

# Session 2: Tradition

# Agenda

- 1. Brief Overview of the History of Notre Dame
- 2. Brief Overview of the Congregation of Holy Cross
- 3. Group Discussion of Notre Dame Mission Statement, Holy Cross Constitutions, and Fr. Kevin Grove video
- 4. Other mission statements
- 5. Moreau Peer Leader (MPL) testimonial: personal mission statement
- 6. Class activity: write your own mission statement

#### For Next Time

- 1. Read Keller, "Three Days to See"
- 2. Read St. Francis, "The Canticle of Brother Sun"
- 3. Watch refraction video from Prof. Jenny Martin
- 4. <u>Class next Tuesday meets in Raclin Murphy Museum of Art</u>: pay attention to emails for updates
- 5. Co-curricular events and labs:
  - a. Living Tradition w/ Holy Cross priests (link)
  - b. Art and Mission w/ Campus Ministry (link)
  - c. Fr. Hesburgh's office (<u>link</u>)
  - d. Lab: Imagining Graduation Conversation (<u>link</u>)



# Notre Dame's Founding

- Founded in November 1842 by Fr. Edward Sorin, CSC
  - "Everything was frozen, and yet it all appeared so beautiful. The lake, particularly, with its mantle of snow, resplendent in its whiteness, was to us a symbol of the stainless purity of Our August Lady, whose name it bears; and also of the purity of soul which should characterize the new inhabitants of these beautiful shores. Our lodgings appeared to us-as indeed they are-but little different from those at St. Peter's. We made haste to inspect all the various sites on the banks of the lake which had been so highly praised. Yes, like little children, in spite of the cold, we went from one extremity to the other, perfectly enchanted with the marvelous beauties of our new abode. Oh! may this new Eden be ever the home of innocence and virtue!"
- Officially opened to five students in 1843
- The Main Building was completed in 1844.
- First degrees were awarded in 1849
- Original Main Building burned down in 1879 and was rebuilt



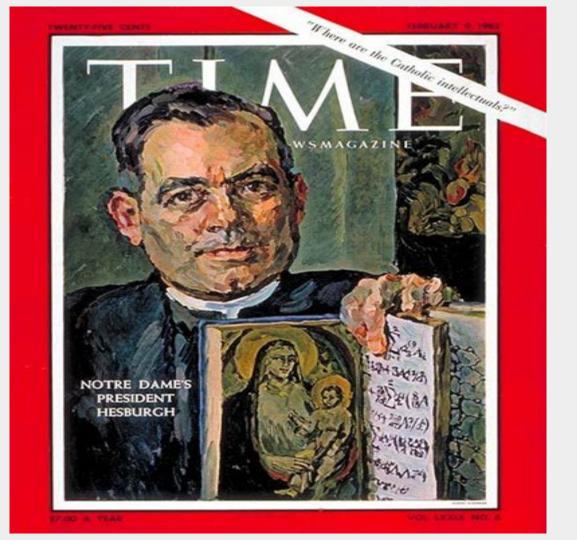
# The Early Days

- Enrollment was 700 by 1900
- By 1921, Notre Dame had five colleges and a law school, and was on its way to transforming itself into a research university
- Gained popularity under Knute Rockne, head coach of the famed football team.
- Developed a following of devoted "subway alums" and was seen as a beacon of light for mostly Catholic immigrants from Europe
- World War II was a significant challenge for the all-male school. It was kept afloat by hosting Navy College Training Programs, reflected in our continued football rivalry with the US Naval Academy
- See Murray Sperber, Shake Down the Thunder: The Creation of Notre Dame Football (2002)



# The Hesburgh Years

- Under the leadership of Fr. Hesburgh, CSC, Notre Dame transformed itself from a liberal arts college with a famous football team to a major research university (still with a famous football team)
- Under Hesburgh (1952-1987), enrollment roughly doubled, as did the annual number of degrees awarded (1,212 to 2,500)
- Notre Dame became co-ed in 1972
  - O Unlike most of higher education in the US, Notre Dame is still slightly more male (51%) than female (49%)



#### The Modern Era

- The physical footprint of the campus has grown tremendously
- The university has become increasingly selective about 12% of applicants are accepted
- The university is increasingly wealthy 7th largest endowment among private universities (about \$17 billion)
- Long recognized for its excellent undergraduate programs, the university is increasingly recognized for its academic excellence and graduate programs (e.g., admission into the American Association of Universities in 2023)
- Notre Dame is unique in that it houses a liberal arts core in a major, modern research university with an important religious preference
- See Thomas Blantz, CSC The University of Notre Dame: A History (2020)

# The Congregation of Holy Cross

- Congregation of Holy Cross (initials: CSC) founded in 1837 in Le Mans, France by Basil
  Moreau
- Motto: Ave Crux, Spes Unica (Hail the Cross, Our Only Hope)
- 729 priests as of 2020
- The Catholic Church includes two kinds of clerics: secular (associate with a diocese) and religious (associated with an order)
- The CSCs are a particular religious order (like the Jesuits, though smaller)
- The charism of Holy Cross is to "educate in the faith"
- Operates universities, schools, and parishes throughout the world (chiefly in North America, South America, Africa, and Western Europe)



#### CSCs and Notre Dame

- Notre Dame was founded by the CSCs, and, by statute, the President must be a cleric of the North American Province of the Congregation
- But Notre Dame is technically led by a lay Board of Trustees
  - This change was brought about by the Land O'Lakes statement in 1967, which removed the University from the strict supervision of the Catholic hierarchy
- But Notre Dame maintains a significant presence of CSCs on its faculty and staff
- Unlike many other originally religious colleges and universities, Notre Dame continues to take its religious faith seriously

# Anchor Imagery of the Congregation of Holy Cross



William

Ethan

Christian S.

Joe

Myles

Here are three names randomly selected from your list:

- Lila
- **James**
- Reese













## Guess the Mission Statement (Corporations)

- 1. "... entertain the world ..."
- 2. "... inspiring and nurturing the human spirit ..."
- 3. "... accelerate the transition to sustainable energy..."
- 4. "... empower every person to achieve more..."
- 5. "... help families discover the joys of everyday life ..."
- 6. "... bring the world closer together ..."

















## Guess the Mission Statement (Universities) Kahoot

- 1. "... educate students for lives of leadership ..."
- 2. "... educate citizen-leaders to serve the world ..."
- 3. "... educate aspiring leaders to ... serve society ..."
- 4. "... educates women and men to be reflective lifelong learners..."
- 5. "... to serve society by developing a diverse student body through formative, liberal arts education"
- 6. "... The University is dedicated to the pursuit and sharing of truth for its own sake ..."















# Class Discussion

Reflections on CSC Constitutions and Fr. Kevin Grove Video

# MPL Testimonial:

A Personal Mission Statement

# Individual Activity

In your CPB, spend five minutes writing a one-paragraph personal mission statement for yourself