

THE JEWISH-CHRISTIAN STUDIES GRADUATE PROGRAM

SPRING 2013 NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 15 / NUMBER 2

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

New Opportunities for Scholarships & Tuition Assistance



Spring is in full bloom on the Green at Seton Hall University, marking the opening of scholarship and tuition applications for the 2013 Fall semester.

Spring has not only brought great beauty to the Seton Hall campus as the cherry blossoms flourish, but it has also brought opportunity to students as the Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies and the Sister Rose Thering Fund open applications for full and partial scholarships and tuition assistance for the Fall 2013 semester.

The Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies is offering scholarship support to help meet the needs of selected students who are matriculated in the Master of Arts (M.A.) in Jewish-Christian Studies Program in the Department of Religion and in the M.A. in Theology with a concentration in Judaeo-Christian Studies program in the Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology at Seton Hall

University. Scholarship opportunities include:

- **Graduate Assistantship** - One graduate assistantship is offered every year, includes full-time graduate tuition up to \$24,000, a \$6,000 stipend, and is renewable for one year.
- **Scholarships for full-time students** - Multiple scholarships are offered every year, include full-time graduate tuition up to \$24,000, and each scholarship is renewable for one year.
- **Scholarships for part-time students** - Multiple scholarships are offered every year, include part-time tuition up to \$14,000, and each scholarship is renewable.
- **Award for full-time students** - One grant up to \$12,000 is awarded every year to one full-time student and is renewable for one year.
- **Award for part-time students** - One grant of \$1,500 is awarded every semester to one part-time student and is renewable.

There are a limited number of scholarships and grants that can be awarded, therefore selection is competitive. For more information regarding eligibility and application procedures, please contact the Director of the Institute, the Reverend Lawrence E. Frizzell at lawrence.frizzell@shu.edu or (973) 761-9751.

The Sister Rose Thering Fund (SRTF) awards tuition scholarships to non-matriculated educators who wish to take graduate courses without or prior to enrolling in the master's program. Educators with non-matriculation status who complete a four-course sequence will be awarded a Certificate in Jewish-Christian Studies. For qualifying students, credits completed for the certificate can be applied to the M.A. in Jewish-Christian Studies.

Educators who are interested in applying for tuition assistance should contact Marilyn Zirl, Administrator of the SRTF at marilyn.zirl@shu.edu or (973) 761-9006.

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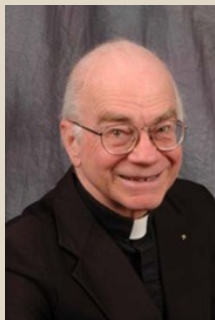
SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

Department of Religion

The Jewish-Christian Studies
Graduate Program

Eliminating prejudice through understanding since 1975

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Lawrence E. Frizzell
Director

Welcome to our updated Jewish-Christian Studies Graduate Program newsletter! We hope you enjoy the new look, layout and sections now featured in our program's biannual publication.

As you will see, in addition to Faculty Updates, each newsletter will spotlight a specific aspect of one faculty member's scholarship and work. This issue highlights Rabbi Asher Finkel's overall contributions and announces his retirement (see page 3). Rabbi and I have worked side-by-side since

1975, and he is a beloved colleague, professor and teacher who will be sorely missed. We wish him well and look forward to reading the many publications he is planning to complete in the future.

We have also begun to feature articles written by alumni and students of the Jewish-Christian Studies Graduate Program. Elizabeth Halpin, an alumna who graduated in 2009, wrote an insightful article about how the lessons she learned in the master's program have impacted her personally and how they have helped her professionally in her role as an assistant dean in the Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations (see page 7).

Finally, we will be keeping you abreast of the latest research, developments and/or cultural events in our field. This issue draws your attention to art exhibits that are on display at the Museum of Biblical Art in New York City and the Holocaust Museum & Studies Center of the Bronx High School of Science in New York City (see page 8).

I invite each of you to attend two upcoming events that are being hosted at Seton Hall University: the **Oesterreicher Memorial Academic Conference** on September 22-23 and the **20th Annual John M. Oesterreicher Memorial Lecture** on October 27. Details for the academic conference, which is being chaired by Rabbi Alan Brill, will be announced in the coming days. Information regarding the John M. Oesterreicher memorial lecture has been posted on the Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies' new Facebook page at <http://bit.ly/JMO2013>. Please log on to Facebook, and let us know that you'll be "Going" to the event.

Blessings and best wishes to our accomplished alumni community and to all of our students who will be wrapping up their Spring 2013 semester in about a month. Please keep me updated on your progress and all of your achievements by sending me a message via Facebook at www.facebook.com/lawrence.frizzell or via email at lawrence.frizzell@shu.edu.

- Reverend Lawrence E. Frizzell

Director & Associate Professor,
Jewish-Christian Studies Graduate Program
Seton Hall University

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS: Inaugural Lecture

The year-long celebration of the 60-year anniversary of the Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies was inaugurated on January 30, 2013 at Seton Hall University among more than 200 attendees.

The event included remarks from Seton Hall President, Dr. A. Gabriel Esteban and the Graduate Program's Rabbi Alan



Rabbi Alan Brill signing a copy of his latest book, *Judaism and World Religions*

Brill, Ph.D., and featured the keynote address, *Two Powers in Heaven? The Emergence of Binitarian Ideas in Pre-Christian Judaism*, by Dr. Peter Schäfer, the Ronald O. Perleman Professor of Jewish Studies and Director of the Program in Judaic Studies at Princeton University.

The inauguration also included a musical performance by the Seton Hall University Choir with Maestro Jason

Tramm and a [video](#) presentation on the life and legacy of the Institute's founding director, Monsignor John M. Oesterreicher, and concluded with book signings by Dr. Schäfer and Rabbi Brill.

2nd Annual Dr. Marcia Robbins-Wilf Lecture

Seton Hall University hosted the Dr. Marcia Robbins-Wilf lecture, the second event in the year-long celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies on Sunday, on March 10th.



Dr. Marcia Robbins-Wilf and Dr. David Bossman

The lecture featured Dr. Michael Berenbaum, Professor of Theology at the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, and Dr. John T. Pawlikowski, Director of the Catholic-Jewish Studies Program at the University of Chicago. Both scholars discussed the development and evolution of "Catholic-Jewish Relations since Nostra Aetate,"

with the graduate program's Dr. David Bossman serving as moderator.

Dr. Robbins-Wilf, for whom the lecture is named, is a long-time member of the Board of Trustees of the Sister Rose Thering Fund and has established an endowment to bring respected voices to Seton Hall University and the community at large.



Rabbi Asher Finkel

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT:

Rabbi Asher Finkel, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus, Jewish-Christian Studies Graduate Program

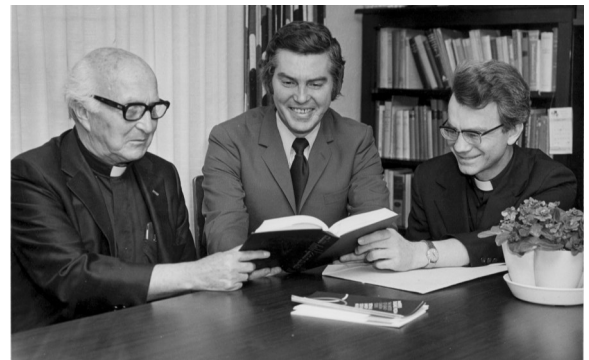
Rabbi Asher Finkel Retires from the Department of Religion

by Rev. Lawrence E. Frizzell

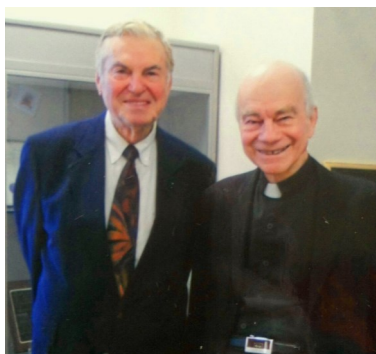
We come to the end of an era with Rabbi Asher Finkel's announcement that he is departing from the classroom at Seton Hall. Rabbi Finkel first came as an instructor in the Menorah Institute, a series of summer sessions that were organized by Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher and Sister Rose Thering. Then three years later, in Fall 1975 he committed himself to an experiment in interfaith education. With the financial backing of Ms. H. Suzanne Jobert for the period of five years, Msgr. Oesterreicher invited two full-time scholars and three adjuncts to found the Master's program in Jewish-Christian Studies. After five years the University would decide whether to take the program as its own. This acceptance, however, came after only three years, under President Robert Conley, and the program became part of the College of Arts and Sciences in the summer of 1978.

Rabbi Finkel brought a two-fold gift to this program intended to bridge the chasm between two faith communities that accepted the heritage of Moses and the other prophets, the psalmists and sages of Israel. From childhood he had relished the treasures preserved in the rabbinic tradition and had studied under the guidance of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik of Yeshiva University. Then his doctoral work in Tübingen University provided a solid footing in the field of comparative religion. His dissertation, *The Pharisees and the Teacher of Nazareth* (Leiden: Brill, 1964) became the foundation for innovative courses in the study of the Gospels at Seton Hall and Maryknoll School of Theology in upstate New York. Through conferences and lectures on four continents he presented his insights into the dynamics of the biblical world of pedagogy and prayer inherited by Jewish and Christian integration of the Word of God into the fabric of a faith-filled life of the two communities and received several awards and honors for his work including:

- The Shalom Award by the Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies, Seton Hall University, 2002
- Recognition for dynamic lecture presentation at Young Israel of Loch Sheldrake by Harry Walker Lecture Agency of NYC, 1999
- The Torah Award for Excellence in teaching by Community Center of 6th Street Synagogue, NYC, 1998
- Award and Recognition by Maryknoll School of Theology for Biblical teaching, 1964-1986
- The Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching at New York University, 1968



Circa mid-1970s. Left to right: Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher, Rabbi Asher Finkel and Fr. Lawrence E. Frizzell



Rabbi Asher Finkel and Father Lawrence E. Frizzell, colleagues for 38 years

In addition to teaching in the Jewish-Christian Studies Graduate Program, Rabbi Finkel also hosted a weekly *Lehrhaus* (German for *Study Hall*), which was sponsored by the Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies. Rabbi Finkel introduced countless students to the beauty and wisdom of the Torah for fifteen years in his *Lehrhaus* through his commentary on the weekly readings of the Torah portion for each preceding Sabbath.

Now that Rabbi Finkel is retired from Seton Hall we wish him many more years of good health and vigor! May he share his work in publications that capture the way he has opened the world of the Pharisees, the Qumran community, the New Testament and the Rabbis to his students.

There are good ships, and there are wood ships,

The ships that sail the sea.

But the best ships are friendships.

And may they always be!

Ad multos annos!

FACULTY NEWS

The Reverend Lawrence E. Frizzell, D. Phil.

Director & Associate Professor, Jewish-Christian Studies Graduate Program

Director, Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies

Father Frizzell continues to be a member of the Ecumenical and Interfaith Commission in the Archdiocese of Newark, with a focus on Catholic-Jewish relations; Consultor to the Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews in the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity; a regular columnist for *The Catholic Advocate*; and moderator of *The Kinship of Catholics & Jews*, a weekly radio program that promotes the shared values of Christians and Jews and is broadcast on Seton Hall's WSOU 89.5FM and is now also available digitally through the iTunes U app at <http://bit.ly/kinshipWSOU>.

Father Frizzell is teaching four graduate courses this semester: *Readings in Hebrew Bible I*, *Biblical Thought II: Paul and John*, *Jewish Roots of Jewish Spirituality*, and *Teachings of Jesus*. He also participated in the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Theologians at Princeton Theological Seminary this semester on February 22-23, 2013. Father was the designated responder to the paper written by Dr. Dennis Olson, Professor of Old Testament at the Seminary. The paper, "Revenge, Forgiveness, and Sibling Rivalry: A Theological Dialogue between Scripture and Science," dealt with family relationships in the chapters of Genesis on Jacob and Esau, and Father Frizzell's response compared the scholarly interpretation of the biblical narrative with the much more negative portrait of Esau in Targum Pseudo-Jonathan.

Father's most recent book reviews include:

- "Patristic Tradition and Intellectual Paradigms in the 17th Century." *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 43, no. 3 (Fall 2012): 890-891.
- "Historical Interpretations of the 'Fifth Empire': The Dynamics of Periodization from Daniel to Antonio Vieira." *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 43, no. 3 (Fall 2012): 955-956.

Additionally, his article, "[The Church's Bond with the Jewish People: Universal and Local Reflections on Nostra Aetate](#)," was published in *Word on Worship* 29, no. 3 (2012): 22-24. This and other selected writings and publications of Father Frizzell's may be accessed online on his new scholarly publications website at http://works.bepress.com/fatherlawrence_frizzellldphil.



David M. Bossman

David M. Bossman, Ph.D.

Professor, Jewish-Christian Studies Graduate Program

Dr. Bossman is currently teaching two graduate courses this Spring: *Jewish-Christian Social Service* and *Strategies in Healing*. The latter is a new course in the Jewish-Christian Studies Graduate Program that addresses various issues in urban schools that undermine personal rights and responsibilities such as bullying and coercive gang practices. The courses' outcomes are tailored teaching units for confronting destructive group practices and for building models that promote personal responsibility and leadership.

On February 1st Dr. Bossman made the presentation, "The Jewish-Christian Dialogue: Why It is Important in a Pluralistic Society," at Temple B'nai Abraham in Livingston, NJ. He also recently wrote articles that were published in the last three issues of the *Biblical Theology Bulletin*, a leading journal in the publication of biblical scholarship using social science methodologies. Dr. Bossman has served as an associate editor and editor of the *Biblical Theology Bulletin* since 1981, and his most recent contributions include the following:

- "Transitions." *BTB* 43, no. 2 (May 2013): 58-59.
- "Politicization of Theological Claims Is (Still) Local." *BTB* 43, no. 1 (February 2013): 2-3.
- "The Ebb and Flow of Biblical Interpretation." *BTB* 42, no. 4 (November 2012): 114-115.

The *Biblical Theology Bulletin* is available in hard copy as well as online at <http://btb.sagepub.com>.

Seton Hall students can access Dr. Bossman's and other *Biblical Theology Bulletin* articles online through the **E-Journals** tab on the University Libraries homepage at <http://www.shu.edu/academics/libraries>.



Alan Brill

Rabbi Alan Brill, Ph.D.

Cooperman/Ross Endowed Chair of Jewish-Christian Studies

Rabbi Alan Brill received a 2014 Fulbright Senior Scholar Award for teaching and research in India. His research will be the basis for the third companion volume to his books *Judaism and Other Religions: Models of Understanding* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2010) and *Judaism and World Religions: Encountering Christianity, Islam and Eastern Traditions* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2012).

In addition to teaching two graduate courses, *Philosophical Perspectives on the Shoah* and *The Land of Israel*, this Spring Semester, Rabbi Brill continues to write and publish the blog, *The Book of Doctrines and Opinions: notes on Jewish theology and spirituality*, at <http://kavvanah.wordpress.com>.

Rabbi's latest online publications include:

- "[Interreligious Leaders Hope for Continuity of Catholic Ties](#)." *The Monitor - Diocese of Trenton, NJ* (March 20, 2013).
- "[Pope Francis I Speaks on Holocaust, Israel and Jews in Only Book](#)" with Ronnie Perelis, *The Jewish Daily Forward* (March 15, 2013).
- "[Converts' Permanent Revolution: No Going Back on Vatican II, Despite Converted Clerics Role](#)." *The Jewish Daily Forward* (August 6, 2012).

NEW GRADUATE STUDENT UPDATES:

Students Come from Diverse Backgrounds & Bring Global Experiences



Bridgette Frank is from Franklin, NJ and holds a bachelor's degree from Montclair State University with a double-major in Philosophy and Religious Studies. Raised in a Jewish-Christian home, Bridgette is interested in studying more about the ethics concerning food and religious fasting in both the Jewish and Christian religious traditions. In addition to her full-time graduate studies and her duties as the new

Graduate Assistant for the Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies, Bridgette also provides freelance services in toy production.



Father John Assua plans to write his thesis on the fellowship of Jesus with a particular concentration on how it relates to the ministry of the Church. He is also interested in studying about the complexities of inter-faith dialogue so that he may learn to promote peace and help heal tensions that exist between people of different faith backgrounds in his homeland of Cameroon, Africa. Fr. John, a Diocesan priest of the Diocese of Buea, earned a bachelor's degree

in Sacred Theology from St. Thomas Aquinas Major Seminary in Cameroon and works at St. Leo's Parish in Irvington, NJ.



Sister Agnes Njume is the Head Teacher of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Muea, Buea and a Counsellor at the University Institute of the Diocese of Buea, both located in Cameroon, Africa. A Sister of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Sr. Agnes earned a bachelor's degree in Education with a major in Psychology and a master's degree in Educational Philosophy with a concentration in Guidance and Counselling at

the University of Cape Coast in Ghana. Sr. Agnes entered the Graduate Program in Jewish-Christian Studies so she may better "understand the pains we afflict on each other" and learn how she can help to repair and prevent them in the future. Sr. Agnes looks forward to imparting these lessons to all of her students and colleagues in the Diocese of Buea.



Jordyn Barry, a Hebrew and preschool teacher at Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel in South Orange, NJ, earned a bachelor's degree in Religion Studies with minors in History and Jewish Studies. Her passion for studying the Holocaust and Jewish-Christian relations stems from her upbringing in a Reform Jewish home and her unique background and family legacy: her grandfather is a Holocaust survivor and her father converted to Judaism before she was born. Jordyn intends to focus her research on the impact

Catholic documents such as "We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah" have had on Jewish-Catholic dialogue. During this summer's hiatus, she will be staffing a Taglit Birthright Israel Trip and a Kefiada Summer Program in Israel for the UJC MetroWest.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Where are they now?

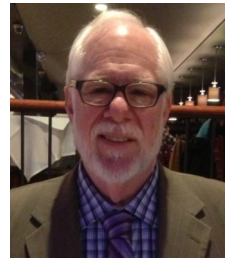


Since graduating in 2012 **Michal "Miki" Fine** has been very busy fulfilling her mission of helping young people internalize and strengthen the values necessary to improve our future and our world. Miki is currently the director of the Teen Experience at Temple Beth-Shalom (T.Ex.t) Program in Livingston, NJ where she helps educate teens about tolerance, overcoming biases, and working toward *Tikkun Olam* or repairing the world.

Miki also makes presentations on various topics including biblical themes and Jewish-Christian relations, and she recently made a significant contribution to the Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies' newest video, which honors the life and legacy of Monsignor John M. Oesterreicher, Founding Director of the Institute. The Institute's video can be viewed on YouTube at <http://bit.ly/JMOvideo>.

Robert "Bob" Enda, Class of 2000, retired from a 39-year career in teaching in 2011. Bob taught 6th grade in Hillside, NJ, trained other educators how to sensitively and effectively approach Holocaust and Tolerance Studies and was a member of Hillside's curriculum committee, which was tasked with incorporating the teachings of the Holocaust at different grade levels.

Bob was honored by the State of New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education with the Hela Young Award and the Honey and Maurice Axelrod Award in 2003 for his activism, community service and dedication to the issues of human rights, Holocaust studies and the reduction of bias, bigotry and prejudice.



Deborah Lerner Duane graduated from the M.A. in Jewish-Christian Studies Program in 2012 and is the founder and president of Lerner Duane Communication, Inc., a public relations and communications firm that principally represents and assists nonprofit organizations.

Deborah is very active in advancing Jewish-Christian studies and relations through her role as Publicity Chair of the South Orange/Maplewood Interfaith Holocaust Memorial Service Committee, as well as through the following three roles with the [Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish-Christian Studies](#): Vice Chair, Co-Chair of the Program Committee and Publicity Chair.

Statement Regarding the Interfaith Holocaust Service

by Rev. Lawrence E. Frizzell

Remembrance and Commitment. These are the words inscribed under the *Shoah* (Holocaust) memorial on the Seton Hall University campus. This monument commemorates the six million Jewish victims of Nazi atrocities from 1933-45. As Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher discussed the uniqueness of the Nazi genocide, he emphasized the fact that the Jewish people represented to Hitler a witness to the unique authority of God over all creatures. In the presence of Jews as witnesses to the Decalogue and other commandments the Nazi ideology was frustrated in its design for a different moral order.

"The Jews were an invisible phalanx, standing in the way of the amoral society he (Hitler) wished to build, a society based, not on the distinction between good and evil, but on the 'Aryan instinct' or the drive of Nietzsche's 'Blond Beast.' Their very being spoiled his dream of becoming the architect of that new world, the creator of a society in which biblical values—the Ten Commandments, first of all—were 'outlawed.' As spoilers of his scheme, they had to be done away with. Even their memory was to be eradicated." (*Martyrs of the Decalogue: Reflections on Pope John Paul's Pilgrimage to Auschwitz*, p. 5)

The South Orange-Maplewood Interfaith Holocaust Remembrance Service has always commemorated as well the five million non-Jewish civilians whose lives were destroyed because they would be a threat to the Nazi plan for world conquest. Their heroism and the witness of the Jewish people in Europe should be recalled not once but many times each year because the grim lessons of this history must never be forgotten. *Remember* in order to deepen our common *commitment* to build a world in which the human person, created in the image of God, may answer the call to become an instrument of the justice and compassion that help to bring true peace within and beyond the limits of time.

Part of this statement was published in the article entitled, "[April 14 interfaith service to commemorate Shoah](#)," in the March 20, 2013 edition of *The Catholic Advocate*, page 4.



Elizabeth V. Halpin
Class of 2009

ALUMNI MAKING A DIFFERENCE: IN HER OWN WORDS

Elizabeth V. Halpin, M.A. in Jewish-Christian Studies

Assistant Dean of External Affairs, Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Affairs

My Master's degree in Jewish-Christian Studies from Seton Hall University was a pursuit of passion. I feel that religious tradition is at the heart of each person's global, cultural and historical understanding. It shapes the way we view ourselves and others. It is a reason for wars and a reason for peace. In order to better understand the world around me, I studied philosophy and religions at a public university to earn my B.A. What I discovered was that at the heart of each religious tradition is the search for wisdom and compassion or truth and love. This graduate coursework was a natural extension of that study for me.

I found my coursework at Seton Hall to be fascinating and intellectually stimulating. I learned a great deal not only about my faith, but about history, anthropology, etymology, current affairs, and so much more. I am particularly interested in the way that views on social issues and the role of women in society are shaped differently through different traditions, and I was able to pursue this study through my coursework and thesis. Through my coursework, I was able to contextualize and understand the historical context behind oft referenced passages of scripture and later moral codes in both traditions. I was also given the tools to understand how these codes are utilized and expressed in our contemporary society.

I work as an assistant dean in an international affairs school. In today's world, where religious fervor drives revolution and war as well as global humanitarian aid and education, I draw upon my coursework each day as I form opinions on the news, interact with students, plan events and study abroad curricula.

To learn more about the Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations, visit <http://diplomacy.shu.edu> or contact the School at diplomat@shu.edu.



Elizabeth (fourth from bottom right) with a group of students in the Republic of Kosovo during a study seminar hosted by the Whitehead School of Diplomacy & International Relations

STUDENT NEWS

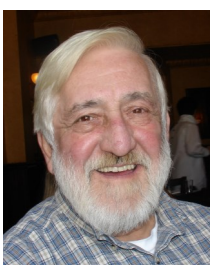
Kudos & Highlights



Congratulations to **Steven Culp** who successfully defended his M.A. in Jewish-Christian thesis, "Dissecting Decalogue Differences" and graduated in December 2012!

Steve, a Sr. Lead Installation & Deployment Specialist, earned his bachelor's degree at Mid-America Nazarene University in Olathe, Kansas with a double major in Mathematics and Computer Science. When asked why he entered the master's program, Steve said, "The Lehrhaus was the initial draw to the program. However, once I observed Rabbi Finkel's and Father Frizzell's zeal and knowledge of the scriptures, along with the consistency of their lives with what scripture teaches, I decided to matriculate. Their love for the scriptures is contagious!"

In the future, Steve and his wife, Analicia who is also a student in the master's program, plan to go into Christian ministry together and incorporate the Jewish-Christian Studies material they have learned into their work.



Paul Major entered the M.A. in Jewish-Christian Studies Program in 2009 to further his knowledge about Jewish Scriptures and to better understand the sacred scriptures from a Jewish perspective. He intends to study the scriptural interpretations of Jesus' message and the methods and ways in which this message spread to non-Jewish audiences.

Prior to joining the M.A. program, Paul earned master's degrees in Electronic Engineering from Monmouth University and in Theology from Seton Hall's Immaculate Conception Seminary. He is currently instructing adults in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Program, teaching "Introduction to Scripture" to 6th grade children and leading the Parish Bible Study program at Our Lady of the Mount in Warren, NJ.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE ART WORLD

Museum of Biblical Art



Museum of Biblical Art
in New York City

The exhibit [As Subject and Object: Contemporary Book Artists Explore Sacred Hebrew Texts](http://mobia.org/exhibitions/upcoming) will be on display at the Museum of Biblical Art (MOBIA) from June 14 through September 29, 2013. The exhibit will feature highlights of approximately 12 artists whose work was inspired by the Torah and other sacred Hebrew texts. According to MOBIA's website:

The range and approach to subject matter is quite broad and the techniques and methods used by the artists are equally varied. Some artists treat the texts as subjects – as inspiration for creating new volumes – while others treat them as objects to be physically altered. Still others explore the boundaries of the single printed page using ages-old techniques like micrography, illumination, and paper-cutting. Examples include literal cuttings of biblical texts, images of Adam and Eve, works based on the Kabbalah, and personal interpretations of biblical stories such as those of Jonah, Esther, and the Noachian Flood. Rather than merely illustrating the stories that emanate from the texts, each artist individually interrogates, challenges, and extends the texts.

(<http://mobia.org/exhibitions/upcoming>)

The Museum of Biblical Art is located at 1865 Broadway at 61st Street near Columbus Circle and the Lincoln Center and is the only scholarly museum in the United States that concentrates solely on art and the Bible.

Holocaust Museum & Studies Center of the Bronx High School of Science

The Bronx High School of Science recently opened a new facility for its Holocaust Museum & Studies Center on April 19, 2013. In addition to providing a permanent space to protect and conserve the Museum's vast collection of artifacts, the new facility will help further the Holocaust Museum & Studies Center's mission of educating students, teachers and visitors about the horrors of the Holocaust while promoting respect, tolerance and combating prejudice.

The Holocaust Museum & Studies Center was originally founded in 1978 by Dr. Stuart S. Elenko, Bronx Science Social Studies teacher, making it one of the oldest Holocaust Centers in the nation. Its new 1,000 square foot facility includes three exhibition galleries, an archive and a lecture room and features 900 artifacts, most of which were donated by local residents, Bronx High School alumni or bought at auctions over the past 30 years. The Museum's collection covers a wide array of artifacts such as rare documents and photos, Nazi propaganda posters, a Torah scroll salvaged from Kristallnacht, and a Torah cover that was stitched with gold thread after the war by Jewish survivors of Bergen-Belsen.

The Studies Center sponsors a variety of speakers and publishes educational materials about the Holocaust. Its flagship is its unique Holocaust Leadership course. Students taking this course study the history of anti-Semitism, the effects of propaganda, the rise of Nazism, and the subsequent persecution of the Jewish people. After examining these and other subjects related to the Holocaust, students are guided to wrestle with the nature of genocide and to study other genocides throughout history. Students who are selected for the Holocaust Leadership course also become administrators in the Bronx Science's Holocaust Museum & Studies Center and are responsible for hosting an annual event. Past events have included a Kristallnacht commemoration; a Yom HaShoah school wide assembly; and a fundraiser for Darfur refugee children.

The Holocaust Museum & Studies Center of the Bronx High School of Science is located at 75 West 205th Street, Bronx, NY and its museum is open to other schools and community groups by appointment only. For more information or to schedule an appointment for your school or group, visit them online at: <http://bxscimuseum.webs.com> or call (718) 817-7700.

The Bronx High School of Science is considered the premier science magnet school in the United States. Founded in 1938, admission is by exam and is open to all grade-eligible students in New York City. Learn more about the high school at <http://www.bxscience.edu>.



Sophia Sapozhnikov teaching the "Holocaust Leadership" class at the Bronx High School of Science
Credit: Karsten Moran for The New York Times

FALL 2013 COURSE SCHEDULE

Master of Arts in Jewish-Christian Studies



It's time to register for the Fall 2013 semester!

Classes will begin August 24, 2013, and new and returning students will both need to begin their registration process by contacting Jay Wolferman via email at Jay.Wolferman@shu.edu or via phone at 973.761.9751 any time after April 7 to obtain their 6-digit PIN number.

After receiving a pin on the day preregistration opens, students can sign in to Piratenet at <http://piratenet.shu.edu>. Detailed instructions for registering online may be found on the Office of Registrars webpage at www.shu.edu/academics/registration.cfm.

Here's a tentative list of classes that will be offered in the M.A. in Jewish-Christian Studies Program:

JCST 6001 Christian-Jewish Encounter – Lawrence E. Frizzell, Thursday, 5:00 – 7:30 pm

JCST 6006 Hebrew Bible Readings II – Lawrence E. Frizzell, TBA

JCST 6014 Lessons from the Holocaust – David M. Bossman, Wednesday, 5:00 – 7:30 pm

JCST 7044 Rabbinic Thought – Professor Agi Veto, TBA

JCST 7045 Jerusalem's Fall: Jewish and Christian Interpretation – Lawrence E. Frizzell, Monday, 5:00 – 7:30 pm

JCST 7576 Personal Rights and Responsibilities for a Just Society – David M. Bossman, Tuesday, 5:00 – 7:30 pm

JCST 9001 Thesis – Lawrence E. Frizzell, TBA

IN MEMORIAM

Rabbi Barry Friedman

by Rev. Lawrence E. Frizzell

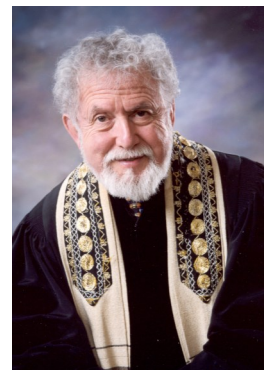
With the passing of Rabbi Barry Friedman on October 8, 2012 the New Jersey Jewish community lost one of its great leaders, and the Institute of Judeo-Christian Studies is saddened by the loss of a good friend.

Rabbi Friedman first came to Temple B'nai Abraham (then in Newark) as youth director and teacher in 1959 and returned to be the associate rabbi to Rabbi Dr. Joachim Prinz in 1968. Temple B'nai Abraham relocated to Livingston, NJ during the time that Rabbi Prinz was still active; Rabbi Friedman succeeded him in 1977. Both leaders were collaborators with Monsignor John M. Oesterreicher and the Institute in interfaith projects. The Institute is grateful that Rabbi Prinz donated many texts in Jewish studies when he moved to smaller lodgings after he retired.

In May 1983 a work by Ami Shamir, a noted Israeli sculptor, was dedicated in the garden adjacent to Temple B'nai Abraham. In his speech on this occasion, Msgr. Oesterreicher remarked: "The sculpture will honor, above all, the victims of a tyrant's hatred of Sinai, and, at the same time, remember the unsung heroes... who sought to rescue Jews from the clutches of the beast."

In his letter to Msgr. Oesterreicher, Rabbi Friedman wrote: "Your words connected our Holocaust dedication to the universality of God's word and the oneness of the world community. May we be inspired to move from strength to strength in the divine cause of the enhancement of the quality of all human life."

Thus he expressed his commitment to the search for justice and human rights as the foundation for peace in the local community and far beyond. May the memory of Rabbi Friedman's work inspire many in the congregation he served so well to continue vigorously in promoting the ideals of Torah and the prophets. May his soul be taken up into the bonds of life!



Rabbi Barry Friedman



2013 Upcoming Events

- **September 22-23, 2013** - Seton Hall University

OESTERREICHER MEMORIAL ACADEMIC CONFERENCE

Chaired by Rabbi Alan Brill, the Cooperman/Ross Endowed Chair of Jewish-Christian Studies, details will be announced in the coming days.

- **October 27, 2013** - Seton Hall University / Jubilee Hall

20TH ANNUAL JOHN M. OESTERREICHER MEMORIAL LECTURE

The Reverend Thomas F. Stransky will discuss the history and impact of the Second Vatican Council over the past 50 years.

Father Stransky, rector emeritus of Tantur Ecumenical Institute of Theological Studies (Jerusalem) and former President of the Paulist Fathers, was one of the original staff members of the Secretariat for the Promotion of Christian Unity and was responsible for staffing the proposal that would become the Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions (*Nostra Aetate*).



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