



14 September 2018

Dear JST Community,

In the midst of troubling new allegations of sexual abuse and abuse of power in the Catholic Church, we as a school are considering responses appropriate to who we are as an international theology center in the Jesuit and Catholic tradition.

As one form of response, I invite our community to participate in a **“Day of Lament and Prayer”** on **Tuesday, September 18**. Our lament will be in solidarity with all those who have suffered abuse in the Church, and we will pray for healing, conversion, and courage in the Church as we strive for lasting reform. I will also invite our friends at the Dominican School to join us.

The outline of the day is as follows:

**Morning Prayer, 8 a.m. to 8:25** (*Please note that there will be no 8 a.m. Mass on this day*). Morning Prayer will conclude with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

The Chapel will be open for **silent prayer and Adoration throughout the day until 3:45**.

**Midday Prayer, 12:05-12:20.**

**Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 3:30-3:45.**

**Mass, 5:15 p.m.** Paul Janowiak, SJ will preside and Deborah Ross will preach.

**Soup Supper**, approximately 6:15.

**Community Reflection, 6:45-8 p.m.:** Julie Rubio, Professor of Christian Social Ethics, will facilitate the community’s reflection and discussion. This will be an opportunity to voice what God has stirred within us on this Day of Prayer and Lament, and reflect together on how we are being called to re-imagine and re-form our Church in deeper communion with Christ.

Our prayer and conversation on Tuesday will help us discern how our theological investigation and our education and formation here might contribute to reform in the Church. It will also help us in our own self-examination as a school, so that we might be more faithful to the mission entrusted to us to serve the people of God.

I hope you can join us for some or all of the day's liturgies and conversation. I am grateful to Deborah Ross, Paul Janowiak, SJ, and Marty Connell, SJ for their thoughtful contributions in preparing for this day.

Sincerely,

*Kevin O'Brien S.J.*

Kevin F. O'Brien, S.J.

Dean

“The Church is dependent on faith, a faith that is endangered by the deepest darkness. It lives out of memory and out of hope for the fulfillment of the promises of God.” (Herbert Vorgrimler)



La Pietá de Avignon Técnica: Óleo sobre tela Colección: Fundación Guayasamín Ubicación: Capilla del Hombre, Quito, Ecuador. Accessed at <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/555350197782049598/>