



From the Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Along with our partners at Loyola's School of Pastoral Ministry and the Department of Theology, the Hank Center recently hosted a historic meeting with Pope Francis, *Building Brides North-South: A Synodal Encounter between Pope Francis and University Students*. We are still unpacking all that transpired in the almost two-hour meeting (it was supposed to be 75 minutes, but Pope Francis kept on going!)—and there are so many fruits to reflect upon, celebrate, and of course, challenge our complacency. The well-prepared students from our seven regional groups in the Americas, north and south, were just superb; and Pope Francis was fully engaged in dialogue with them—in listening, reflecting, and then in sharing a good word—person to person.

Among the many successes to celebrate here—from a massive global participation and media recognition to building out a synodal vision with a university as parish model in mind—one image returns time and again to my mind's eye: the image of Pope Francis taking notes on insights given by a student in her dorm room half a world away. Sure, like so many, I am “Zoomed out”—and I have learned more deeply these last two years how proximity is always best—but, by the same token, I could not imagine a papal encounter such as this when I was growing up and it really worked.

And so profound gratitude to the many hands that made this complicated logistical event one to remember. High marks to Jeremy Langford and his crackerjack staff in University Marketing and Communications, to Nick Liberatore and our Digital Media Services team, to Paolo Colonetti and our Vatican interpreter corps, and to our Campus Minister, Dr. Lisa Reiter and her team, who led the on-campus reception and watch party festivities. We really had it hitting on all cylinders and it was a good day for Loyola University Chicago. It was also a great experience for students, the Church, and the world, I daresay—in some small, needed way as we continue to move through difficult days together.

And so we walk together in faith and our important work continues this week as we turn our attention to Loyola's most important and urgent conference: The School of Environmental Sustainability's sixth annual Climate Change Conference. This year the focus is on the intersection of climate change, human health, and justice—and it's [not too late to register for this week's sessions](#). The Hank Center is honored to have collaborated on CCC with SES since its inception; and we are proud to be on decks again this year with our session, *Unequal Impact: Environmental Racism and Faith Based Resources in Restorative Justice*. Climate change and the need for Restorative Justice are deeply connected. From workers' rights, to land use, to pollutant loads in neighborhoods, people of color and the poor are exposed to far greater environmental health hazards than others. Our excellent panel will speak on these matters, and, as always, we invite you to join the conversation. Please register below.

Continued prayers for a healthy, prayerful Lenten season, and,

Warmest Regards,

Dr. Michael P. Murphy

Hank Center Highlights

Student Perspectives on Building Bridges North-South



Prior to the historic encounter between Pope Francis and university students, several members of the Loyola Community shared a welcome message featuring their hopes and dreams for the future.

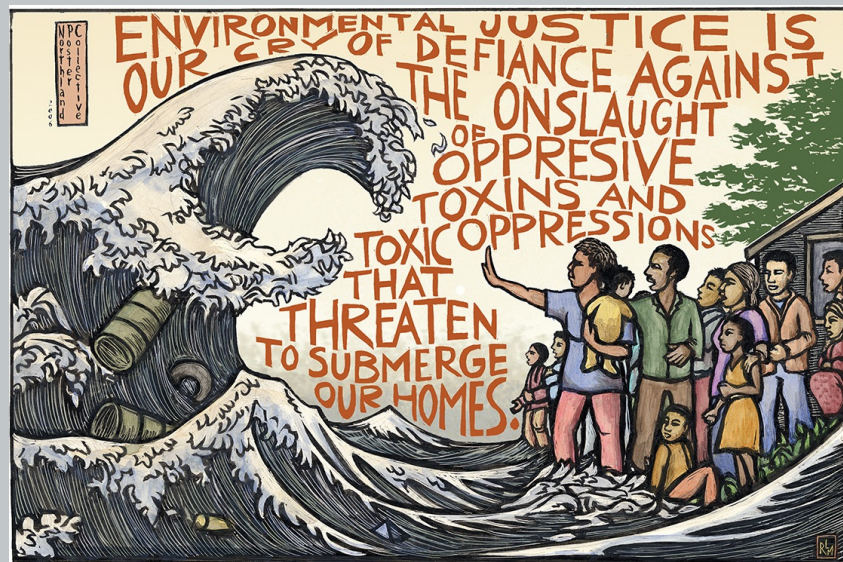
Father Stu Screening at Loyola With Mark Wahlberg



On March 3, 2022 the

March 16, 2022

Unequal Impact: Environmental Racism and Faith Based Resources in Restorative Justice



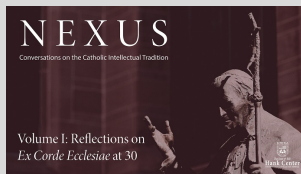
Climate change and Restorative Justice are deeply connected. From workers' rights, to land use, to pollutant loads in neighborhoods, people of color are exposed to far greater environmental health hazards than others. Join the Hank Center and special guests for a conversation on these vital topics. This is part of the School for Environmental Sustainability's Sixth Annual Climate Change Conference. We have three amazing speakers joining us for this important conversation.

Jose Aguto: Executive Director of the Catholic Climate Covenant, which animates the Church's call for us to care for God's creation and our vulnerable neighbors as integral dimensions of the Catholic faith.

Chanelle Robinson: Doctoral student in Systematic Theology at Boston College. Her scholarship explores womanist theology and theological anthropology.

Hank Center co-hosted a special premiere screening of *Father Stu* starring Mark Wahlberg here at Loyola University Chicago alongside Campus Ministry and the Office of Student Development. Mark Wahlberg himself was in attendance for some comments and introduction to this film to a full house at the Damen Cinema. *Father Stu* is based on a true, inspirational story of Father Stuart Long, a one-time amateur boxer who found his true calling in the Church.

**Nexus Journal
Interviews: Andrew
Krema**



In this video series we continue our interviews with some of the authors for our inaugural issue of *Nexus: Conversations on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition*. In this video we sat down with Andrew Krema and he shares his thoughts on what role Catholic Colleges and Universities, as well as the role Catholic educators, play in the Church.

Watch Video

**Nexus Journal
Interviews: Joe
Vukov**

Dr. Sylvia Hood Washington: is the Chief Environmental Research Scientist at Environmental Health Research Associates, LLC. A highly accomplished and successful environmental epidemiologist, environmental engineer and environmental historian and clinician with over 30 years of research experience working on the impact of industrial pollution on human health.

March 16, 2022
6:00 PM CT
Zoom Forum

This event is free and open to the public.

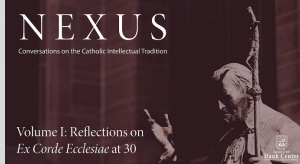
[Register Here.](#)

**Building Bridges North-South: A Synodal
Encounter between Pope Francis and
University Students**



On February 24, 2022 Loyola University Chicago, and all of us here at the Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage were honored to host Pope Francis for his historic synodal encounter with university students. If you were not able to join us for the event live, you can see a full recording of it by clicking on the video above.

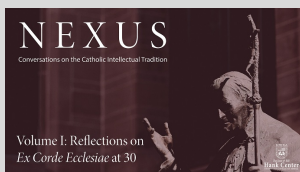
**A Student Perspective on the Synodal
Encounter with Pope Francis**



In this video series we continue our interviews with some of the authors for our inaugural issue of *Nexus: Conversations on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition*. In this video we sat down with Joe Vukov and he shares his thoughts on what role Catholic Colleges and Universities, as well as the role Catholic educators, play in the Church.

[Watch Video](#)

**Nexus Journal
Interviews: Avery
Merriel Smith**



In this video series we continue our interviews with some of the authors for our inaugural issue of *Nexus: Conversations on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition*. In this video we sat down with Avery Merriel Smith and she shares her thoughts on what role Catholic Colleges and Universities, as well as the role Catholic educators, play in the Church.

[Watch Video](#)



Aleja Sastoque Luna gives her perspective after speaking with Pope Francis:

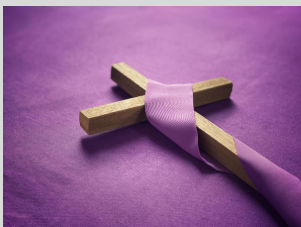
The encounter with Pope Francis was a blessing for everyone! Many students and faculty worked so hard to put together the different proposals and messages to Pope Francis. Personally, I feel grateful for Pope Francis' responses to us because he really believes that we can do so much for our world, and he wants to build bridges with us. It was wonderful seeing The Pope taking notes, listening to each student closely, and addressing us by name to have a clear and profound response to our questions. The emotion I felt when he addressed me is indescribable, but more than that was the powerful message to work together and be kind and gentle with others. Finally, I have to said that I love his motivation to be a pilgrim church instead of a static church, and it would also apply to the universities and different groups we belong to. As Pope Francis said, "Let's work together to leave a better world than the one we found when we were born."

Hank Center Fellow: Ricardo Alvarez Pimentel



Ricardo Alvarez Pimentel is a Ph.D. candidate in Modern Latin American History who is in his sixth year of study at Yale University. He received a B.A. in History from the University of Chicago (2012) and an M.A. from Yale (2017) in the same field. Ricardo's dissertation, "From Secret War to Cold War: Anti-Revolutionary Catholicism and the

Honoring the Season of Lent



Hank Center Director, Michael P. Murphy, recently spoke with Christine and Chip from WGN News Now about the 40 day adventure of Lent. The three talked about the intentionality of sacrifice and how also adding service can help create spiritual fulfillment during this time of year. You can watch the full conversation here.

[Watch Video](#)

(Un)Makings of Counterrevolutionary Mexico, 1910-1946”, traces the political and intellectual trajectory of young Catholic women in Mexico’s middle and upper classes during the Mexican Revolution and Mexico’s nascent Cold War (roughly, between 1910 and 1946). His dissertation outlines how Catholic women’s activism transitioned from “secret war” to Cold War by documenting crucial transformations in católicas’ political ideologies, their perceptions of Catholicism, and their ambitious—yet ultimately flawed—projects of moral uplift, spiritual regeneration, and national religious restoration.

Hank Center Fellow: Emily Davis



Emily Davis is a PhD Candidate in Public History/American History at Loyola University of Chicago. She received her MA in Public History from Duquesne University after attending Saint Vincent College as an undergraduate history and theology student. Emily’s dissertation “Enshrining Memory” combines her interest in American Catholicism with public history. Museums and historic sites teach visitors about a shared past and allow visitors to grapple with their experiences of that past. For Catholics, the rise of American saints in the twentieth century produced new shrine complexes that included a museum. This research examines how American Catholics understand their national and local identity through their interpretation of saints at shrines. Visitor interaction with these sites shape the shrines’ histories as well, demonstrating the fluid nature of Catholic memory.

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.

[*Packing Them In*](#) (2005)

Author: Sylvia Hood Washington. Publisher: iUniverse.

Sylvia Hood Washington's *Packing Them In: An Archaeology of Environmental Racism in Chicago, 1865-1954* provides strong and often startling evidence of the depths and complexities of environmental racism in Chicago, and offers an innovative historical explanation for how this social ill developed in nineteenth and twentieth century America. Drawing from Michel Foucault's concept of power/knowledge and from theories of racial formation, Washington also demonstrates how the process through which some European immigrant groups were reclassified from non-white to white over time, allowed them to move out of spaces where they faced environmental injustice into spaces of environmental privilege. This argument represents a significant contribution to environmental justice studies and suggests a comparative and relational ethnic studies approach to future treatments of the subject. *Packing Them In* is a path breaking book and a welcome addition to the fields of environmental history and environmental justice studies.

[*As Long As Grass Grows*](#) (2020)

Author: Dina Gilio-Whitaker. Publisher: Beacon Press.

Through the unique lens of "Indigenized environmental justice," Indigenous researcher and activist Dina Gilio-Whitaker explores the fraught history of treaty violations, struggles for food and water security, and protection of sacred sites, while highlighting the important leadership of Indigenous women in this centuries-long struggle. *As Long As Grass Grows* gives readers an accessible history of Indigenous resistance to government and corporate incursions on their lands and offers new approaches to environmental justice activism and policy.

Throughout 2016, the Standing Rock protest put a national spotlight on Indigenous activists, but it also underscored how little Americans know about the longtime historical tensions between Native peoples and the mainstream environmental movement. Ultimately, she argues, modern environmentalists must look to the history of Indigenous resistance for wisdom and inspiration in our common fight for a just and sustainable future.

[*Climate, Catastrophe, and Faith*](#) (2021)

Author: Philip Jenkins. Publisher: Oxford University Press.

Long before the current era of man-made climate change, the world has suffered repeated, severe climate-driven shocks. These shocks have resulted in famine, disease, violence, social upheaval, and mass migration. But these shocks were also religious events. Dramatic shifts in climate have often been understood in religious terms by the people who experienced them. They were described in the language of apocalypse, millennium, and Judgment. Often, too, the eras in which these shocks occurred have been marked by far-reaching changes in the nature of religion and spirituality. Those changes have varied widely—from growing religious fervor and commitment; to the stirring of mystical and apocalyptic expectations; to waves of religious scapegoating and persecution; or the spawning of new religious movements and revivals. In many cases, such responses have had lasting impacts,

fundamentally reshaping particular religious traditions.

In *Climate, Catastrophe, and Faith* historian Philip Jenkins draws out the complex relationship between religion and climate change. He asserts that the religious movements and ideas that emerge from climate shocks often last for many decades, and even become a familiar part of the religious landscape, even though their origins in particular moments of crisis may be increasingly consigned to remote memory. By stirring conflicts and provoking persecutions that defined themselves in religious terms, changes in climate have redrawn the world's religious maps, and created the global concentrations of believers as we know them today.

This bold new argument will change the way we think about the history of religion, regardless of tradition. And it will demonstrate how our growing climate crisis will likely have a comparable religious impact across the Global South.

[*Catholic Bioethics and Social Justice*](#) (2019)

Editors: M. Therese Lysaught and Michael McCarthy. Publisher: Liturgical Press

Catholic health care is one of the key places where the church lives Catholic social teaching (CST). Yet the individualistic methodology of Catholic bioethics inherited from the manualist tradition has yet to incorporate this critical component of the Catholic moral tradition. Informed by the places where Catholic health care intersects with the diverse societal injustices embodied in the patients it encounters, this book, edited by two of our Loyola faculty and Hank Center partners, brings the lens of CST to bear on Catholic health care, illuminating a new spectrum of ethical issues and practical recommendations from social determinants of health, immigration, diversity and disparities, behavioral health, gender-questioning patients, and environmental and global health issues.

[*The Liminal Papacy of Pope Francis*](#) (2020)

Author: Massimo Faggioli. Publisher: Georgetown University Press.

An exploration of the developing pontificate of Pope Francis, this book contrasts Francis with his immediate predecessor (Benedict XVI) and John Paul II, and shows his similarities with the spirit of John XXIII, the architect of Vatican II. It also attempts to offer a few insights into the role of Jorge Mario Bergoglio as bishop of Rome in the centuries-long process of transformation of the Roman Catholic Church into an inculturated and decentralized global Catholic Church. The author's vast knowledge of the history and office of the papacy allows him to condense aspects of world history, politics, papal biographies, and the documents of Vatican II into an incisive analysis of Francis's pontificate. He notes that Francis's is a "liminal" papacy, one that gives attention to the poor, to the peripheries (especially relations between the Vatican and geographically and theologically distant areas of the Catholic communion), and to relations between the Vatican and other religions, with an emphasis on synodality and on the Church as the people of God.

[*Send Lazarus*](#) (2020)

Author: Matthew T. Eggemeier and Peter Joseph Fritz. Publisher: Fordham University Press.

Today's regnant global economic and cultural system, neoliberal capitalism, demands that life be led as a series of sacrifices to the market. *Send Lazarus's* theological critique wends its way through four neoliberal crises: environmental destruction, slum proliferation, mass incarceration, and mass deportation, all while plumbing the sacrificial and racist depths of neoliberalism.

[*Cathonomics*](#) (2022)

Author: Anthony M. Annett. Publisher: Georgetown University Press.

Inequality is skyrocketing. In a world of vast riches, millions of people live in extreme poverty, barely surviving from day to day. All over the world, the wealthy's increasing political power is biasing policy away from the public interest toward the financial interests of the rich. At the same time, many countries are facing financial fragility and diminished well-being. On top of it all, a global economy driven by fossil fuels has proven to be a collective act of self-sabotage

with the poor or the front lines.

A growing chorus of economists and politicians is demanding a new paradigm to create a global economy for the common good. In *Cathonomics*, Anthony M. Annett unites insights in economics with those from theology, philosophy, climate science, and psychology, exposing the failures of neoliberalism while offering us a new model rooted in the wisdom of Catholic social teaching and classical ethical traditions. Drawing from the work of Pope Leo XIII, Pope Francis, Thomas Aquinas, and Aristotle, Annett applies these teachings to discuss current economic challenges such as inequality, unemployment and underemployment, climate change, and the roles of business and finance.

Cathonomics is an ethical and practical guide to readers of all faiths and backgrounds seeking to create a world economy that is more prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable for all.

[*The New Creation*](#) (2010)

Author: Herbert McCabe. Publisher: Continuum.

A reissue of McCabe's study of the sacraments and what it means to live in the Church and the Church's world, *The New Creation* explores how human beings can reach real unity with one another and the world around them through the Spirit of Christ.

The New Creation engages with themes like the Word of God, the Son of God, the meaning of community and communion and the sacraments as mysteries of human unity; the place of physical healing in the redeemed world and the Old-Testament and pagan religious foundations upon which modern Christianity is built. There is a humane simplicity in McCabe's insights into all of these subjects, similar to that found in the Gospels, which provides the reader with clarity on inherently complex theological issues.

'Christ is present to us in so far as we are present to each other' as McCabe tells us and this book plainly and vividly encourages us to find the company of both.

[*Love In The Ruins*](#) (1971)

Author: Walker Percy. Publisher: Picador.

In this comic dystopian farce right out of today's headlines, the U.S. has become progressively more fragmented between left and right, black and white, as social trends of the 1960s run to their logical extremes. Society begins to come apart at the seams, and no one except More seems to notice, and no one, including him, seems particularly to care. Dr. Thomas More, a lapsed Catholic, alcoholic, and womanizer, invents a device that he names the "Ontological Lapsometer," which can diagnose and treat the harmful mental states at the root of society's slow disintegration-- a kind of a stethoscope of the human spirit. With it, he embarks on an unforgettable odyssey to cure mankind's spiritual flu. Will he be successful?

[*Naming Of The Bones*](#) (2022)

Author: John F. Deane. Publisher: Carcanet Press Ltd.

It's always a cause for celebration when we can give notice to a new book by our 2017 Teilhard Fellow, John F. Deane. The poems in *Naming of the Bones* touch on Christian values and work towards a significant faith, at the same time focusing on the wonders of an evolving cosmos. The poems delight in the things of the earth, suggesting a secular Christianity. They hope justice will overcome human greed and violence, while they assent to the seasons developing of our landscapes and the beauty and dangers of our place in creation. The sequence 'Like the Dewfall' works with the music of the French composer Olivier Messiaen and his double piano masterpiece, 'Visions de l'Amen,' a suite of seven pieces for two pianos, composed in 1943 during the Nazi Occupation of Paris. Other poems connect the 'landscape, sea-scape and sky-scape' of the Achill of Deane's formative years to the 'wonders of the Christian faith' with a sacramental awareness that is a striking feature of many of the poems.

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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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