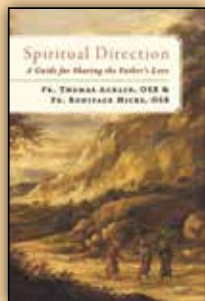


ABOUT THE BOOK



"In *Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father's Love*, the authors have written a superb guide to giving spiritual direction, and receiving it as well, worthy of the masters. I highly recommend it."

—**ARCHBISHOP CHARLES J. CHAPUT, O.F.M. CAP.**
ARCHBISHOP OF PHILADELPHIA

Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father's Love, will be used as a text for the course.

"The demand for sound spiritual directors far outpaces the supply, leaving so many who could be helped toward sanctity stumbling on the journey. . . . That's why Fathers Acklin and Hicks have done the whole Church, present and future directors, and the directees they will guide an enormous service in fusing the Church's spiritual wisdom and their extensive experience into a superb, systematic primer."

—**FATHER ROGER J. LANDRY**
NATIONAL CHAPLAIN, CATHOLIC VOICES USA,
CATHOLICPREACHING.COM

SAINT VINCENT SEMINARY

Saint Vincent Seminary is a Roman Catholic Seminary grounded in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the living tradition of the Church in accord with the Magisterium, and shaped by the Benedictine heritage of liturgical prayer, study, hospitality and community. As such, the Seminary is a center for the spiritual formation, human development, and academic and pastoral preparation of candidates for the priesthood. Consistent with this primary mission and responsive to the contemporary needs of the Church, the Seminary provides programs for permanent diaconate candidates and offers degree programs to qualified men and women seeking a theological education.

FOR INFORMATION

CONTACT:

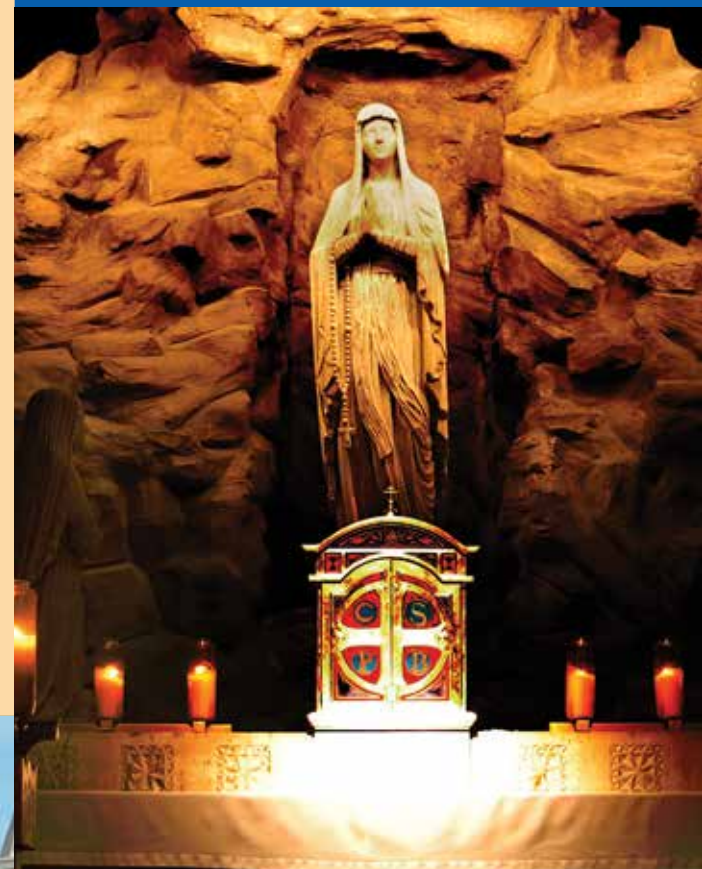
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INSTITUTE FOR MINISTRY FORMATION
AT SAINT VINCENT SEMINARY



Spiritual Direction I: Art of Accompaniment

JUNE 24-28, 2019
REV. BONIFACE HICKS, O.S.B.
REV. THOMAS ACKLIN, O.S.B.

REGISTRATION:
IMF.SAINTVINCENTSEMINARY.EDU/SDI





SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Has anyone ever asked you how they could pray better? How they could grow in their relationship with God? How they could be a better Christian? Has anyone ever shared their spiritual struggles and questions with you? These are signs you may be called to accompany others on the spiritual journey.

The need for spiritual direction—or the accompaniment of a spiritual guide—is becoming more prominent in a world where so many are suffering from so many wounds.

As Pope Francis noted, “The Church will have to initiate everyone—priests, religious and laity—into this ‘art of accompaniment’ which teaches us to remove our sandals before the sacred ground of the other (cf. Ex 3:5).” (*Evangelii Gaudium* #169).

Learn the foundational dynamics of spiritual direction through reading, lectures, and discussions, the participant will learn the foundational dynamics of spiritual direction.

This course will serve as foundational for those who wish to continue learning the practice of spiritual direction. It is also a stand-alone course for those who wish to learn the “art of accompaniment”. As soon as the faithful are stabilized in their own spiritual practice, the opportunity to support and accompany others often arises.

TOPICS

The role of Spiritual Direction in the Church

- The need for Spiritual Direction in our time
- Our one-on-one relationship with God
- One-on-one human relationships
- The interior life
- The importance of vulnerability
- A listening that reveals and heals
- Communicating the Father’s Love
- Introduction to development in the life of prayer
- Some psychological insights for spiritual direction
- The qualities of the spiritual director
- Introduction to supervision and self-awareness
- Saints for spiritual directors



SCHEDULE

The course consists of five hours of instruction per day for five days. There will also be opportunities over meals and during the days for private meetings with the instructors.

The course begins at 9 a.m., Monday June 24 and ends at 4 p.m. Friday, June 28. Housing and meals are provided and included in the cost. There is also a day rate for commuters which would include meals. **Space is limited! Reserve early!** Daily Mass, Eucharistic adoration, Sacramental Confession and prayer are included in the program and available to any who are interested. The program also offers sufficient time for walks, silence, and reflection to best integrate the teaching offered during the course. Saint Vincent Archabbey is a peaceful environment that naturally fosters reflection and contemplation.



THE PRESENTERS

FATHER THOMAS ACKLIN O.S.B., is a Benedictine monk and priest at Saint Vincent Archabbey. He earned an MA in philosophy at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, and an STD in theology and a PhD in religious studies at the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium where he specialized in psychology of religion. He is a psychoanalyst and a spiritual director and is a professor at Saint Vincent Seminary where he also served as rector. Father Acklin has offered many retreats, especially for priests, Benedictines and contemplative religious.



Father Thomas is also author of several books and articles, including *The Passion of the Lamb*, and *The Unchanging Heart of the Priesthood*.

FATHER BONIFACE HICKS, O.S.B. is a Benedictine monk of Saint Vincent Archabbey. He has provided spiritual direction for many men and women, including married couples, seminarians, consecrated religious and priests, even while completing his Ph.D. in computer science at Penn State University. He became the programming manager for We Are One Body® Catholic Radio in 2010 and has recorded thousands of radio programs on theology and the spiritual life. He has extensive experience as a retreat master for laity, consecrated religious, and priests.



Father Boniface became the director for spiritual formation for Saint Vincent Seminary in 2016 where he also teaches classes on spirituality. He is co-author, with Father Thomas, of *Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father’s Love*, Emmaus Road, 2017.