

### In This Issue:

Presidential Scholars	2
Garage Sale Results	3
Work-Study Info	4
CDC Article	addendum
Committee Assignments	addendum

### Birthday Corner

#### September

24 Fr. Ky Dinh, SVD

### THE PRESIDENT *Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD*

#### *Respect Life – Wear a Mask – Pray for Peace*

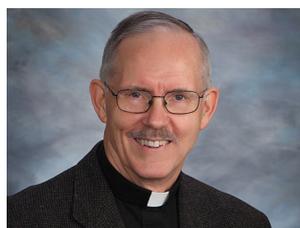
Moses summoned all the people of Israel and said to them... “I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live...” (Dt 29:1, 30:19).

As Election Day nears for the United States, I will be thinking about the choice that Moses put before the people of Israel. As with many citizens, I want to vote for candidates who represent my views on all the major issues. However, the extreme polarization of our national politics makes that impossible. For some voters, respecting life begins and ends with restrictions on abortion, so perhaps their choices seem simple. For me, respecting life certainly includes protecting the lives of our unborn brothers and sisters, but it is more than that. Respecting Life in the USA and in the world includes:

- Protecting earth, for God created this planet as our life-support system.
- Protecting nations from warring with one another.
- Protecting the poor from starvation and disease.
- Protecting the sick from lack of medical care.
- Protecting children and their families from gun violence.
- Protecting elders from abuse and neglect.
- Protecting prisoners from capital punishment.

Respect for life is not just for *Election Day*, it is an *Everyday* choice. Two of my everyday activities are rooted in my respect for life.

**Pray for Peace.** The Dubuque International Day of Peace Festival Peace Festival has begun. It is a yearly celebration of working and praying for peace. Br. Brian McLaughlin SVD has served as part of the organizing committee. Check out some of the events at the



Dubuque Peace Day [webpage](#). A recording of the [keynote address](#) by Kathy Kelly is available online. She reflects on the theme: Hope from the Ashes: 75 Years After Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

*continued next page*

Divine Word College will be hosting the final (online) event of the festival on Sunday September 27 with Ecumenical Peace Vespers. I'll be praying for peace then and every day.

**Wear a Mask.** Most of the time, I am wearing a facemask, (unless I forget it on my desk or am working in the garden). My facemask, and the facemask you wear, carries an unwritten message. It says, "I respect your life!" I agree with Fr. James Martin SJ who asked in a July [article](#) in *America Magazine*: "Why aren't all pro-lifers pro-maskers? This should be a no-brainer."



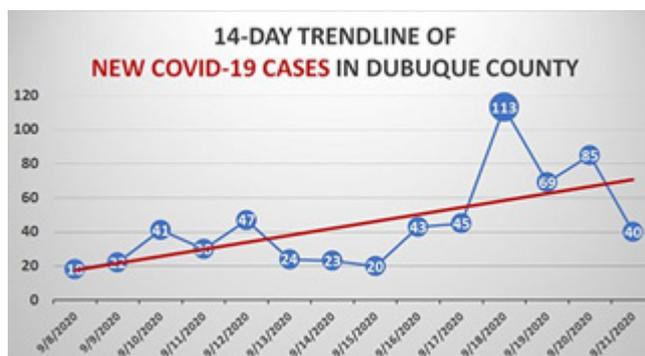
I have attached an article reporting on CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield's position that facemasks may be more effective than an eventual vaccine. I will be wearing a mask every day because I choose and respect life.

## DWC COVID-19 Dashboard

	Number of Tests	Tested Positive	Number Self-Isolated	Number Quarantined	Number Recovered
<b>Before Sept 15</b>	~200	9	9	~15	9
<b>Sept 15-22</b>	14	0	0	4	0

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Dubuque County is rising steadily and rather quickly. The CDC has named Dubuque city and county as places in the "red-zone" of the pandemic. Please be careful.

- Wear a mask.
- Watch social distance.
- Wash your hands.



## New Presidential Scholars

Congratulations to two new Presidential Scholars, Sr. Liem Thi Hoang Nguyen IHM and Sr. Thuy Tri Tran LHC. They join four other Scholars, Hoang Duh Khanh Do, Sr. Magdalene Formilack SST, Omar Gonzalez, and Sr. Tram Thi Thu Tran IHM.

The Presidential Scholarship recognizes the superior academic achievement of the recipients and encourages our whole community to strive for academic excellence.

With the encouragement of the Board of Administration, I am honored to announce our two new Presidential Scholars. When you see any of the six scholars, please congratulate them.

## DWC Committee Assignments

The list of assignments for standing committees at DWC is attached. This is the 5th draft – and a few more adjustments may still be necessary. Thanks to all who have agreed to serve on a committee. Your generous response helps keep the college running and makes it a better place for all of us.

## THE RECTOR *Fr. Thang Hoang, SVD*

### Hearts Connected through Mission

When hearts are connected, joy is born. Indeed, in the past week I have felt so much joy as I saw our whole community gather together, joining hands and hearts to make a difference in the life of the poor in Brazil's Amazon.

My heart rejoiced seeing so many Megan Hall sisters, especially the Sisters of St. Teresa of Avila accompanied by Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, who spent hours making and frying the delicious egg rolls; the VSA members worked joyfully preparing the tasty Vietnamese baguettes; Fr. Sam Cunningham, SVD and the SSpS sisters baked wonderful king cake; Sr. Dieu Nguyen, Tuan Nguyen, and others cooked yummy fried rice; Sr. Tinh Le and another sister provided exquisite hand-made cards that were sold together with beautiful cards made by Sr. Dieu and others. The formation groups worked with so much enthusiasm to set up for the sale. They transported items to the Arkfeld House, priced them and tended to the shop. The pre-novitiate group faithfully set up and cleaned up during each of the three days. And some of the most heart-warming moments include seeing older SVD members like Fr. Bill Shea, Bro. Larry Kieffer, Fr. Jim Bergin and others who made the efforts to tend the shop and greeted the customers with friendly smiles. In fact, they did sell a lot of stuff.



This heart-joining missionary event was also supported greatly by so many SVD members, staff and faculty – especially Brenda and the kitchen staff, who did everything they could to collaborate and make the garage sale successful. And I'm sure that there are so many others who worked very hard behind the scenes to support this missionary activity. If you are not mentioned here, please know that you still deserve our deepest appreciation and gratitude.

This fund-raising mission not only joined our hearts together, but even more importantly, it joined our hearts with the hearts of the people in the Amazon. I can imagine how joyful they will be when they know that they are being prayed for, supported, and gifted with the fund to buy their own land cultivators.

I know that many of us took pictures throughout this event. Please send them to Vuong Vu who will use them to make a video to send to the people in the Amazon as a token of friendship and solidarity.

Congratulations to all of us. May our missionary spirit continue to burn brightly in our hearts and through our actions.

*continued next page*

**Below is the report of the proceeds:**

1. Garage sale net income: \$4,052.80
2. Donations:
  - a. Vietnamese Community in Davenport: \$ 5,000.00
  - b. College: \$500.00
  - c. SVD Community: \$500.00
  - d. Other donors: \$ 300.00

**Total: \$10,352.80**

## **VICE PRESIDENT FOR FORMATION DEAN OF STUDENTS**

*Fr. Long Phi Nguyen, SVD*

### **Garage Sale**

Thanks and gratitude to all the students, staff/faculty and SVDs who contributed things, prepared food, spent time, bought things at our just ended sales in support of the missionary efforts to alleviate the suffering of the Amazon people in Brazil. Special thanks to the rector, Fr. Thang Hoang, for his leadership and dedication. May God richly bless you and hope to get your help and support next year.

### **ACSA Picnic**

On Saturday, September 26, ACSA (African and Caribbean Student Associations) group will organize a picnic on campus, beginning from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Have fun! The ACSA will reserve the Mother of Asia Chapel for Mass from 1:00 – 2:00 PM. They have also reserved the gym from 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

### **Cross Planting**

Saturday, September 26, you are also invited to participate in planting small white cross in front of our college on the front hillside, coordinated by Sue Lukasik, Tony Grebner and friends. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet posted on the Student Board.

### **Mass for Vocations**

The formation group of Romans will organize the Mass for Vocations on Tuesday, September 29. Please come to pray for an increase of religious vocations, especially for Fr. Long Phi Nguyen and his members of the Roman group as they continue to discern God's call.

## **VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS** *Mr. Len Uhal*

### **Students Who Qualify for Federal Work-Study**

Students who are U.S. Citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR—green card holders) and qualify for Federal Work Study are scheduled to meet on **Thursday, September 24 at 1:00 PM in Room 107**. This is a mandatory meeting to discuss work-study assignments and tracking worked hours. Students required to attend have already received an email from Ms. Carolyn Waechter.

# CDC chief says masks better at stopping coronavirus than a vaccine

**Alexander Nazaryan**

National Correspondent

*Yahoo News* September 16, 2020

WASHINGTON — In a congressional hearing Wednesday, Dr. Robert Redfield, director of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, held up the disposable surgical mask he had been wearing and declared that the simple covering may ultimately be better than a much-hoped-for vaccine.

“This face mask is more guaranteed to protect me against COVID than when I take a COVID vaccine,” Redfield said, referring to [COVID-19](#), the disease caused by the coronavirus. That disease has now killed about 200,000 people in the United States.

Redfield went on to say that a vaccine could have an immunogenicity of 70 percent, meaning that it may not work in close to one-third of people to whom it is administered.

“If I don’t get an immune response, the vaccine’s not going to protect me. This face mask will.”

[A recent article in the New England Journal of Medicine](#) suggested that “since masks can filter out some virus-containing droplets” but not all viral particles, a mask could act as a kind of exposure therapy, prepping the body to fight the coronavirus without actually sickening the subject.

“If this theory bears out, population-wide masking, with any type of mask that increases acceptability and adherence, might contribute to increasing the proportion of SARS-CoV-2 infections that are asymptomatic,” the article said. The reasoning behind this idea is that people wearing masks would receive a much smaller viral load than people without masks.

(SARS-CoV-2 is the internationally accepted name for the coronavirus, which emerged in China late last year.)

“The idea that mechanical barriers can be more effective than vaccines in stopping transmission isn’t crazy,” University of Chicago computational biologist [Sarah Cobey](#) explained to Yahoo News. “It’s basically how we controlled cholera and other enteric pathogens: We improved plumbing rather than developing an especially effective vaccine.”

It is not clear if Redfield was responding specifically to the New England Journal of Medicine study, but there is [plenty of other evidence](#) that masks prevent the coronavirus from spreading.

The comments bluntly contradicted what President Trump said during a televised town hall the evening before. “A lot of people think the masks are not good,” he said before going on to discuss how restaurant waiters “play” with their masks.

He also wondered why Joe Biden, the former vice president, [has not instituted a mask mandate](#). As a private citizen, Biden does not have that power. As a current government official, Trump does.

Trump did correctly note that Redfield and other top scientists [told people not to wear masks early in the pandemic](#). That was in part because some officials feared that a run on face coverings could deplete hospitals of personal protective equipment. In addition, the novel nature of the coronavirus meant that scientists had not yet fully grasped how relentlessly it spreads through the air.

That guidance has long been discarded, with many governors and local officials from both parties encouraging people to wear masks. Trump and his closest supporters are outliers in that regard, evidently seeing resistance to masks as a potent argument to rally conservatives.

[Redfield has struggled](#) to assert his independence from the White House, but the methodical, apolitical doctor often seems poorly suited for the bare-knuckle style of Washington under Trump. But at least on the matter of masks, he had no trouble making the case on Wednesday morning.

“These face masks are the most important public health tool we have,” Redfield said. The comments were widely and approvingly [shared on social media](#) almost as soon as they were made, suggesting that most Americans are exhausted by the face mask culture war. In fact, [the vast majority of people support mask wearing](#), at least in principle, regardless of political affiliation.

Redfield testified at a Senate Appropriations subcommittee hearing along with Dr. Brett Giroir, an assistant health secretary, and Dr. Bob Kadlec, another high-ranking deputy in that department.

In his own remarks, Giroir said recent successes in driving down infection and fatality rates “could be fleeting or even reversed if we do not continue to follow the national plan and exercise personal responsibility, especially wearing masks and avoiding crowds.”

The White House did not respond to a Yahoo News request for comment. A national mask mandate from Trump is highly unlikely.

Absent a mask mandate or new lockdown-like restrictions, the nation will have to wait for a vaccine. That could be a long wait. In his testimony, Redfield said that even if such a vaccine is forthcoming in the next two or three months, its supply will be “very limited,” meaning that it will be many more months until ordinary Americans are able to receive inoculations.

[Redfield predicted](#) that that level of vaccination, and the accompanying resumption of ordinary life, will not occur until the end of 2021.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/cdc-chief-says-masks-better-at-stopping-coronavirus-than-a-vaccine-173526486.html>

# Presidential Scholarship

Divine Word College first awarded the Presidential Scholarship in 1979. This scholarship is a recognition of and an honor for students who show promise of superior academic achievement.

## Congratulations to our Newest Scholars



Sr. Liem Thi Hoang  
Nguyen, IHM



Sr. Thuy Thi Tran, LHC

## Current Presidential Scholars



Hoang Duy Khanh  
Do



Sr. Magdalene  
Formilack, SST



Omar Gonzalez



Sr. Tram Thi Thu  
Tran, IHM

# *Committee Membership 2020-2021*

*September 22, 2020*

**Key:**

AP = Appointed by the President

EO = Ex Officio

EFS = Elected by Faculty Senate

## **HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION (HLC)**

### **HLC Interim Monitoring Report Committee**

Mathew Kanjirathinkal, Co-Chair (AP)	2020-2022
Cathleen Cleary, Co-Chair (AP)	2020-2022
Jason Reed (AP)	2020-2022
John Szukalski SVD (AP)	2020-2022
Kimberly Burnett-Hackbarth (AP)	2020-2022

### **HLC Assessment Academy Team**

Jason Reed, Theo. & Phil.  
Raymond Akumbilim SVD, Theo. & Phil.  
Cathleen Cleary, Interdisciplinary Studies  
Evelyn Dias, Interdisciplinary Studies  
Long Phi Nguyen SVD, Religious Formation  
John Szukalski SVD, VP Academic Affairs  
Kimberly Burnett-Hackbarth, Registrar  
TBD – Director of Institutional Effectiveness

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Academic Appeals Committee**

Gwyneth Gates, Intensive English Language Inst.	2020-2021
Benjamin Winter, Dept. of Theology & Philosophy	2020-2021
Joshua Young, Dept. of Interdisciplinary Studies	2020-2021

*Members are nominated by the respective Chairs.*

### **Admissions Committee**

Len Uhal, VP Admissions, Chair (EO)	
John Szukalski SVD, VP Academic Affairs (EO)	
Long Phi Nguyen SVD, VP Formation (EO)	
Seo Hyun Park, Director IELI (EO)	
Sam Cunningham SVD, SVD Member (AP)	2020-2021

### **Assessment Committee**

*Dir. of Institutional Effectiveness, Chair (EO)	
Cathleen Cleary, Chair DIS, *Interim Chair (EO)	
Seo Hyun Park, Director IELI (EO)	
Ron Condon, Chair DTP (EO)	
Kimberly Burnett-Hackbarth, Registrar (EO)	
*Jason Reed, Faculty Member (AP)	2020-2022
*Sam Cunningham SVD, Faculty Member (AP)	2020-2022
Long Phi Nguyen SVD, Formation Member (AP)	2020-2022
*Joshua Young, Faculty Member (AP)	2020-2021

*\*Members of the Nuclear Body*

### **Board of Administration**

Thomas Ascherman SVD, President, Chair (EO)
John Szukalski SVD, VP Academic Affairs (EO)
Long Phi Nguyen SVD, VP Formation and Student Life (EO)
Len Uhal, VP Admissions (EO)
Steve Winger, VP Operations (EO)

### **Campus Sustainability Committee – (dormant – see JPIC committee)**

Steve Winger, Chair (EO)	
Brian McLaughlin SVD, (AP)	2019-2021
Cathleen Cleary, Faculty (AP)	2019-2021
Mark Singsank, Staff (AP)	2019-2021

### **Chairs Council**

John Szukalski SVD, VPAA, Chair (EO)
Seo Hyun Park, Director IELI (EO)
Ron Condon, Department of Theology & Philosophy (EO)
Cathleen Cleary, Department of Intercultural Studies (EO)
Kimberly Burnett-Hackbarth, Registrar (EO)

### **Emergency Planning Committee**

Steve Winger, VP Operations, Chair (AP)	2020-2023
*Thomas Ascherman SVD, President (EO)	
*Thang Hoang, SVD, Rector (EO)	
*Long Phi Nguyen SVD, Dean of Students (EO)	
Sonny de Class SVD, Dir. Pre-Novitiate (AP)	2020-2023
Raymond Akumbilim SVD, Assoc. Dean (AP)	2020-2023
*Bro. Vinh Trinh SVD, Maintenance Dir. (AP)	2020-2023
Daniel Williams (AP)	2020-2021
Sr. Tho Trinh, ICM (AP) Megan Hall Rep.	2020-2021

*\* Members of the Emergency Response Team*

### **External Affairs Council**

Tom Ascherman SVD, President, Chair (EO)  
Linh Pham SVD, Dir. Development (EO)  
Sandy Wilgenbusch, Dir. Public Relations (EO)  
Thang Hoang SVD, Alumni Director (EO)  
Emily Shedek, Public Relations Specialist (EO)  
Mark Singsank, Associate Development Dir (EO)  
Len Uhal, VP Admissions (AP)  
Donna Puccio, Exec. Sec. to President (AP)

### **Faculty Promotions and Awards Committee**

Ronald Condon, DTP (EFS)	2020-2021
Cathleen Cleary, DIS (EFS)	2020-2021
Mark Garton, IELI (EFS)	2020-2021
Tony Kreinus SVD, at-large (EFS)	2020-2021
Ken Anich SVD, at-large (EFS)	2020-2021
<i>Chair to be determined.</i>	

### **Financial Affairs Committee**

Marlene Decker, Dir. Business Office, Chair (EO)  
Steven Winger, VP Operations (EO)  
Linh Pham SVD, Dir Development (EO)  
Len Uhal, VP Admissions (EO)  
Carolyn Waechter, Financial Aid Coordinator (EO)  
John Szukalski SVD (AP)

### **Food Service Committee**

Steve Winger, VP for Operations, Chair (AP)	2020-2021
Brenda Williams, Food Service Director (AP)	2020-2021
Raymond Akumbilim SVD (AP)	2020-2021
Phyllis Urbain (AP)	2020-2021
Sr. Scovia Apiyo LSMIG (AP)	2020-2021

### **Formation Appeals Committee**

Raymond Akumbilim SVD, Chair (AP)	2020-2021
Sonny de Class SVD (AP)	2020-2021
Evelyn Dias (AP)	2020-2021

*Members are nominated by the Formation Team.*

### **Formation and Student Life Committee**

Long Phi Nguyen SVD, VP for Formation, Chair (EO)  
Raymond Akumbilim SVD, Assoc. Dean (EO)  
James Bergin SVD, Spiritual Life Coordinator (EO)  
Megan Sutton, Counselor (EO)  
Sonny deClass SVD, Chaplain (EO)  
Thang Hoang SVD, formation director (EO)  
Stephen Kha Nguyen SVD, formation director (EO)  
Jim Zabransky SVD, formation director (EO)  
Evelyn Dias, non-voting faculty (AP) 2020-2021  
Hoang Do, non-voting student (AP) 2020-2021  
Omar Gonzalez, non-voting student (AP) 2020-2021  
Sr. Tho Thi Trinh ICM, non-voting student (AP) 2020-2021

*Appointed members are nominated by the Formation Team.*

### **Graduation Committee**

Sandy Wilgenbusch, Dir. Public Relations, Chair (AP)  
John Szukalski SVD, VP Academic Affairs (EO)  
Long Phi Nguyen SVD, Dean of Students (EO)  
Sonny de Class SVD, Chaplain (EO)  
Evelyn Dias, Liturgical Music Coord. (EO)  
Friday Onoja, Student Representative (AP) 2020-2021

### **Information Systems Committee**

Brad Florence, Information Systems Director, Chair (EO)  
Steve Winger, Vice President Operations (EO)  
Daniel Williams, Library Director (EO)  
Instructional Technology Support Specialist (EO)  
Elizabeth Winter (AP) 2020-2022  
Benjamin Winter (AP) 2020-2022  
Son Le SVD (AP) 2019-2021  
Vuong Vu, Student Representative (AP) 2020-2021

### **Institutional Review Board (Research)**

Ken Anich SVD, Chair (AP) 2020-2021  
Cathleen Cleary (AP) 2020-2021  
Sam Cunningham SVD, (AP) 2020-2021

### **Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Council (JPIC)**

Brian McLaughlin SVD, (Integ. of Creation) Chair (AP)  
Lloyd Cunningham SVD (Immigration) (AP) 2020-2021  
Stephen Kha Nguyen (Right to Life) (AP) 2020-2021  
Joshua Young (Intercultural Relations) (AP) 2020-2021  
Ashley Heiberger (AP) 2020-2021  
Joao Pinda Neto SVD – Student Representative (AP) 2020-2021  
Sr. Dieu Nguyen LHC – Student Representative (AP) 2020-2021

*Members are nominated by the Chair*

### **Library Council**

Daniel Williams, Library Director, Chair (EO)  
Tony Kreinus SVD, Assistant Librarian (EO)  
Elizabeth Winter, Assistant Librarian, Archivist (EO)  
TBD Dept. of Interdisciplinary Studies (AP) 2020-2022  
Jason Reed, DTP (AP) 2019-2021  
Sr. Norelly Rodriguez RCS, Student Rep. (AP) 2020-2021

### **Liturgy Committee**

Sonny DeClass SVD, Chaplain, Chair (EO)  
Paul Aquino SVD, Assistant Chaplain, Co-Chair (EO)  
Thang Hoang SVD, Rector (EO)  
Raymond Akumbilim SVD, Associate Dean (EO)  
Evelyn Dias, Liturgical Music Coordinator (EO)  
Jill Heitzman (AP) 2020-2021  
Sr. Phuong Tran LHC, Student Representative (AP) 2020-2021  
Cederick Morando, Student Representative (AP) 2020-2021

### **Newsletter Editorial Committee**

Emily Shedek, Public Relations Specialist, Chair (EO)  
Mark Singsank, Associate Development Director (EO)  
Richard Garrett, Faculty Representative (AP) 2020-2022  
Larry Udry, Faculty Representative (AP) 2019-2021  
Donna Puccio, Staff Representative (AP) 2019-2021  
Vuong Vu Student Representative (AP) 2020-2021

*Appointed members nominated by Chair*

### **Scholarship Advisory Committee**

Tom Ascheman SVD, Chair (EO)  
Len Uhal, VP for Admissions (EO)  
Carolyn Waechter, Financial Aid Coordinator (EO)  
Long Phi Nguyen SVD, VP for Formation (EO)

### **Social Media Content Crew**

Sandy Wilgenbusch, Director of Public Relations, Chair (EO)  
Emily Shedek, Public Relations Specialist (EO)  
Francisca Doofan Aorakaa SON, Student Rep (AP) 2020-2021  
Thinh Cao SVD, Student Representative (AP) 2020-2021  
Cedrick Morando, Student Representative (AP) 2020-2021  
Franciste Mervil, Student Representative, (AP) 2020-2021

*Appointed members nominated by the Chair*

### **Website Review Committee**

Sandy Wilgenbusch, Director of Public Relations, Chair (EO)  
Emily Shedek, Public Relations Specialist (EO)  
John Szukalski SVD, VP for Academic Affairs (EO)  
Len Uhal, National Vocation Director (EO)  
Jennifer Vess, Faculty (AP)  
Vuong Vu, Student Representative (AP) 2020-2021

*Appointed members nominated by the Chair*

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

### **Spiritual Directors**

Fr. James Bergin SVD, Coordinator  
Fr. Ken Anich SVD  
Fr. Dennis Callan SVD  
Fr. Sam Cunningham SVD  
Sr. Anna Trang Mai IHM  
Fr. Ed Peklo SVD,  
Sr. Joellen Price PBVM  
Br. Jim Zabransky SVD

### **Faculty Senate Officers – 2020-2021**

President: Dan Williams  
Secretary: Brian McLaughlin SVD

### **Student Senate Officers – 2020-2021**

President: Hoang Do  
Vice President: Omar Gonzalez  
Secretary: Sr. Dieu Nguyen LHC  
Treasurer: João Neto SVD