

# Cor Jesu

A SEMINARIAN DINNER AND AUCTION

## PRESS KIT

2025



DIOCESE OF NASHVILLE

FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT  
JESSICA GRAVAGNA AT 615.645.9769  
JESSICA.GRAVAGNA@DIOCESEOFNASHVILLE.COM

[CORIESU.ORG](http://CORIESU.ORG)



## GENERAL EVENT INFORMATION

**What:** Cor Iesu, A Seminarian Dinner and Auction

**When:** Tuesday, May 20, 2025

**Time:** 5:30 P.M. Evening Prayer,  
6:00-9:00 P.M. Dinner and Program

**Where:** Unity Hall, Catholic Pastoral Center, 2800 McGavock Pike, Nashville, TN 37214

**Price:** \$150/ticket. Sponsorship and donation opportunities available.

**What to Expect:** Passed hor d' oeuvres, 3 course meal, and an open bar. You will hear from Bishop Spalding, Fr. Wilgenbusch, and an exciting live auction while having the opportunity to meet and socialize with our seminarians, enjoy the company of others who support this mission and hear the latest news from the Office of Vocations.

**More Information:** [CorIesu.org](http://CorIesu.org)

**Questions:** Please contact Jessica Gravagna, 615.645.9769, [Jessica.Gravagna@DioceseofNashville.com](mailto:Jessica.Gravagna@DioceseofNashville.com)

## PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENT/ BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

“All are invited to attend the 16th Annual Cor Iesu, A Seminarian Dinner and Auction, on Tuesday, May 20 at the Catholic Pastoral Center. This is a fun event celebrating the culture of vocations in the Diocese of Nashville. For more information, to make a donation, or to purchase tickets, please visit [coriesu.org](http://coriesu.org). See bulletin for further information.”

## PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

For access to all promotional materials (i.e. bulletin announcements, social graphics, etc.), please visit [DioceseofNashville.com/parish-resources](http://DioceseofNashville.com/parish-resources) and scroll down until you see the “Cor Iesu” section.

This inspiring gathering, growing in splendor with each passing year, stands as both a celebration and a testament. Here, the hearts of the faithful and the hearts of the seminarians converge under the mantle of Christ, united in purpose and fortified by the vision of the Sacred Heart of Jesus: *Cor Iesu*. It is, indeed, a name most fitting, for it is the Heart of Jesus that inspires and shapes the formation of these men called to give their lives in service.

This year, *Cor Iesu* will be held on Tuesday, May 20, beginning with Evening Prayer at 5:30 p.m. in Sagrado Corazón. In the solemnity of this liturgy, presided over by Bishop J. Mark Spalding of Nashville, the Rite of Admission to Candidacy will take place — a milestone in the formation journey of the seminarians. This rite marks their transition from the Discipleship Stage to the Configuration Stage, a step that signifies their certainty in discernment and their deepened commitment to conform their lives to Christ and His priestly mission.

Picture the scene, if you will: the soft glow of candlelight illuminating the church as the seminarians, clad in sacred attire, approach Bishop Spalding with reverence. Their voices, steady yet tinged with awe, echo in prayerful harmony. The words of the liturgy rise like incense, a fragrant offering of trust and commitment. In the presence of family, friends, and supporters, these young men are strengthened by the prayers of the Church, emboldened to take the next step in their formation.

At 6 p.m., the evening will transition from the sacred to the festive, with the commencement of dinner and the much-anticipated auction in Unity Hall. A feast awaits — a banquet of flavors and fellowship. The air hums with conversation and laughter as the faithful gather to break bread in the communion of hearts united for a shared cause. Among the highlights of the evening are the auction items — treasures both unique and splendid. From handcrafted works of art to experiences that promise unforgettable memories, the auction serves not merely as entertainment but as a means to support the formation of seminarians. Each bid is a gesture of hope, a statement of belief in the mission of the Church and the men who will one day shepherd its flock.

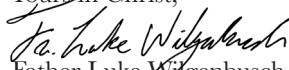
Yet beyond the food, the auction, and the fellowship, *Cor Iesu* is a unique window into the great work of the Office of Vocations and the culture of vocations taking root throughout the diocese. Little by little, this work nurtures the seed of vocation planted by the Creator. With each passing year, the seminarians are taught more and more to listen to the voice of God, to embrace their identity in Christ, and to prepare themselves to serve His people with humility and zeal.

As the evening draws to a close, the faithful take their leave, carrying with them not only the joy of the evening but also the assurance that their support has furthered a cause as timeless as the Church itself. In their hearts, they know that many of the seminarians they have encouraged will one day stand before them at the altar, lifting their hands in prayer and blessing.

Thus, *Cor Iesu* is not merely a dinner, an auction, or an event. It is a living expression of the love that flows from the Heart of Jesus — a love that calls, that sanctifies, and that sends forth. For in supporting vocations, we do no less than provide for the future of the Church, one heart at a time.

Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, May 20, and join us for *Cor Iesu*. Together, let us echo the eternal refrain: *Cor Iesu, fons vitae et sanctitatis* — Heart of Jesus, source of life and holiness.

Yours in Christ,

  
Father Luke Wilgenbusch  
Director of Vocations

## FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS



SAVE THE DATE



FULL PAGE



SQUARE GRAPHIC



## EVENT POSTER

If you would like a 11x17 poster sent to your parish,  
please reach out to Jessica Gravagna

[Jessica.Gravagna@DioceseofNashville.com](mailto:Jessica.Gravagna@DioceseofNashville.com) | 615.645.9769

## ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

**Flock Notes:** A great way to get the word out to your parish community.

**Social Media:** Follow the lead of Nashville Catholic and NashVocations and feel free to share/repost on your parish page.