



**JOHN PAUL  
THE GREAT**  
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY



# The Catholic University for **CREATIVE ARTS and BUSINESS INNOVATION**

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS





# CULTIVATE YOUR CREATIVITY

At John Paul the Great Catholic University, we believe in the power of beauty to transform culture. We're shaping the next generation of artists and innovators with academic excellence, unparalleled creativity, and an authentic community centered on Jesus Christ.

But we can't do it alone. We're looking for visionaries like you to join us. If you're serious about your faith, and passionate about using business or creative arts to **Impact Culture for Christ**, take a look inside— and envision your future at JPCatholic.

See more at  
#studentsofjpcatholic



# Authentically Catholic University in San Diego County



## At a Glance

GRADUATE IN

**3**  
years

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

**21**

APPROX. NUMBER OF STUDENTS

**300**

PLACEMENT RATE

**88%**

Employed or pursuing further education within 6 months of graduation

FINANCIAL AID

**99%**

of students receive institutional aid

ACCREDITATION

March 2015

**WASC**

Senior College and University Commission

US NEWS & WORLD REPORT

Ranked

**#19 of 102**

Regional Colleges West 2022

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Recommended by

**The Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College**

For more details, please visit [jpcatholic.edu/factsheet](http://jpcatholic.edu/factsheet)

## Academic Programs



# Film Programs

## Are you called to be a visual storyteller?

In the **Production and Directing** emphasis, you'll hone the critical skills you will need to flourish in your career as a director, cinematographer, sound tech, or other production professional. Our hands-on curriculum focuses on creativity and action, bringing your ideas to life with excellence in every aspect of production.

In the **Post-Production** emphasis, you'll learn the technical and artistic skills necessary to turn your footage into a compelling story: editing, color grading, compositing, sound design, and visual effects.

## Are you business-savvy and creative?

You'll thrive in our **Producing** emphasis. Master the business side of entertainment, where you'll manage the funding, the creative and technical teams, and develop a deep understanding of the creative process tempered by a realistic view of the entertainment business.

In all of our film emphases, you'll have the opportunity to gain real-world experience through significant projects, networking, and internships, giving you the chance to build your resume prior to graduation.

- Become a **director, cinematographer, editor, or producer**
- Learn the ins and outs of the **business of entertainment**
- Start creating films in your freshman year
- Receive direct mentorship from **experienced industry professionals**



**NATHAN SCOGGINS**  
Professor of Film

An award-winning filmmaker, Prof. Scoggins' list of credits includes *The Least of These*, released by Universal and starring Isaiah Washington (*Grey's Anatomy*) and screen legend Robert Loggia (*Big, Independence Day*).

# Quarter in LA

At JPCatholic, upperclassmen can apply to experience the Los Angeles entertainment industry up close as part of the LA internship quarter. The experience involves spending a full quarter living in student housing in the Los Angeles area while working in an immersive internship for credit. While in Los Angeles, you will gain insight into the industry and network with established professionals through our "Behind the Scenes" class.

In addition to the internship and networking opportunities, you'll stay on track for graduation by taking general education courses online during the quarter using JPCatholic's eLearning platform.

While students are not guaranteed success obtaining a specific internship, past Los Angeles internships have included: **Alcon Entertainment** (producers of *The Blind Side* and *The Book of Eli*), **MPower Productions** (a company run by executive Steve McEveety who produced *Braveheart*, *We Were Soldiers*, and *The Passion of the Christ*), **Motive Entertainment** (marketing firm behind *Rocky Balboa* and *The Passion of the Christ*), and the **Cortez Brothers** (a high end production company whose clients include *The Tonight Show* and *Rolling Stone*).



# Bring Your Vision to Life with Industry Standard Equipment

JPCatholic's media program features a rigorous, hands-on education using cutting-edge equipment and editing labs.

Create film sets for your productions in our **Soundstage**, which is outfitted with a full lighting grid and support equipment – everything from monitors and mafer clamps, to cutters and cucolorises.

Our portable equipment for on-location shoots includes HD cameras, lighting equipment, sound equipment, dollies, rigs, and even motion capture gear.

Craft your masterpiece in our state-of-the-art **Post-Production Lab**, featuring Mac stations loaded with industry standard editing software. In addition, motion graphics, animation, compositing, 3D modeling, and sound design software are all at your fingertips.

- Record your project in our **full-featured Soundstage**
- Access to all equipment, including **cameras, lights, mics, and more**
- **Industry standard** post-production computers, hardware, and software
- Edit, composite, color grade, sound mix, and publish your project



## Create feature films

JPCatholic's **Feature Film Program** is a revolutionary model of education that integrates feature film productions directly into our curriculum. This platform provides all film students with the opportunity to use elective credit to collaborate with alumni and professors in creating an annual, commercially distributed film.



### IMDb Credits

This program gives students the opportunity to participate in multiple feature films throughout their education, beginning as production assistants and working their way up to key leadership roles senior year.



### Hands-on, Real World Experience

What better way to learn filmmaking than by working on movie sets? The Feature Film Program takes JPCatholic's project-based film program to an entirely new level.



### Alumni Networking

Making a feature film is a bonding experience. By collaborating with alumni and faculty, students will forge a network with one another and with professionals working in the entertainment industry.



### Increased Impact

By producing and distributing a feature film every year, JPCatholic students and alumni will have the opportunity to reach a wider audience with masterfully produced stories that inspire audiences to truth, beauty, and goodness.

See how it works at [jpcatholic.edu/go/feature](https://jpcatholic.edu/go/feature)

# Creative Writing

Stories impact us in profound ways. Good stories can inspire and touch our souls; they bring freshness, life, understanding, and clarity to our experience. They draw us closer to God and to truth, beauty, and goodness. Story, in essence, is at the core of the media that shapes our culture and society.

In our **Creative Writing** curriculum, you'll explore both fiction and nonfiction, as well as a wide range of genres from poetry, drama, to speculative novels, journalistic work, and fantasy. You will examine creative writing techniques such as point of view, language, tone, pacing and plot, and more through the analysis of writing practices of acclaimed authors through the 20th and 21st century.

If you aspire to write and bring stories to the screen, JPCatholic's **Screenwriting** curriculum will give you the training and network you need to succeed. Program Chair Christopher Riley is a veteran WGA screenwriter and applies his professional experience directly to your curriculum. You'll graduate with polished screenplays, a professional network, and mentors who care about you personally and spiritually.

- Graduate with a polished **feature film and TV script**
- Experience mentorship from **industry professionals**
- Begin honing your writing craft in your freshman year
- **Deepen your storytelling** by studying literature, art, and music



**CHRISTOPHER RILEY**  
Professor of Film

A veteran of the Warner Bros. script department, Prof. Riley is the author of *The Hollywood Standard: The Complete and Authoritative Guide to Script Format and Style*, commonly used as the text for writing classes in universities nationwide.

# Humanities Core Curriculum

Whether you are a visual artist, actor, or writer, mastering the tools and techniques of your trade is certainly vital, but creating work of enduring value requires sharpness of imagination and intellect. JPCatholic's rigorous Humanities Degree Core gives you an opportunity to engage with the greatest creative minds of our culture, an encounter which will help hone your own artistic vision.

The program exposes you to a wide range of creative artists, covering ancient Greek drama, epic poetry, Shakespeare, fiction, art history, 20th century literature, music history, and a survey of classic poetry. While the Humanities Core is required for students in the Creative Writing, Illustration, and Theology & Philosophy programs, any student can take this rich sequence of courses through our **Humanities Minor**.



**STEVE KRAMP**  
Professor of Humanities

Prof. Kramp holds an MFA in Creative Writing from the renowned program at University of Iowa, in addition to a Masters in Theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville. He is a published poet, theologian, and musician.

# Acting

JPCatholic's patron Saint John Paul the Great was an accomplished actor and playwright in his youth and believed in the power of performance to communicate truth and beauty.

JPCatholic's **Acting** programs are dedicated to the training of exceptional actors who are prepared to use their skills in service of Truth, Beauty, and Goodness. The acting curriculum is designed to develop body, voice and speech, as well as intellect and spirit, and, following John Paul II's own Christian Humanism, tends to the formation of the whole person, a person who's prepared to bring his or her gifts to the Church and the world.

Our intensive acting curriculum is taught by veterans of both the stage and screen. Under their instruction and guidance, actors are prepared to impact culture through careers in theatre, television, and film. Tailor your education to your career goals by focusing your training within tracks for **acting for stage**, **acting for screen**, and **musical theatre**.

- Collaborate with film students to create an impressive reel
- Master your craft through quarterly stage productions
- Grow as an artist and a person through rigorous classical training
- Prepare for a performing arts career through internships and practical coursework



**LEE ESKEY**  
Professor and Chair of Acting

Prof. Eskey has been a professional actor, director and teacher for over 20 years. Theatre credits include The Folger Theatre, The Denver Center Theatre Company, the Kentucky and Virginia Shakespeare Festivals, and The National Players. He incorporates Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body into his work with artists.

# Illustration

JPCatholic's **Illustration** program forms artists to create imagery that bring powerful ideas and narratives to life for a variety of professional pursuits. Using both traditional and digital media techniques, students will learn to develop and refine methods of conceptualization and image-making while acquiring an effective use of visual language.

JPCatholic uniquely combines this hands-on education with a rigorous Humanities core curriculum. The Humanities Core in literature, art, and music enables students to bring depth into their visual creations through engagement with the greatest creative artists throughout history.

Under the guidance of accomplished industry professionals, JPCatholic's program will enable you to become a skillful illustrator capable of dynamically adapting to the opportunities presented in the marketplace.

- Study the craft of illustration under experienced industry veterans
- Engage some of the greatest artists throughout history in our well-rounded Humanities education
- Expand your skill set with classes in digital painting and graphic design
- Obtain critical career skills through our core education in business



**JACQUELINE NICOLINI**  
Professor of Art

Prof. Nicolini holds an MFA in Painting from Laguna College of Art and Design. Her extensive career includes teaching life drawing to in-house artists at Sony Online Entertainment, as well as illustration work for a merchandise company whose clientele included Disney, Warner Bros., and Lucasfilm.

# Animation

Demand for sophisticated animation and modeling work is coming from many different industries: film, TV, video gaming, commercials, and more. Our **Animation** emphasis will give you the professional skill set to take advantage of these opportunities, in addition to the ability to enhance your value with a deep understanding of storytelling and narrative structure.

You will build an artistic foundation in drawing, CGI, color and design theory, and software like Photoshop and Maya. Building on this foundation, you can dive into storyboarding, 2D animation, 3D modeling, texturing, lighting, rigging, and animation. You'll have the opportunity to flex your creativity in forming unique environments and characters. Everything culminates in your senior project, where you can bring your creations to life in a short film or visual project.

- Master fundamental **art and design for animation**
- Build, rig, and animate your own **3D models and characters**
- Learn industry standard modeling, compositing, and rendering
- Master **visual storytelling** to share your voice



**NATE SARTAIN**  
Adjunct Professor of Game Development

Prof. Sartain is an Senior Environment Artist who has worked at Sony PlayStation, 2K, and High Moon Studios. Throughout his 10+ years in the video game industry, he has worked on franchises such as *Call of Duty*, *Destiny*, and *The Last of Us*. He has been teaching at JPCatholic since 2016 and specializes in 3D modeling, texturing, and lighting.

# Game Development

The video game industry is a global phenomenon, outpacing many other media sectors and having a significant impact on our culture. The **Game Development** emphasis integrates theory and practice to prepare you for a career in this industry.

You will be exposed to a variety of design concepts and tools related to creating video games including: interactive storytelling, level design, user experience, environment design, character modeling, texturing, and animation.

You'll use tools like Autodesk Maya, Unreal Engine 4, and C++ programming. In your capstone experience, you'll have the opportunity to work in a team to create a functioning prototype of a video game.

- Master fundamental **art and design for interactive media**
- Design and build **characters, vehicles, and creatures**
- Design and program your own levels and environments
- Use your game as a platform to **tell your story**



This senior project by our Game Development Class of 2019 has over 40k downloads on Steam – and counting!

[www.jpccatholic.edu/shepherd](http://www.jpccatholic.edu/shepherd)

# Business Programs

Businesses run our world, from the small coffee shop downtown to international enterprises. The way business is practiced has huge, often overlooked impacts on everyday living. With the rapid pace of technological change and an increasingly competitive global marketplace, creative thinking is a critical strategic tool all businesses use to navigate uncharted competitive landscapes. Our program brings together fundamental business principles with imaginative thought processes to empower students to think ethically in pursuit of innovation and unexplored market opportunities.

The ideas and insights you learn in the classroom obtain depth through application. Our three areas of emphasis enable you to go deeper into an aspect of business that fits your disposition and career goals. Our **Creative Entrepreneurship** emphasis equips students to pursue their passion and build a company in our Business LaunchPad and Incubator. **Leadership & Management** prepares students to bring value to existing companies through fresh ideas and an innovative spark. **Marketing & Advertising** is for students who wish to work in the customer-facing side of any type of enterprise.

- Learn key business principles through **practical application**
- Study **creative thinking** processes and design novel business models
- Operate on a professional schedule with our **year-round program**
- Discover the higher purpose of business in a Catholic environment



# Build Your Company

What better way to learn business than by building a business with your peers? The **Business LaunchPad** course sequence is your opportunity to build something significant.

All entrepreneurship starts with identifying a problem in the marketplace. LaunchPad courses guide you through the process of identifying a problem, crafting a solution, validating the idea, and then building a business model around your solution.

JPCatholic's faculty has an abundance of senior executive and entrepreneurial experience. You'll get personal mentorship from faculty who have actually built companies.

Building a business is a risky endeavor, and JPCatholic's Business LaunchPad provides a safe environment for you to make your idea a reality.

- Learn to build a business in a safe academic environment
- Obtain **mentorship** from faculty who have built their own business
- Build your company in our **LaunchPad Incubator**
- Identify an opening in the marketplace and **craft your niche business**



**MARC BURCH**  
Adjunct Professor of Business  
and LaunchPad Mentor

Prof. Burch is a founder and CEO at ComoBlue. He helped develop ideation, social gaming and product strategy for mobile applications. He is also an angel investor and executive entrepreneur providing early-stage capital.

# Advertising

Every organization has a story to tell. With the media landscape becoming increasingly fragmented and noisy, it is a complicated task to reach an audience with a compelling story through the clamor of competing words, sounds, and images that people experience every day. JPCatholic's **Advertising** program prepares you for that challenge. You'll learn how to get to the core of your business' fundamental story, how to translate that story into a comprehensive marketing strategy, and how to execute that strategy through persuasive communication.

Our curriculum is a mix of theory and hands-on experience taught by industry-experienced faculty. You'll have the ability to see the big picture marketing strategy as well as the media and design tools to reach your audience with a compelling message. You'll learn how to use and integrate various media including social, mobile, interactive, TV, outdoor, print and emerging technologies. Lastly, it all comes together in a comprehensive year-long advertising campaign senior project.

- Integrate **business and design** coursework
- Receive mentorship from **experienced marketing executives**
- Gain expertise in key disciplines such as **copywriting, brand building, marketing analytics, and digital marketing**
- Combine marketing theory with **hands-on advertising experience**



**JOE SZALKIEWICZ**  
Adjunct Professor of Marketing

Prof. Szalkiewicz is the President of Yellow Line Digital, the digital marketing agency he co-founded in 2012. He is a successful entrepreneur who has started, scaled, and exited a number of ventures. He has helped several diverse consumer and cause-driven brands find quantifiable returns for their digital marketing investments.

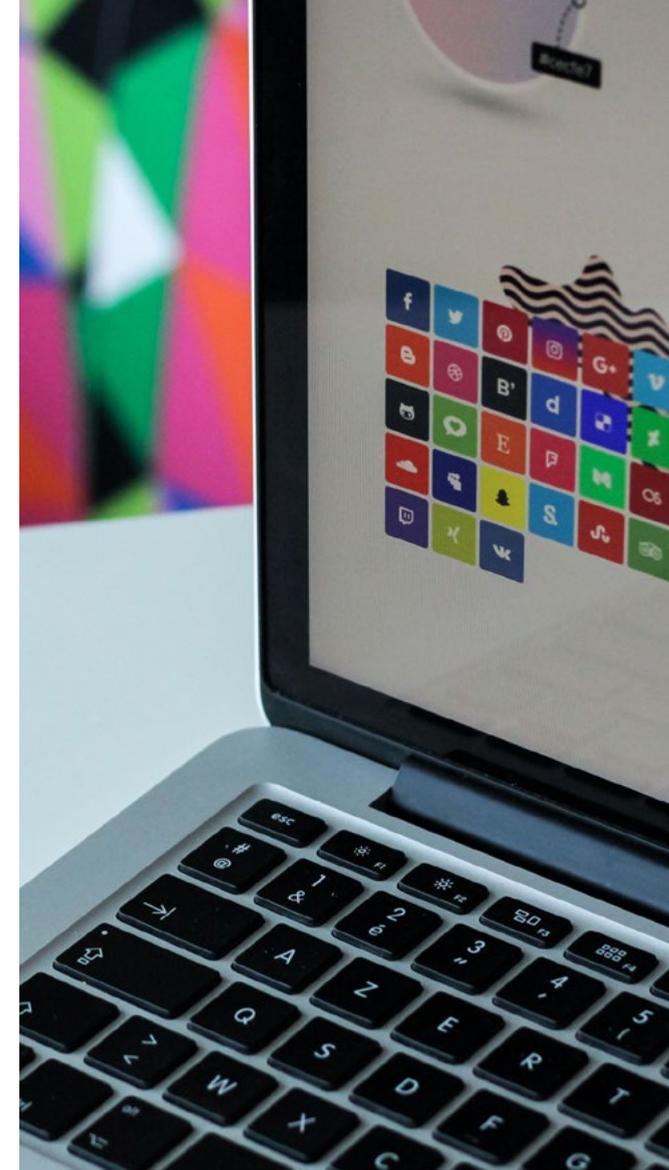
# Graphic Design

The **Graphic Design** program integrates both practical and conceptual skills, enabling our designers to unleash their creativity through mastery of visual language, design thinking, storytelling, and technology.

Graphic design is more than just artwork. It's a powerful way to shape a consumer's experience of a brand by communicating its underlying values and story. It involves strategic thinking, imagination, and problem solving. Our unique blend of hands-on training, design thinking, business, and the liberal arts forms you to be an adaptable and powerful graphic storyteller.

Our unique entrepreneurial and creative culture enables students to have countless opportunities to collaborate with business people and filmmakers to realize the stories of their logos, brands, and identities.

- **Hands-on coursework** in print, motion graphics for broadcast and film, branding, identity, and typography
- Hone your craft under **successful industry professionals**
- Apply principles of design to fundamental issues of branding and business storytelling
- Learn the **business of design** through building a company in our Launchpad



**MAX HULBURT**  
Professor of Digital Media

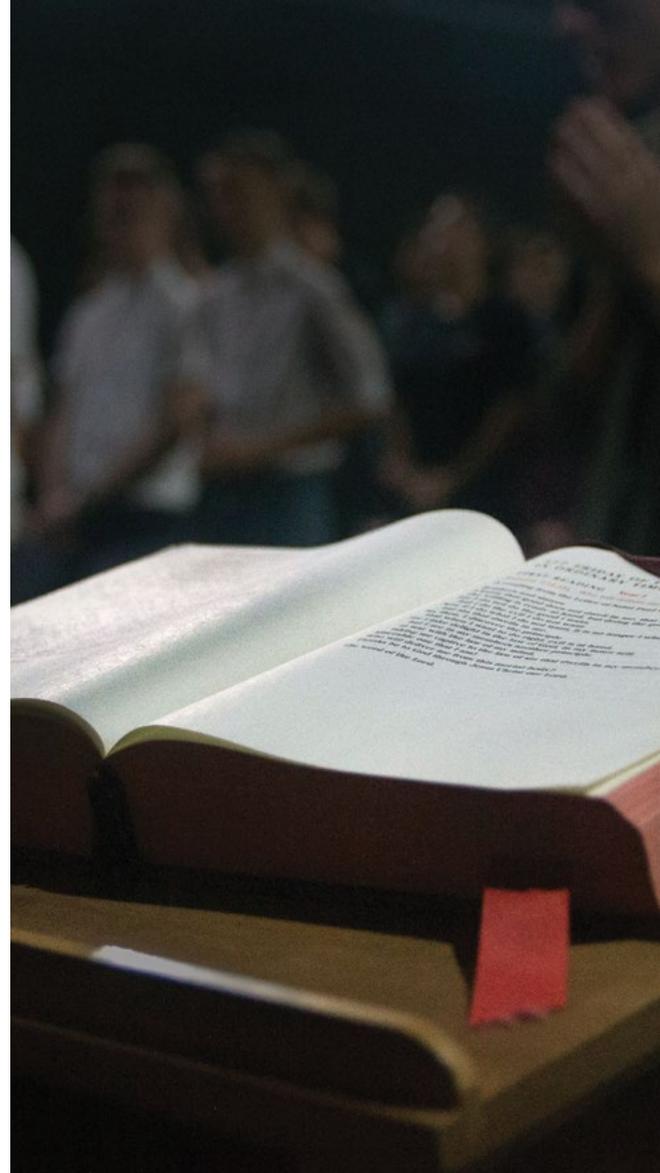
Prof. Hulburt is an artist specializing in 3D modeling, texturing, and digital media. He received his MFA from The Academy of Art University in San Francisco. His career includes work on projects for CBS Interactive (Gamespot.com), E3, ComicCon, and The San Francisco Giants.

# Theology & New Evangelization

Theology seeks understanding in the study of the revealed Word of God in history, which comes to human beings first in Israel and then in the person of Jesus Christ. In our **Theology and Philosophy** program, you will take the articles of the Creed taught by the Church as its principles, and apply human reason assisted by grace to explore the beauty of our Catholic Faith.

In addition to the Theology formation, students have an opportunity to obtain skills in communication and leadership through our **New Evangelization** area of emphasis, which focuses on practical skills you need to advance the mission of the Church. You'll be able to choose from four elective tracks in Visual Communications, Oral Communications, Music, and Catholic Leadership.

- Obtain a solid foundation in **Sacred Scripture**
- Take an **entrepreneurial path** by creating an apostolate in our Launchpad and Incubator
- Apply what you've learned to the **task of evangelization**
- Obtain intellectual breadth through our **Humanities core education**



**FR. SAM KEYES, PhD**  
Professor of Theology

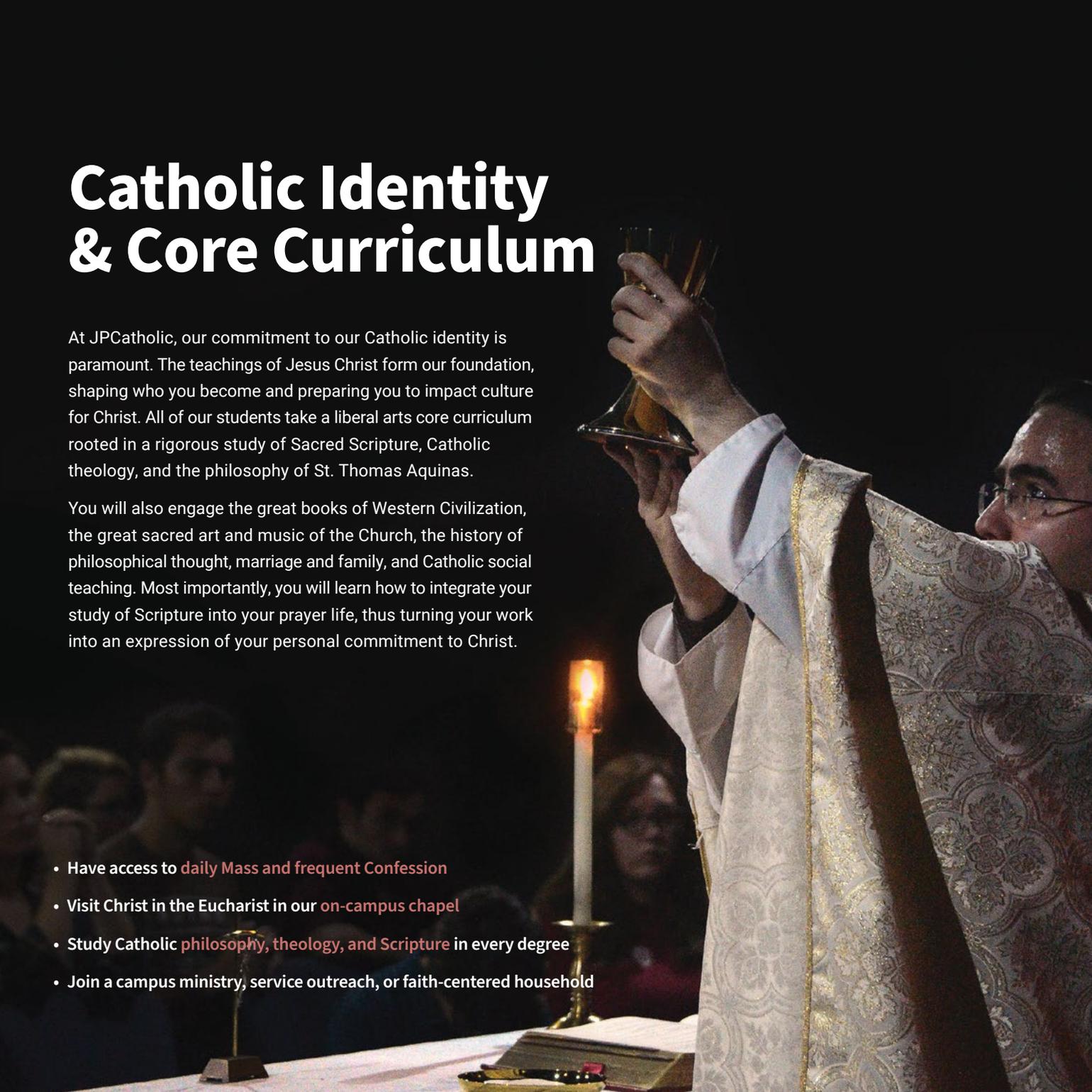
Fr. Keyes is a convert from Anglicanism and was ordained a Catholic priest through the Ordinariate of St. Peter. His impressive academic background includes a Ph.D. in Theology from Boston College and an M.Div. from Duke Divinity School.

# Catholic Identity & Core Curriculum

At JPCatholic, our commitment to our Catholic identity is paramount. The teachings of Jesus Christ form our foundation, shaping who you become and preparing you to impact culture for Christ. All of our students take a liberal arts core curriculum rooted in a rigorous study of Sacred Scripture, Catholic theology, and the philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas.

You will also engage the great books of Western Civilization, the great sacred art and music of the Church, the history of philosophical thought, marriage and family, and Catholic social teaching. Most importantly, you will learn how to integrate your study of Scripture into your prayer life, thus turning your work into an expression of your personal commitment to Christ.

- Have access to **daily Mass and frequent Confession**
- Visit Christ in the Eucharist in our **on-campus chapel**
- Study Catholic **philosophy, theology, and Scripture** in every degree
- Join a **campus ministry, service outreach, or faith-centered household**





# Student Life

College is an important time of intellectual, physical, and spiritual maturation. Choose to grow in an environment that supports your faith around peers who share your love of Jesus Christ. Step onto our campus, and you'll find a community steeped in faith, creativity, and fun — a place where you can build lifelong friendships and collaborations.

San Diego provides more than just beautiful surfing and outdoor recreation spots — enjoy local film festivals, business pitch competitions, and networking events.

Our unique housing model is another valuable part of life at JPCatholic. Students live in apartments and townhomes instead of dorms, allowing them to develop important life skills before graduation.



“Those who perceive in themselves this kind of divine spark which is the artistic vocation... feel at the same time the obligation not to waste this talent but to develop it, in order to put it at the service of their neighbour and of humanity as a whole.”

Pope Saint John Paul II  
Letter to Artists

