Let us send you our brochure on charitable gift planning which discusses some options.

You can do all of this with a few words! A few words in your will or in naming the Foundation as a beneficiary allows you to continue your support for what you believe in—well beyond the years God will give you in this lifetime. Your bequest will help train future leaders to serve the Church throughout the world.

Your bequest gift provides assurance for the continuing excellence of Santa Croce. A bequest provides for the disposition of some of your assets, but it is also an expression of your love and commitment to those people and groups that you most cherish.

Benefits of a Bequest:

• Allows you to make a gift that cost nothing today.
• Creates a legacy to help support what you believe in.
• When established as a percentage, a bequest intention allows for change in the value of your assets.
• Most of all, your gift provides for the future of Santa Croce and the leadership of the Church.

Request for more information – Building the Future of the Church

☐ Please send me your brochure to consider bequest options A Brief Overview of Charitable Planning
☐ Please have a Charitable Gift Counselor give me a call to discuss planning options.
☐ Please enroll me in the Santa Croce Legacy Society, as I have already remembered the Foundation in my:
  ☐ Will ☐ Trust ☐ Retirement account ☐ Life insurance ☐ Other____________________

Name (please print)______________________________________________________________

Address______________________________________________________________________

City________________________________________________________ State_______ Zip__________

Phone________________________ Email______________________________

José Delgado | Pontifical University of the Holy Cross Foundation | P.O. Box 4508 | New York, NY 10163-4508.
FROM ALL THE WORLD TO ALL THE WORLD

Our students are tremendously grateful for the unique opportunity they have to attend Santa Croce. They study with world-renowned thinkers, and they make friends from every continent—all within an easy stroll of the Vatican, the Pantheon, and the countless other treasures of the Eternal City, and more importantly, all done for the glory of God and the good of His holy Church.

“At Santa Croce, I grow every day in my encounter with the Catholic Faith. The simplicity of my professors and their real belief in the teachings of the Church is amazing. It has been like a dream, an addition to the graces which have led me through the past years. I am so grateful to the kind people who freely contribute to my formation. Thank you!”

Anthony Ifeanyi Odunze
Onitsha, Nigeria
Second Year Theology

“We come [to Santa Croce] for a very specific reason: the solid formation and the unified education in which you find a singular idea behind everything. For example, one goes to classes in fundamental theology, morals, or Pentateuch and everything is well integrated and focused on the formation of the seminarian students. It’s a great basis to prepare me for giving to others what I’ve learned here.”

Br. Mathew Maxwell
United States
Sacred Theology

“My diocese needs more priests equipped in social communications to carry out our pastoral ministry efficiently. Because social discrimination on the basis of castes is prevalent in my region of India, my ministry will also include treating people as equals, and to help them respect one another with special concern for the oppressed and downtrodden.”

Fr. Victor Dos Antonysamy
Tamil Nadu, India
Church Communications

SANTA CROCE’S 1,485 STUDENTS HAIL FROM 86 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES!

On behalf of all our students, THANK YOU! Your help makes a world of difference!