



From the Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Kind greetings to all and I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and spirits. For those of you who know what a manual transmission is, we have gone from first to fourth gear with unexpected haste and find that our programming is suddenly in full bloom. Please read on for specific information about two upcoming events. Our first-- **Welcome and Protect: Jesuit Refugee Service's Response to the Ukraine Crisis**-- takes place this tomorrow (Thursday, 2/9). Like the other public events we are hosting in March, Thursday's is a hybrid program. We'd love to see you in-person, but there will also be a livestream on Zoom. You can click the links above or below to register for Zoom and receive the link.

It is always a delight this time of year because we focus with care on one of our favorite things: reviewing applications and funding faculty initiatives in scholarship and teaching. Our Hank Center Advisory Board meets each February to discuss the many exciting projects shared by Loyola faculty, and these fellowships in research and course development are a main fruit of the generous endowment given by the Hank family. It is our honor to administer and cultivate these grants

The Hank Fellowships for Graduate Students are funded both by our Hank endowment-- and by a generous grant from Loyola University Chicago's Jesuit Community. These awards support graduate students who have demonstrated superior academic achievement—in theology and philosophy, literature and the arts, natural and social sciences, social movements and culture, pedagogy and pastoral life—and who offer promise as scholars, teachers, and authors engaging the Catholic intellectual tradition. As part of our ongoing series, we are delighted to share the work of two more fellows below; and, **you can meet the other 21 one here!** This program, now in its third year, is one of our favorites-- and the range of work is both expansive and inspiring. The application process for next year's cohort opens

soon.

Please read on to see what else we are up to. A truly inspired version of **Recommended Reading** (so many substantive titles!)—and a solid account of reflections on the life and legacy of Pope Benedict XVI await. Add to that a truly lovely reflection on encountering grace and beauty while studying abroad in Rome (provided by one of our excellent undergraduate interns, Grace Beene), and you've got yourself a winning newsletter.

The Hank Center is becoming more and more the local, national, and international hub for vital work in the Catholic intellectual heritage envisioned by its founding team in the early 2000s. Our attention to the dynamic connection among faith, reason, and justice—along with a fundamental regard and care for arts, culture, and the environment—is both cause for celebration and a call for deeper engagement with the mystery that moves this living tradition. Thanks so much for your interest, collegiality, and friendship.

Warmest Regards,

Dr. Michael P. Murphy

Hank Center Highlights

Restorative Justice: *Unguarded* Viewing and Discussion



On Nov. 16 the Hank Center hosted a viewing of *Unguarded*, a documentary film that tells the story of successful restorative justice work in Brazil and America through the experience of Association for the Protection and Assistance of the Convicted (APAC). Discussion with film director and producer, Simonetta D'Italia-Wiener, film producer and Loyola Alumnus, T.J. Berden, Loyola Criminal Justice and Criminology Graduate School Alumnus, Phil Whittington, and The

Welcome and Protect: Jesuit Refugee Service's Response to the Ukraine Crisis



February 9, 2023 at 4pm. McCormick Lounge, Lake Shore Campus and livestreamed

Around the world Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) responds to new and emerging crises as well as those that have fallen from public attention. Whether in the headlines or lost on the back page, JRS accompanies those affected by crisis in places like Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Venezuela, and Ukraine.

Join us to hear from JRS staff members, Diana Haidemak, a legal counselor for JRS Romania, and Olena Zinkevych, Ukrainian Team Coordinator. Diana and Olena will share stories from their work providing support to refugees from Ukraine, as well as refugees from across other parts of the world.

Co-Sponsored by the Office of Global and Community

Honorable Thomas More Donnelly of Loyola University's School of Law followed the viewing. This event was Co-sponsored with the School of Communications, the School of Law, the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, and the Center for Criminal Justice.

AJCU Assembly Working Group



The Hank Center is pleased to host this closed meeting of the AJCU Assembly Working Group at Loyola University Chicago from February 23-25. The multi-year working group has a focused project on the intersections among the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, Ignatian Pedagogy, Justice, and Reconciliation.

Second Annual "Way Forward" Conference: Pope Francis, Vatican II, and Synodality



The Hank Center is pleased to co-host the Second Annual "Way Forward" Conference. Over 40 bishops and cardinals and a similar number of theologians and journalists will gather

Engagement, the Division of Mission Integration, Campus Ministry, and Jesuit Relief Services, USA.

[Click Here for More Information and Livestream Registration](#)

You Cannot Do This Without God's Grace: Newman, Dowling, and Conversion as Daily Practice



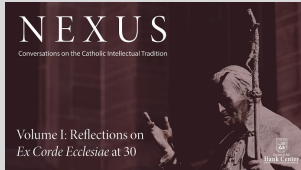
March 14, 2023 at 7pm
Information Commons 4th Floor, Lake Shore Campus and livestreamed

Catholic theologian Dawn Eden Goldstein had written several books on spiritual healing when she began to study the life of Father Edward Dowling, SJ (1898-1960), whose guidance transformed the life of Alcoholics Anonymous co-founder Bill Wilson. But as she researched the Jesuit--who was, like her, a former newspaper journalist and a non-alcoholic--she discovered an approach to personal conversion that was at once deeper and simpler than anything she had previously encountered. In the conversionary spirit and legacy of St. John Henry Newman, Dr. Goldstein, who was raised Jewish, will integrate aspects of her own experience with her research for *Fr. Ed: The Story of Bill W.'s Spiritual Sponsor*--and speak about how Father Ed's spirituality, which drew inspiration from St. Ignatius Loyola and Cardinal Newman, brings Catholic wisdom into the twelve-step approach that has helped millions of people find recovery.

[Click Here for More Information and Livestream Registration](#)

in Boston to examine synodality as the signature movement of Pope Francis' papacy. Attendees will explore synodality as part of the on-going reception of Vatican II— its history, meaning, and challenges for the contemporary ecclesial environment.

Nexus



Our next issue of Nexus is right around the corner! Keep your eyes peeled for another amazing issue full of great conversations on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition. And if you have not yet finished reading our last issue you can do so by clicking the link below.

[Nexus Journal](#)

Spring 2023 Events Calendar



The Hank Center has several exciting and thought provoking events to offer the community this Spring. Our full event calendar is now live on our website and you can

**Highlighting our Hank Center Graduate Student Fellows:
R. Zachary Karanovich**



R. Zachary Karanovich is a fifth-year Ph.D. candidate in Systematic Theology at Boston College. He received a B.A. in Theology and Philosophy from Marian College (2007), a J.D. from Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law (2014), and an M.T.S. from B.C.'s School of Theology and Ministry (2018). Prior to graduate theological studies, Zac practiced law and worked in religious education and parish ministry. His dissertation, "Conversion in a World of Violence: Toward a Theology of Conversion with Johann Baptist Metz, James Alison, and Thomas Merton," engages the three title interlocutors' complimentary contributions toward the development of a holistic understanding of conversion that includes justice, forgiveness, and divinization—constitutive elements of political, communal, and individual conversion. In light of their own lives and theological thought, and conscious of the fundamental and indispensable role of grace in conversion, he draws from them spiritual and ecclesial praxes that can open a person and a community to conversion. Of particular interest in the dissertation is the role of narrative and narrative change in conversion. The project concludes with a case study, applying the principles established in earlier chapters to the issue of racial resentment in our particularly polarized society.

Hank Center Graduate Student Fellow: Rich Lizardo

find out more by clicking the link below. Make sure not to miss any of these amazing opportunities!

Visit our Website

Highlighting Catholic Studies
Undergraduates:
Encountering Christ Through Beauty in Rome - by Grace Beene



I had the privilege of studying abroad last semester in Rome, Italy, and perhaps unsurprisingly, I got a lesson on encountering Christ through beauty. I like to think that I expected the lovely dining culture or the whirlwind of casual, international weekend getaways. However, I was completely unprepared for the incessant experience of overwhelming, all-consuming beauty. Particularly, I was repeatedly struck by Rome's many, many extraordinary churches. Upon entry, the senses are overloaded. There are so many mosaics, side chapels, even dozens of chandeliers. Where does one look? If you focus, does the lingering scent of incense still hang in the



Rich Lizardo is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Pennsylvania who focuses on the history of early-modern Spain. He received his B.A. at Yale University (2015) and his M.A. at Penn (2018), both in History. His research interests include the study of poverty, charity, and poor laws; theories and practices of punishment; Spanish empire and colonialism; national, cultural, religious, and ethnic identities; and intellectual, religious, and cultural history. In his dissertation, "Worlds of Spanish Poverty: Theory and Practice from the Reformation to the Enlightenment," Rich traces the developments in the ideas and institutions that arose to address the problem of widespread poverty in early-modern Spain. Among those developments are the Scholastic treatises on poverty, the Tridentine reforms of charitable institutions, and the Baroque art and picaresque literature depicting paupers. His dissertation thus engages with fundamental questions of Catholic theology, with major elements of Baroque Catholicism, and ultimately with institutional practices that previewed later developments in Catholic social teaching.

Remembering Pope Benedict



Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, a leading theologian of the 20th century and the first pope to resign from office in nearly 600 years, died on December 31st at the age of 95. Born Joseph Ratzinger, Pope Benedict XVI was fundamentally a humble, prayerful person; but, as perhaps the most astute theologian to

air?

It doesn't take much concentration to hear the hustle and bustle of Rome outside. The numerous sensations became almost predictable, even the neighborhood chapel down the street was astounding. The unexpected difficulty came in the habitual experience of encountering Christ in stillness and simplicity. Every evening, as I turned off the abrasive lights of my dorm room, I looked out over the treetops of the Balduina neighborhood, cherishing the night sky as it made its appearance. In this simple beauty, there are no mosaics or murals. There are no relics or priceless works of art. In that moment, every heightened sense, every running thought, must be silenced. For in that silence, one can experience Christ as He reveals Himself, unique to the individual, to the time and place. See, the beauty of created things conveys the world's knowledge of Christ. However, whether in Rome or Chicago, it is in simplicity and silence that we allow Him the opportunity, the time and place, to reveal Himself to us.

Grace is an Undergraduate Student Assistant at the Hank Center. She is in her junior year at Loyola University Chicago, studying Psychology and Theology, with a minor in Catholic Studies.

sit in the Chair since Gregory the Great, he was also devoted to the relationship between reason and faith and the role of faith communities in secular democratic societies.

We are happy to supply here a small array of reactions to Pope Benedict's life, death, and legacy. According to John Allen of *Crux*, Benedict was a "[Pope of Ironies](#)" and his papacy was marked by interesting tensions. In a similar spirit, *The National Catholic Reporter* has compiled a [range of insights](#) from its staff. Paul Elie over at *The New Yorker* argues that Benedict XVI's [most powerful influence came before he became pope](#). Fr. Robert Imbelli provides perhaps the most theologically attuned insight in [this most arresting piece](#). Finally, Hank Center Director, Dr. Michael P. Murphy made the media rounds in the early days of the new year commenting on Benedict's legacy. He was joined by 2020 Teilhard de Chardin, S.J. Scholar, Dr. Steven P. Millies, for an [interview about the death and legacy of Pope Benedict](#) on PBS that aired in early January. Rest in Peace, Pope Benedict XVI.

Reconsidering Flannery O'Connor: Applications are Open for the Prestigious NEH Summer Seminar



The deadline is fast approaching for the National Endowment for the Humanities sponsored "Reconsidering Flannery O'Connor." The NEH Summer Institute runs from June 1-29, 2023, and is for scholars and college-level teachers ready to put their stamp on O'Connor studies!

The Institute is designed to take preconceived notions of this powerful novelist, unforgettable short story writer, wry cartoonist, essayist, and personal correspondent and to encourage and explore work in fresh ways to view her work.

Co-directed by Professor Bruce Gentry from Georgia College and Professor Robert Donahoo from Sam Houston State University, this four-week mix of lectures, seminars, and manuscript research will host 25 higher education teachers and scholars seeking to enhance their scholarship and teaching on O'Connor and her world.

Featured speakers and seminar leaders include:

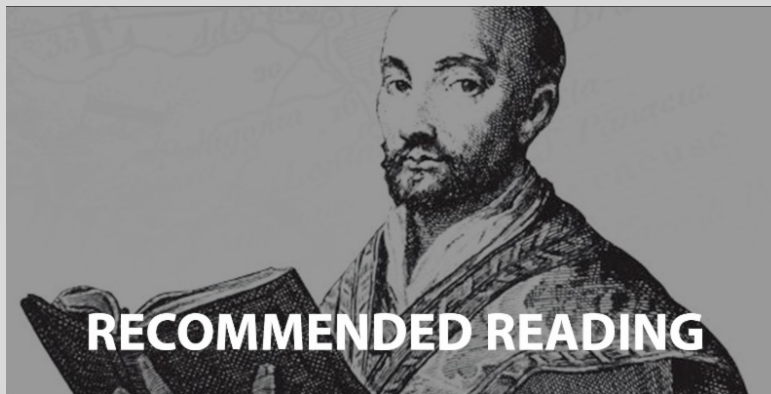
- Thadious Davis of University of Pennsylvania
- Thomas Haddox of University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Christina Bieber-Lake of Wheaton College
- John Lowe of University of Georgia
- Farrell O'Gorman of Belmont Abbey College
- Carol Shloss of Stanford University

We welcome applications from advanced graduate students, non-tenured or non-tenure track faculty, and tenured faculty who have significant interest in Flannery O'Connor or topics associated with her work. Individuals from diverse fields such as literature, theology, history, politics, race, gender, humor, Modernism/Postmodernism, and creative writing are encouraged to take part.

Explore the website at <https://oconnorinstitute.gcsu.edu/> to learn more about the Institute and how to apply. For more information or to ask specific questions, contact at oconnorinstitute2023@gcsu.edu.

The deadline for application is March 3, 2023.

RECOMMENDED READING



In the spirit of cultivating the Catholic intellectual and artistic tradition, CCIH recommends new and notable books several times a year that integrate, interrogate, and celebrate Catholicism in dialogue with the world.

[*Father Ed : The Story of Bill W.'s Spiritual Sponsor*](#) (2022)

Author: Dawn Eden Goldstein. Publisher: Orbis Books.

Father Ed is the first biography of Father Edward Dowling, SJ, whose guidance transformed Alcoholics Anonymous founder Bill Wilson's life and deepened the spirituality of the twelve-step movement. The biography was written by this year's Newman Lecturer, Dr. Dawn Eden Goldstein.

Alcoholics Anonymous co-founder Bill Wilson has one of the greatest legacies of any person of modern times. Time magazine placed him at No. 20 on its list of the most important people of the 20th century. But whenever Wilson himself had the opportunity to name the greatest human being he had ever met, he had but one answer: Father Edward Dowling, SJ Jesuit Father Ed Dowling (1898-1960) rescued Alcoholics Anonymous co-founder Bill Wilson from debilitating depression and gave him the spiritual guidance he needed to bring AA to international prominence. Although not an alcoholic himself, he came to devote his ministry to helping people in recovery—not only alcoholics but also people in troubled marriages (as a co-founder of the Cana Conference) and those suffering from nervous disorders (as an early champion of Recovery, Inc., now known as Recovery International). But he was also a champion of civil rights and social justice, and his interests presaged Society's post-Vatican II priorities.

[*The Christian Structure of Politics: On the De Regno of Thomas Aquinas*](#) (2023)

Author: William McCormick. Publisher: Catholic University of America Press.

The Christian Structure of Politics, the first full-length monograph on Thomas Aquinas's *De Regno* in decades, offers an authoritative interpretation of *De Regno* as a contribution to our understanding of Aquinas's politics, particularly on the relationship between Church and

State. Our inaugural Jesuit Lecturer, William McCormick, S.J., argues that Aquinas takes up a via media between Augustine and Aristotle in *De Regno*, invoking human nature to ground politics as rational, but also Christian principles to limit politics because of both sin and the supernatural end of man beyond politics. Where others have seen disjointed sections on the best regime, tyranny, and the reward of the king, McCormick identifies a dialogical structure to the text - one not unlike the disputed question format - whereby Aquinas both tempers expectations for the best government and offers a spiritual diagnosis of tyranny, culminating in a sharp critique of civil religion and political theology.

McCormick draws upon historical research on Aquinas' context, especially that of Anthony Black, Cary Nederman and Francis Oakley, from which he develops three themes: the medieval preponderance of kingship and royal ideology; the relationship between Church and State; and the intersection of Latin Christianity and Greco-Roman antiquity. While age-old concerns, recent research in these areas has allowed us to move beyond simplistic platitudes.

For scholars of political theory and the history of political thought, *De Regno* will prove fascinating for the interplay of Aristotelian and Augustinian elements, undercutting the conventional wisdom that Aquinas was simply an Aristotelian. *De Regno* also includes an extended treatment of civil religion, one of Aquinas' most historically-oriented discussions of politics.

[*Kindred Spirits: Friendship and Resistance at the Edges of Modern Catholicism*](#) (2021)

Author: Brenna Moore. Publisher: University of Chicago Press.

Kindred Spirits takes us inside a remarkable network of Catholic historians, theologians, poets, and activists who pushed against both the far-right surge in interwar Europe and the secularizing tendencies of the leftist movements active in the early to mid-twentieth century. With meticulous attention to the complexity of real lives, Brenna Moore explores how this group sought a middle way anchored in "spiritual friendship"—religiously meaningful friendship understood as uniquely capable of facing social and political challenges.

For this group, spiritual friendship was inseparable from resistance to European xenophobia and nationalism, anti-racist activism in the United States, and solidarity with Muslims during the Algerian War. Friendship, they believed, was a key to both divine and human realms, a means of accessing the transcendent while also engaging with our social and political existence. Some of the figures are still well known—philosopher Jacques Maritain, Nobel Prize laureate Gabriela Mistral, influential Islamicist Louis Massignon, poet of the Harlem renaissance Claude McKay—while others have unjustly faded from memory. Much more than an idealized portrait of a remarkable group of Catholic intellectuals from the past, *Kindred Spirits* is a compelling exploration of both the beauty and flaws of a vibrant social network worth remembering.

[*Catholicism: A Global History from the French Revolution to Pope Francis*](#) (2022)

Author: John T. McGreevey. Publisher: W.W. Norton and Company.

The story of Roman Catholicism has never followed a singular path. In no time period has this been more true than over the last two centuries. Beginning with the French Revolution, extending to the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s, and concluding with present-day crises, John T. McGreevey chronicles the dramatic upheavals and internal divisions shaping the most multicultural, multilingual, and global institution in the world.

Through powerful individual stories and sweeping birds-eye views, Catholicism provides a mesmerizing assessment of the Church's complex role in modern history: both shaper and follower of the politics of nation states, both conservator of hierarchies and evangelizer of egalitarianism. McGreevey documents the hopes and ambitions of European missionaries building churches and schools in all corners of the world, African Catholics fighting for political (and religious) independence, Latin American Catholics attracted to a theology of liberation, and Polish and South Korean Catholics demanding democratic governments. He includes a vast cast of riveting characters, known and unknown, including the Mexican revolutionary Fr. Servando Teresa de Mier; Daniel O'Connell, hero of Irish emancipation; Sr. Josephine Bakhita, a formerly enslaved Sudanese nun; Chinese statesman Ma Xiaobang; French philosopher and reformer Jacques Maritain; German Jewish philosopher and convert, Edith Stein; John Paul II, Polish pope and opponent of communism; Gustavo Gutiérrez, Peruvian

founder of liberation theology; and French American patron of modern art, Dominique de Menil.

Throughout this essential volume, McGreevy details currents of reform within the Church as well as movements protective of traditional customs and beliefs. Conflicts with political leaders and a devotional revival in the nineteenth century, the experiences of decolonization after World War II and the Second Vatican Council in the twentieth century, and the trauma of clerical sexual abuse in the twenty-first all demonstrate how religion shapes our modern world. Finally, McGreevy addresses the challenges faced by Pope Francis as he struggles to unite the over one billion members of the world's largest religious community.

[*Jesuit Colleges and Universities in the United States: A History*](#) (2022)

Author: Michael T. Rizzi. Publisher: Catholic University of America Press.

Jesuit Colleges and Universities in the United States provides a comprehensive history of Jesuit higher education in the United States, weaving together the stories of the fifty-four colleges and universities that the Jesuits have operated (successfully and unsuccessfully) since 1789. It emphasizes the connections among the institutions, exploring how certain Jesuit schools like Georgetown University gave birth to others like Boston College by sharing faculty, financial resources, accreditation, and even presidents throughout their history. The book also explores how the colleges responded to common challenges – including anti-Catholic prejudice in the United States, the push from government authorities to modernize their shared curriculum, and the pull from Roman authorities to remain loyal to Catholic tradition.

The story is comprehensive, covering the colonial era to the present, and takes a fresh look at themes like the rise of the research university in the 1880s and the administrative reforms of the 1960s. It also provides a modern and timely perspective on the role of Jesuit colleges in racial justice, women's education, and other civil rights issues, drawing attention to underappreciated Jesuit contributions in these areas. It draws from both published and archival sources on the history of each institution to construct a single narrative, identifying common themes, challenges, and trends. Through the eyes of Jesuit colleges, it traces the evolution of American higher education and the role of Catholics in the United States over more than two centuries.

[*Towards a Politics of Communion: Catholic Social Teaching in Dark Times*](#) (2021)

Author: Anna Rowlands. Publisher: Bloomsbury Publishing.

Anna Rowlands offers a guide to the main time periods, key figures, documents and themes of thinking developed as Catholic Social Teaching (CST). A wealth of material has been produced by the Catholic Church during its long history which considers the implications of scripture, doctrine and natural law for the way these elements live together in community - most particularly in the tradition of social encyclicals dating from 1891. Rowlands takes a fresh approach in weaving overviews of the central principles with the development of thinking on political community and democracy, migration, and integral ecology, and by considering the increasingly critical questions concerning the role of CST in a pluralist and post-secular context. As such this book offers both an incisive overview of this distinctive body of Catholic political theology and a new and challenging contribution to the debate about the transformative potential of CST in contemporary society.

[*The House of Desires*](#) (2005)

Author: Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz. Translator: Catherine Boyle. Publisher: Oberon Books.

Originally written by seventeenth century nun Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz and adapted here by Catherine Boyle, *House of Desires* is a romantic farce involving a brother and sister entangled in a web of love with four others.

Critically acclaimed, this play was part of the Royal Shakespeare Company's Spanish Golden Age 2004 season.

[*Half of a Yellow Sun*](#) (2007)

Author: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Publisher: Vintage Books.

With effortless grace, celebrated author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie illuminates a seminal

moment in modern African history: Biafra's impassioned struggle to establish an independent republic in southeastern Nigeria during the late 1960s. We experience this tumultuous decade alongside five unforgettable characters: Ugwu, a thirteen-year-old houseboy who works for Odenigbo, a university professor full of revolutionary zeal; Olanna, the professor's beautiful young mistress who has abandoned her life in Lagos for a dusty town and her lover's charm; and Richard, a shy young Englishman infatuated with Olanna's willful twin sister Kainene.

Half of a Yellow Sun is a tremendously evocative novel of the promise, hope, and disappointment of the Biafran war.

[The Stranger World](#) (2017).

Author: Ryan Wilson. Publisher: Measure Press Inc.

“Ryan Wilson’s unsettling debut collection *The Stranger World* is filled with poems of menace and promise, surprise and sorrow, tempered by gentle humor and always tuned to a fine music. The long poem ‘Authority’ reads like a masterpiece of modern horror. The deeply psychological ‘Xenia’ is a minor miracle of a poem. These pages contain ‘real shores across imagined seas . . . where black suns set,’ where the poet meditates on ‘that present unity / of absences the living move among.’ Each page of *The Stranger World* yields a new delight. Wilson proves himself a worthy heir to Anthony Hecht with this remarkable, disarming, and genuinely moving book. Seek it out.”

— Ernest Hilbert

Contact Us

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About the Center

The Joan and Bill Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage exists to help faculty and students recognize and research Roman Catholic thought and its link to all academic disciplines in the university. It also seeks to convey that thought to other audiences inside and outside Loyola University Chicago.



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