

## Dr. King speaks on marriage

Sean Callahan, Arts and Culture Editor



Dr. King regularly teaches a course at SVC on Catholic marriage.

SOURCE: SVC FLICKR

On Feb. 14, Dr. Jason King, professor of theology, had more to talk about than Hershey kisses, heartbreaks and Valentine's Day. Following the conclusion of 7 p.m. Mass at the Mary Mother of Wisdom Student Chapel, Campus Ministry hosted an event in which King spoke on aspects of a healthy marriage, including conflict, communication and consent.

Twelve students gathered in the Bearcat Lounge to listen to King, while enjoying hot chocolate and donuts. Another student attended the talk via Zoom.

One of King's first statements emphasized communication abili-

ties as the best indicator of whether or not a marriage will survive.

"In the grand scheme of Christianity, it's about relationships," King said. "It's also about communication—communion, and resolving conflict, which is reconciliation."

King then engaged with the students through guided questions and discussion. In one instance, he had students discuss the positives and negatives of personality types. King explained how compatible different personalities are in marriage and why their resulting conflict is necessary.

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## Waterline break resolved within 24 hours

Sean Callahan, Arts and Culture Editor

On Feb. 16 at 12:50 p.m., Carol Riddle, coordinator of marketing and communication, posted a campus announcement on the MySV portal, which informed the Saint Vincent community that a waterline had broken in the area, according to the Latrobe Municipal Authority. Riddle specified that the waterline break could result in loss of water and water pressure, as well as generally dirty water. She requested that the laundry facilities not be used on campus. A staff writer of The Review corroborated these claims, noting brown water from faucets and toilets in their residence hall.

Bob Baum, dean of students, reiterated Riddle's campus announcement that same day in an email to the SVC community at 3:22 p.m. He wrote that bottled water was to be delivered to every residence hall lobby, until the tap water ran clear again.

On Feb. 17, at 9:48 a.m., Baum emailed the SVC community, informing them that the Library's Barista would be open for meal exchange from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., due to the water problem. Later that day, at 12:51 p.m., he sent another email to the community, writing that the water problem had been resolved.

As of Feb. 20, there have been no additional campus-wide reports of dirty water or poor water pressure.



# ARTS & CULTURE

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By Lake Mich You may have noticed recently that the football team has been practicing on the various fields...

## Campus Ministry hosts theology professor

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"You argue because you're passionate and you're passionate because you care about someone," King said. "So if you're not expressing these things, you're not showing you care." Matthew Bryne, a sophomore engineering student present at the talk, felt King had many insight-

ises that come into one," Dopico said.

And King had much to say about compromise and care, in terms of a relationship: "Loving sacrifices aren't meant to be destructive," King said. "They do cost you, but in the end, they're meant to give new life."

He then elaborated on sacrifice and

**"Loving sacrifices aren't meant to be destructive. They do cost you, but in the end, they're meant to give new life."**

ful points regarding relationships.

"Comparing healthy and unhealthy different reactions to specific conflicts really spoke to me," Bryne said.

Similarly, Karen Dopico, a junior history student also attending the talk, appreciated King's guide for communication, safety and consent in a relationship.

"I really liked knowing that the word compromise means two prom-

provided a parallel from Christianity.

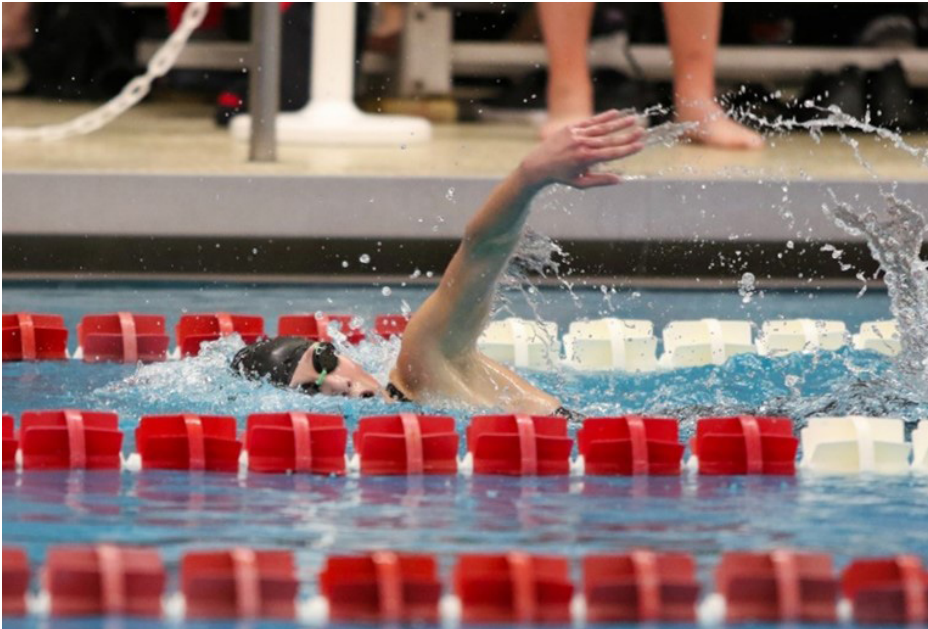
"The point isn't 'great, we killed God,'" King said. "The point is that we did kill God, but He loves us anyway. And now His sacrifice brings us new life."

In closing, King reiterated his hope that students would remember his communication and conflict strategies, so that it would lead to a healthy relationship and marriage.

# SPORTS

## Goggles, Cap – and Mask?

Anthony Caporale, Staff Writer



Last February, the SVC team was swimming at the PAC championships.  
SOURCE: ATHLETICS.STVINCENT.EDU

“We had to wear our masks at all times when we were not in the water, and we were not supposed to hang out on the pool deck unless we were swimming” stated Sara Basala, explaining the details of the COVID-19 restrictions at the Westminster swim meet.

Basala, a sophomore biochemistry major, is a member of the Saint Vincent women’s swimming team, one of the few SVC teams that has managed to compete at an athletic event this year. Her experience is an insight to what a winter-spring sports season will look like for all athletes in 2021.

There were several restrictions in place for the women’s meet at Westminster on Feb. 5. Mask wearing and social distancing were enforced. Fans were not allowed to attend in

person but could watch the meet on a live stream from the school’s athletic website.

Right from the beginning, the COVID-19 restrictions were taken seriously at Westminster.

“When we first got there, we had to split up the team into two locker rooms,” Basala said. “They limited the number of swimmers in each room.”

However, the mask wearing restrictions brought some frustration to the swimmers getting ready for their event.

“I am used to being prepared five or ten minutes before my race (goggles and cap on) and now I have the mask to worry about. I know it’s really important to wear them, but it makes me weirdly anxious when I’m behind the blocks, about to race,

and I am not ready to go” Basala explained.

These frustrations and anxieties over COVID-19 procedures are unfamiliar and challenging to returning swimmers. But they are difficult for new swimmers too.

Chris Jewel, a freshman with an undeclared major, does not feel that the restrictions were bothersome at the meets, but states that the lack of organized practice and swimming over the winter break were more frustrating.

Jewel also hopes that the “whole men’s swimming team can all swim together, since a majority of them have been in quarantine.”

But the new frustrations could not stop swimmers of both teams from winning their events. The women’s 200 Meter Medley Relay team finished first, and Basala ended up winning the 100 Meter Breaststroke at Westminster.

At Grove City on Feb. 6, the men’s 200 Meter Freestyles Relay finished first, with great performances from Kris Smith and Kevin Martin at the men’s Westminster meet on Feb. 8.

Although the 2021 sports season has been a challenge, the men and women’s swimming teams have managed to compete at a total of three meets. And the swimmers are in good spirits.

“I know it is a really tough time, so I think that all the other teams are doing a great job at making the best of the situation. I know that our girl’s and guy’s teams are still working hard through all of this and will continue to do so in preparation for our championship meet” said Basala.



# Team Standings

## Men's Basketball

Team	W	L	Streak
Geneva	4	1	W4
Westminster	4	1	W1
W&J	3	1	W2
Saint Vincent	2	2	L1
Chatham	2	2	L1
Grove City	1	1	W1
Franciscan	1	2	L2
Waynesburg	1	3	W1
Thiel	0	1	L1
Bethany	0	4	L4

Schedule: Thiel 2/20 2 PM, @Grove City 2/22 5:30 PM, Franciscan 2/24 6 PM

## Women's Basketball

Team	W	L	Streak
Saint Vincent	3	0	W3
W&J	3	0	W3
Grove City	3	0	W3
Westminster	3	1	W1
Geneva	3	3	W1
Bethany	2	3	L1
Thiel	0	1	L1
Franciscan	0	2	L2
Chatham	0	3	L3
Waynesburg	0	4	L4

Schedule: @Thiel 2/20 1 PM, Grove City 2/22 7 PM, @Franciscan 2/24 6 PM

## Men's Swimming & Diving

Team	W	L	Streak
Westminster	2	0	W2
Grove City	2	0	W2
W&J	0	1	L1
Chatham	0	1	L1
Saint Vincent	0	2	L2

Schedule: W&J 2/23 6 PM, PAC Championships 3/2-3/3, 3/5

## Women's Swimming & Diving

Team	W	L	Streak
Westminster	4	0	W4
Grove City	4	0	W4
Franciscan	1	2	L2
W&J	1	2	L1
Saint Vincent	0	1	L1
Chatham	0	2	L2
Bethany	0	3	L3

Schedule: W&J 2/23 6 PM, PAC Championships 3/1, 3/3-3/4

## Men's Cross Country

Schedule: @Bethany 2/27 2 PM, Saint Vincent Invitational 3/6 2 PM

## Women's Cross Country

Schedule: @Bethany 2/27 1 PM, Saint Vincent Invitational 3/6 1 PM

## Men's Lacrosse

Schedule: @Franciscan 2/27 3 PM, @Grove City 3/6 1 PM

## Women's Volleyball

Schedule: @Thiel 2/28 Noon, Geneva 3/2 7 PM, @W&J 3/6 2 PM

# News: No power and smoked pizza

Kyra Lipetzky, Staff Writer

At about 9 a.m. on Feb. 15, one end of Placid Hall suffered a power outage. At the same time, the sight and smell of smoke permeated the cafeteria, eyewitnesses reported.

"All I saw when I walked into the cafeteria was a layer of light smoke and you could smell something burning. Not to be too excessive but it seemed like a cliché French café," Desmond Stone, a senior history major, said.

Stone added that other students had told him that "the power to the Caf was lost and the fans weren't able to filter the smoke from the oven outside," so the smoke instead filled the area inside.

Kateri Strub, a freshman English major who was also in the cafeteria at the time, heard a guess that the power outage was caused by the construction occurring outside, but was unsure as to where the smoke was coming from.

"I had to leave as soon as I was done eating because it was really smoky, and my eyes were watering," she said.

Other students in the mailroom area also claimed to smell smoke. For a while, said Levente Kiss, a cafeteria staff member and Hungarian exchange student, the cafeteria continued to serve hot food.

"But as power wasn't coming back on, the chefs were concerned about proper food safety and decided that we should stop serving hot food and switch to cold," Kiss said. Both Kiss and Strub observed that the food was covered in plastic wrap in order to retain as much heat as possible.

After the smoke became too dense and the cafeteria was closed to those who were eating, steps were taken to remove the smoke, Kiss explained.

"Some workers brought in portable industrial fans and both the dining team leaders and the SVC fire department were there," he said.

Due to the cafeteria's early closure and disrupted operations, many students ordered from the Shack. Since COVID-19 precautions forced students to spread out, a large line was formed that wrapped around the outskirts of the dining space. In order to manage the overflow of orders, the staff pulled out a cart to distribute meals more efficiently. Despite some instances in which specifics of students' orders were missing, it appeared that the system worked efficiently given the circumstances. Saint Vincent Dining Services has been offered the opportunity to comment on the matter. The Review will provide updated information once it becomes available.

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# OPINION

## The coming apocalypse of Catholic higher education

Dr. Jason King, Professor of Theology, Director of Core Curriculum



A 15th-century woodcut print features the four riders of the apocalypse from Revelation  
SOURCE: ALBRECHT DÜRER, PUBLIC DOMAIN, VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

**T**here is an apocalypse coming in higher education, one that bodes ill for many Catholic colleges and universities. It is coming on the backs of four horsemen.

### The First Horseman: Finances

In 2018, Moody's Investors Service downgraded its financial outlook on higher education from stable to negative. In 2020, Moody's indicated that the outlook worsened because of the pandemic, anticipating a 5 to 10 percent drop in revenue beginning in 2021. This is why there are predictions of a 50 percent reduction in U.S. colleges and universities within 10

years. While Notre Dame has an \$11 billion endowment and Boston College has a \$2.5 billion endowment, most Catholic colleges and universities are struggling. Their median endowment is \$33.6 million, about half of the \$65 million for all U.S. colleges and universities. From 2016 to 2019, 39 colleges closed, and 20 percent were Catholic. This negative financial outlook is the first horseman of the apocalypse. It brings the truth that financial pressures are real, especially for Catholic schools.

### The Second Horseman: Demographics

In "Demographics and Demand for Higher Education," Nathan Grawe predicts significant closures in many private, regional, liberal arts colleges with low endowments, a category that seems to describe the vast majority of Catholic colleges. His argument is based on a precipitous decline in the number of potential college students. When the 2008-2009 financial crisis hit, the number of people having children dropped. The earliest of this age-group will turn 18 in 2026, and colleges and universities will enter a long stretch of decline that begins with a 5 percent reduction of potential students and ends with a 15 percent reduction. There was some hope that there would be a return to normal around 2030 when birth rates rose after the financial crisis eased. However, because of the pandemic, we can anticipate a 10 percent reduction in births in 2020, which means colleges will hit another demographic drop starting in 2038.

### The Third Horseman: Value of Higher Education

The value of higher education is increasingly questioned. Some schools have tried to increase their value with amenities like good dorms, food, athletics and even lazy rivers. However, the key value to emerge is the ability to get a job after graduation. Measured by this value, higher education is a winner. Over time, students' return on investment for college is 14 percent, beating average market returns for the last 50 years. However, viewing higher education only through the lens of job acquisition is a reduction of what colleges do, especially Catholic ones. Schools feel like they must reduce their core curriculum, excising majors not directly linked to professions, and advancing vocational programs. Instead of producing the education of the free person—which is the meaning of the liberal arts—it produces mindless drone workers.

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# Catholic colleges in trouble

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## The Fourth Horseman: Catholic Identity

Since The Boston Globe stories broke in 2002, Catholics in the United States have become painfully cognizant of sexual abuse by Catholic priests and cover-ups by bishops. The 2018 Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report and the 2020 Vatican Report on Theodore McCarrick remind Catholics of these ongoing problems and failures. The overall result is a suspicion of Catholicism, a sense that things were and are being covered up. This difficult truth, that Catholic identity is a compromised category in the public sphere, is what the fourth horseman brings.

How do we respond to these four horsemen of the apocalypse? A biblical understanding of the apocalypse is not primarily about destruction but about critiquing the social order to bring forth, as my colleague Dr. McMahon wrote, “a love that continually struggles to become socially and historically real.” The way forward is to embrace an authentic Catholic identity, one that animates the internal operations of a school. It needs to be ordered to God (holy) by ensuring that educational work is fostering love (apostolic), pursuing truth (one), and serving people, especially the least (catholic). It is a Catholic identity that is not first concerned with its public perception but about people teaching and learning.

It will mean Catholic colleges and universities focus on finding work for students but also helping them find a life that is more than work. It is a life that cares for family, friends, the common good, the economy, politics,

creation and a meaningful life.

It will mean Catholic colleges and universities simultaneously care for the students that are enrolled and reach out to students who are often left out of college. There should be more focus on mentoring students, effective teaching, attention to students’ needs like hunger and shelter, addressing a culture that hinders rather than supports what is good and true and ensuring the protection of each person’s dignity.

I am not naive enough to think that such a renewal will mean the salvation of Catholic colleges and universities. There is a wave of closures coming in higher education that will include Catholic schools. This reality means that Catholic colleges and universities have a choice to make.

They can respond to the horsemen by distorting themselves, jettisoning their Catholic identity, focusing just on job acquisition, recruiting students but not supporting them, and narrowly focusing on finances. This may or may not keep them open, but, either way, they will have sacrificed their souls, their employees, and their students for a few pieces of silver. Or Catholic colleges can choose to be authentically Catholic, to help students find work and a life beyond work, to care for students enrolled at their schools, especially the poor and marginalized, and to make sure money is at the service of truth, love, and people. This may or may not keep them open, but, either way, they will find, as we all hope to find, God saying to them at the end, “well done good and faithful servant, come share the master’s joy” (Matthew 25:21).

# Toxic Mush

Kevin Martin, Opinion Editor

In any functioning society, the protection of those who cannot care for themselves, especially children, must be a priority. In failing to prioritize our children, we not only risk serious long-term damage to the future generations, but we also steer treacherously close to becoming a regressive society in which unquenchable selfishness corrupts us beyond repair. Unfortunately, our most powerful institutions—the federal government and several major corporations—have failed to live up to this basic standard of safeguarding our country’s children. On Feb. 4, a House subcommittee on economic and consumer policy announced in a report that four major baby food producers knowingly sold baby food products that contained elevated levels of toxic heavy metals. These toxins included lead, arsenic, cadmium and mercury, all of which can cause serious long-term damage to infants and toddlers who consume them. These critical products contained 10 and sometimes 100 times the legal amount that is allowed in water bottles.

And why are water bottles the default standard for the legal amount of toxic heavy metals? It is because they are one of the products that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates. Shockingly, the FDA does not set legal standards for heavy metals in baby food, nor does it require the testing of these products before they are sold to parents who have unknowingly been feeding their children toxic mush.

This story is serious, and now that it has become a media sensation regulation will hopefully be put into place. The issue, according to the congressional report, is that the FDA was made aware of this situation at the latest in the summer of 2019. This means that a federal agency knew that children were literally being poisoned, but nothing was visibly done to prevent it for nearly two years.

How then has our country come to a point where children are knowingly being endangered

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# Corruption, or distrust?

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by large corporations and those in power fail to bring it to a stop? Corruption can emerge in government institutions and corporations when professionals switch from public sector jobs to private sector ones, where the real money can be had. This revolving door between the public and private sectors produces a dangerous incentive for those who work in government. If they ever plan to leave public service for a better paying job, they had better not scrutinize their potential employers, or they very well might face unemployment. But I believe this is only a minor issue compared to what has truly caused the dire situation we face to come about. And that underlying cause is this country's collapsed belief in the government's ability to do good.

Since the presidency of Ronald Reagan, there has been a consensus among many, especially on the right, that the government isn't a genuine force for good and that it really only gets in the way of people living their lives. This is best encapsulated in Reagan's famous joke, "The nine most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the Government, and I'm here to help." While this is funny and certainly true in some instances, the notion that the government is only a force for the bad is a dangerous idea to hold: it prevents the government from performing its most basic duties of establishing justice, promoting the general welfare and securing the blessings of liberty. These duties are not only in the service of ourselves but also for our posterity, our children.

I believe that the reason our

children have been poisoned by their food is at least partly due to this notion that government is only a force for the bad. This ideology, which thrives in many political circles, designates government action, especially regulation, as a sort of twisted evil. According to this line of thinking, the free market will simply regulate itself. While this may be the case for inefficiencies, it certainly is not so for moral cases, as we have seen with the baby food calamity. Surely, it would not be argued that the market alone could safeguard the production of clean baby food. The idea, presumably, would be that parents would cease to purchase baby products that have been shown to have dangerous toxins in them. However, without the government to acquire and distribute this information, it would require the safety of our children to be sacrificed. Only after many children had been stricken by lead poisoning would people know which products had an excess amount of lead in them. Such a solution is not only absurd, but also immoral.

Going forward, it must be understood that government action can be directed towards the good. We must work to cultivate an ideology that does not necessitate the dissolving of our governmental institutions. This task is particularly urgent for the political right, where this extreme distrust originated. There are actions which the government should have the sole responsibility to perform in order to promote the general welfare of the people. Most of all, we as a nation ought to strive towards securing the purity of our children's food and hold those who would do otherwise to account.



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# Note from the editor

Jonathan Meilaender, Editor-in-Chief

I hope you all enjoyed a relaxing break and a peaceful Christmas—as relaxing and peaceful as possible, anyway, given the circumstances. I am happy to welcome you back to another semester of The Review, and I hope that our issues will help you through the rest of this novel academic year. I want to thank you, once again, for the many contributions you made to our pages last semester: I was very pleased to hear from both faculty and students on so many issues, and to hear so many different positions on those issues. Please continue to submit! Remember, The Review is your newspaper. When you have an opinion to share with the Saint Vincent community, whether it's a response to something you read in our pages or a sincere thought of your own, this is the place to do it. I also want to remind you that we welcome submissions of art, poetry, and photography. We were very pleased to feature several deserving photographers last semester, including Ian Tracey, Levi Kiss, and Br. Xavier O'Mara. But we need your help to find more deserving artists—young and old, students and faculty—for our pages.

I'd also like to take a moment to introduce three new staff members. Freshman Anthony Caporale is serving as a staff writer. He is joined by freshman Kyra Lipetzky. And sophomore Ellie Powell has taken on the crucial task of production manager, turning our words from documents into a physical—or digital—edition.

Speaking of digital editions, you will now find The Review as a weekly PDF, available for download on our website. I have tried out the PDF version myself and found that it works well both on phones and tablets (and I have a small phone!). You can find the page with the PDF downloads by clicking on the "e-Replica" tab on the menu at the very top of our homepage. It's also a great way for your family back home to stay informed about your campus life.

Finally, I'd like to offer a small word of encouragement. Surely you have heard a great deal about how hard this semester will be, whether

in the media, from friends, or even from the tone of some of SVC's official emails. Certainly it will be difficult. But it also won't be as hard as we think. Remember, we have done all this before: this is now our third semester since the pandemic began. In a way, of course, that's depressing, but it should also serve as a reminder that we have succeeded twice before and can do so again. We know what works and what does not, and we have learned how to live in this new world. We will make it.

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