



ANGELICVM
ROMA
PONTIFICIA UNIVERSITÀ S. TOMMASO D'AQUINO

Fr. Thomas Joseph White, O.P.
Rector Magnificus, Angelicum, Rome

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Academic Positions

- Rector Magnificus, Pontifical University of St. Thomas (Angelicum) (2021-)
- McDonald Agape Distinguished Scholar (2019-)
- Director of the Thomistic Institute, and Professor of Theology
Pontifical University of St. Thomas (Angelicum), Rome (2018-2021)
- Director of the Thomistic Institute and Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology;
Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D.C. (2008-2018)
- Adjunct Professor of Theology, Providence College (2006-2007)

Academic Background

- *Magister in Sacra Theologia*, Dominican Order, 2023
- Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, The Catholic University of America, 2022
- D.Phil. in Theology, Oxford University, 2002. Supervisor: Dr. Mark Edwards;
Committee: Fr. Fergus Kerr O.P. and John Saward
- S.T.L. in Theology, Dominican House of Studies, 2007, *summa cum laude*.
- M.A. in Theology (Patristic and Modern Christology), Oxford University, 1995, 1st.
- B.A. in Religious Studies, Brown University, 1993, *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa
- Phillips Academy at Andover, 1989, *magna cum laude*

Academic Responsibilities

- *Ordinarius* Member of the Pontifical Academy of St. Thomas Aquinas (2011-)
- Council Member of the Pontifical Academy of St. Thomas Aquinas (2014-)
- Council Member of the Board of the *Ecole Biblique*, Jerusalem (2018-)
- Co-Editor with Dr. Matthew Levering of the theological journal, *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition (2015-)
- Co-Editor with Dr. Matthew Levering of the book series *Thomistic Ressourcement*, The Catholic University of America Press, (2009-)
- Co-Editor with Dr. C.C. Pecknold of the book series *Sacra Doctrina*, The Catholic University of America Press (2014-)

- Associate Editor, *The Thomist*, (2011-); (Book Review Editor, 2008-2010)
- Editorial Board Member, *International Journal of Systematic Theology* (2016-2021)
- Board Member of the *Academy of Catholic Theology* (2011-2016; 2017-2019)
<http://academyofcatholictheology.org/>
- Member, American Academy of Catholic Scholars & Artists (2023-)

Invited Presidencies or Lectureships

- Honorary President of the Academy of Catholic Theology, 2023
<http://academyofcatholictheology.org/>
- 2023 Birks Lectures at McGill University
<https://www.mcgill.ca/religiousstudies/events-0>
- 2024 Etienne Gilson Lecture, Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, Toronto
<https://pims.ca/article/the-etienne-gilson-lecture/>

Ecclesial Background

- Order of Preachers (Dominicans), solemn profession, May 17, 2007
- Diaconal ordination, September 15, 2007
- Priestly ordination, May 23, 2008
- Member of Provincial Council, Dominican Province of St. Joseph (2010-2014)
- Member of Provincial Intellectual Life Commission, Province of St. Joseph (2014-18)

Areas of expertise, interest and research

Thomistic metaphysics and theology, Modern systematic theology, Christology and Trinitarian theology

Languages

Fluent in English and French; Proficient in Italian and Latin; Reading knowledge of Spanish and German

Publications:

Authored Books

- *Wisdom in the Face of Modernity: A Study in Thomistic Natural Theology*, (First edition: Naples, FL: Sapientia Press, 2009); Second expanded edition: (Naples, FL: Sapientia Press, 2016).
- *The Incarnate Lord: A Study in Thomistic Christology* (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2015).
2016 Catholic Press Association Book Award, first place in the category of theology.
2019 Translation into French, Lethielleux Press, Paris.
2020 Translation to Spanish, Ediciones Cor Iesu, Toledo.
- *Exodus. A Theological Commentary* (Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2016).
- *The Light of Christ: An Introduction to Catholicism* (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2017).
2017 Charles Cardinal Journet Prize from the Aquinas Center for Theological Renewal.
Translation into Polish, W. Drodze Press, Poznan.

Translation into Romanian, Galaxia Gutenberg Press, Florilor.

Translation to Spanish, Turkish, and Mandarin in process.

- *The Trinity: On the Nature and Mystery of the One God* (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2022).
Review by Rowan Williams: <https://www.firstthings.com/article/2022/10/the-being-of-god>
Catholic Media Book Awards, 2022, First Place, Theology-Theological and Philosophical Studies
- *Principles of Catholic Theology. Book 1: On the Nature of Theology*, (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2023).
- *Principles of Catholic Theology. Book 2: On the Credibility of Christianity*, (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2023).
- *Principles of Catholic Theology. Book 3: God, Trinity, Creation, and Christ*, (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2024).
- *Principles of Catholic Theology. Book 4: The Church, Mariology, Nature and Grace*, (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2024).
- *Contemplation and the Cross: An Catholic Introduction to the Spiritual Life* (in process).
- *On the Presence of God: Theological Studies* (in process).

Edited Books

- *Divine Impassibility and the Mystery of Human Suffering* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Press, 2009), co-edited with Dr. Jim Keating.
- *The Analogy of Being: Invention of the Anti-Christ, or Wisdom of God?* (Grand Rapids, Eerdmans Press, 2010). Forward by Archbishop Augustine DiNoia, O.P., Secretary for the Congregation for Divine Worship.
- *Aquinas and Barth: An Unofficial Ecumenical Dialogue* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Press, 2013), co-edited with Bruce L. McCormack.
- *Thomism and Predestination: Principles and Disputations* (Naples, FL: Sapientia Press, 2016), co-edited with Steve Long and Roger Nutt.
- *Dogma and Ecumenism: Vatican II and Karl Barth's Ad Limina Apostolorum* (Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of American Press, 2020), co-edited with Matthew Levering and Bruce L. McCormack.
- *The New Cambridge Companion to Aquinas*, second edition, co-edited with Eleonore Stump, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022).

Scholarly Articles Published Under Review

- “The Voluntary Action of the Earthly Christ and Necessity of the Beatific Vision,” *The Thomist*, 69, (October 2005): 497-534.
- “Balthasar and Journet on the Universal Possibility of Salvation,” *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 4, No. 3 (2006): 633–666.
- “Jesus’ Cry on the Cross and His Beatific Vision,” *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 5, No. 3 (2007): 555–582.
- “On the Universal Possibility of Salvation,” *Pro Ecclesia*, Vol. XVII (2008): 269-280.
- “Dyotheletism and the Consciousness of Christ,” *Pro Ecclesia*, Vol. XVII, (2008): 396-422.

- “The Precarity of Wisdom: Modern Dominican Theology, Perspectivalism and the Tasks of Reconstruction,” *Listening Journal of Religion and Culture*, Vol. 43, No. 3 (2008): 167-85.
- “Intra-Divine Obedience in Karl Barth and Nicene-Chalcedonian Christology,” *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 6, No. 2 (2008): 377–402.
- “How Barth Got Aquinas Wrong: A Reply to Archie J. Spencer on Causality and Christocentrism,” *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 7, No. 1 (2009): 241–70.
- “The Pure Nature of Christology: Human Nature and *Gaudium et Spes* 22,” *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 8, No. 2 (2010): 283-322.
- “The Priesthood Makes the Church: Ecclesial Communion and the Power of the Keys,” *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 9, No. 1 (2011): 209-36.
- “Classical Christology after Schleiermacher and Barth: A Thomist Perspective,” *Pro Ecclesia* vol. XX (2011): 229-263.
- “On Christian Philosophy and Divine Obedience: A Response to Keith L. Johnson,” *Pro Ecclesia*, vol. XX (2011): 283-89.
- “Kenoticism and the Divinity of Christ Crucified,” *The Thomist*, 75 (2011): 1-41.
- “Toward a Post-Secular, Post-Conciliar Thomistic Philosophy: *Wisdom in the Face of Modernity* and the Challenge of Contemporary Natural Theology” *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 10, no. 2 (2012): 521-30.
- “Engaging the Thomistic Tradition and Contemporary Culture Simultaneously: A Response to Burrell, Healy and Schindler” *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 10, no. 2 (2012): 605-623.
- “Good Extrinsicism: Matthias Scheeben and the Ideal Paradigm of Nature-Grace Orthodoxy,” *Nova et Vetera*, English Ed. Vol. 11, no. 2 (2013): 537-63.
- “The Virgin Mary and the Church: The Marian Exemplarity of Ecclesial Faith,” *Nova et Vetera*, Vol. 11, no. 2 (2013): 375-406.
- “Thomism after Vatican II,” *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 12, no. 4 (2014): 1045-61.
- “Imperfect Happiness and the Final End of Man: Thomas Aquinas and the Paradigm of Nature-Grace Orthodoxy,” *The Thomist*, 78, 2, April, 2014: 247-89.
- “The Universal Mediation of Christ and Non-Christian Religions,” *Nova et Vetera* Vol. 14, no. 1 (2016): 177-98.
- “Divine Simplicity and the Holy Trinity,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology*, Vol. 18, no. 1 (2016): 66-93.
- “The Right to Religious Freedom: Thomistic Principles of Nature and Grace,” *Nova et Vetera*, Vol. 13, no. 4 (2015): 1149-85.
- “Nicene Orthodoxy and Trinitarian Simplicity,” *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 90 (4):727-750 (2016).
- “The Infused Science of Christ,” *Nova et Vetera*, Vol. 16, no. 2 (2018): 617-41.
- “Why Catholic Theology Needs Metaphysics: A Christological Perspective,” *Teologia w Polsce* 13,2 (2019): 41–62.
- “The Analogy of Faith in Catholic Theology,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology*, vol. 22, n. 4 (2020): 512-37.

- “The Two Natures of Christ in the Crucifixion: The Cross as a Revelation of Divine Love,” *Angelicum* 98, 1 (2021): 121-51.
- “Divine Simplicity,” St. Andrew’s Theological Encyclopedia online (2023).
<https://www.saet.ac.uk/Christianity/DivineSimplicity>

Scholarly Articles in Edited Volumes

- “The Precarity of Wisdom: Modern Dominican Theology, Perspectivalism and the Tasks of Reconstruction,” forthcoming in a *Ressourcement Thomism: Sacred Doctrine, the Sacraments and the Moral Life*, edited by Matthew Levering, and Reinhard Hütter (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2009), pp. 92-122.
- “Introduction: Divine Impassibility in Contemporary Theology,” with Dr. James F. Keating, in *Divine Impassibility and the Mystery of Human Suffering*, edited by James F. Keating and Thomas Joseph White, O.P. (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009), pp. 1-26.
- “Introduction: The *Analogia Entis* Controversy and its Contemporary Significance,” in *The Analogy of Being: Invention of the Anti-Christ, or Wisdom of God?*, edited by Thomas Joseph White, O.P., Eerdmans Press (forthcoming, 2010).
- “Through Him All Things Were Made” (John 1:3). The Analogy of the Word Incarnate according to St. Thomas Aquinas and its Ontological Presuppositions,” in *The Analogy of Being: Invention of the Anti-Christ, or Wisdom of God?*, edited by Thomas Joseph White, O.P., Eerdmans Press, 2010), pp. 246-79.
- “The Enduring Significance of the Dominican Doctrine of Grace: The Case of Obediential Potency,” in *Dominicans and the Challenge of Thomism* ("Biblioteka Instytutu Tomistycznego - Teksty i Studia" 3), Warszawa: Instytut Tomistyczny, 2011.
- “Monotheistic Rationality and Divine Names: Why Aquinas’ Analogy Theory Transcends both Theoretical Agnosticism and Conceptual Anthropomorphism,” in *God*, edited by Anselm Ramelow, O.P., *Philosophia Verlag*, Basic Philosophical Concepts Series, 2014.
- “Sacraments and Philosophy,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Sacramental Theology*, edited by Hans Boersma and Matthew Levering (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015).
- “The Reception of *Gaudium et Spes* in the 21st Century: The Church in the (Post-) Modern World,” in *The Reception of Vatican II in the 21st Century* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016), edited by Matthew Lamb and Matthew Levering.
- “Catholic Predestination,” in *Thomism and Predestination: Principles and Disputations*, (Naples, FL: Sapientia Press, 2016), co-edited by Steve Long, Roger Nutt and Thomas Joseph White.
- “Creation as Inclusive Hierarchy,” in *Dio creatore e la creazione come casa commune; Prospettive Tomiste; Doctor Communis*, ed. by S. T. Bonino and G. Mazzotta (Rome: Urbaniana University Press, 2017): 177-99.
- “The Holy Spirit,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Catholic Theology*, edited by Lewis Ayres and Medi Volpe, (Oxford University Press, 2019).
- “Existence and Essence: God’s Simplicity and Trinity” in *The New Cambridge Companion to Aquinas*, ed. by E. Stump and T.J. White (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023): 57-84.

- “Divine Perfection and the Kenosis of the Son,” in *Kenosis. The Self-Emptying of Christ in Scripture & Theology*, ed. P.T. Nimmo & K. Johnson (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2022): 246-66.
- “On the Orthodox Grammar of Love: The Communication of Idioms and the Ontology of the Incarnation” in *Love Become Incarnate. Essays in Honor of Bruce D. Marshall* (Steubenville, OH: Emmaus Press, 2023): 65-80.
- “Thomistic Ressourcement” in *The New Cambridge Companion to Christian Doctrine*, ed. by M. Allen (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 2023): 252-270.
- Approximately 4 essays are currently in process for other volumes.

Book reviews

- Extended book review of the ecumenical writings of Charles Morerod, O.P.: *Ecumenism and Philosophy*, and *Tradition et Unité des Chrétiens: Le Dogme Comme Condition de Possibilité de l’œcuménisme* in *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition: Vol. 6, No. 2 (2008): 473-81.
- *Preambula Fidei Thomism and the God of the Philosophers*, Ralph McInerney, (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2007), *The Thomist*, Vol. 71, No. 4: 633-37.
- *Les Anges et Les Démons. Quatorze leçons de théologie*, Serge-Thomas Bonino, O.P. (Paris: Parole et Silence, 2007), *The Thomist*.
- *The Natural Desire to See God According to St. Thomas Aquinas and His Interpreters*, Lawrence Feingold (Naples, FL: Sapientia Press, 2010), *The Thomist*.
- *Introduction to Scholastic Theology*, Ulrich G. Leinsle (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2010), *First Things* (May/June, 2011).
- *Known by Nature. Thomas Aquinas on Natural Knowledge of God*, Anna Bonta Moreland (New York: Crossroad, 2011), *Journal of Religion*, vol. 92, n. 1, Jan. 2012: 145-47.
- *Analogia Entis. On the Analogy of Being, Metaphysics and the Act of Faith*, Steve A. Long (Notre Dame, IN: Notre Dame University Press, 2011), *Review of Metaphysics* 66 (1):156-158 (2012).
- *Revelation as Testimony: A Philosophical-Theological Study*, Mats Walberg (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Press, 2014), *First Things* (Nov. 2015).

Representative Academic Presentations

In virtue of the work of the Thomistic Institute I have given approximately 10 academic presentations a year for the past 15 years. These are across a range from quite academically specialized to more introductory. Below are representative examples of a more academic import. Several others can be found in recorded form at:

<https://soundcloud.com/thomisticinstitute>

- October 31, 2008, “Chalcedonian Christology after Schleiermacher and Barth: Between History and Dogma, A Thomistic Perspective.” Guest lecture at *Duke Divinity School*, Durham, N.C.
- November 17, 2009, “The Divinity of Christ Crucified according to St. Thomas Aquinas,” Conference, “Thomism and the Renewal of Contemporary Theology,” Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.

- April 23, 2010: Invited Seminar Lectures on Nature and Grace in the Dominican Tradition, Fribourg University, Switzerland.
- July 2, 2010: “The Theology of Grace in a Secular Age: Impossible or Inescapable?,” at “Dominicans and the Challenge of Thomism,” Thomistic Institute, Warsaw, Poland, June 30-July 4, 2010.
- Dec. 3, 2010: “True and False Religion and the Common Good: The Role of *Caritas Dei* in *Caritas in Veritate*,” at the John Paul II Institute for Marriage and Family Studies, Washington D.C.
- Feb. 5, 2011: “Aquinas's Imperfect Happiness and the Ideal Paradigm of Nature-Grace Orthodoxy,” Ave Maria University, Conference on Philosophical Education in Theology, in honor of Ralph McInerney.
- Feb. 16, 2011: “Redeemable Suffering? St. Thomas Aquinas on the Meaning of Human Suffering and the Passion of Christ,” Merton Lecture Series, Columbia University Chaplaincy, at the Columbia Law School.
- May 25, 2011: “The Virgin Mary and the Church: The Marian Exemplarity of Ecclesial Faith,” Academy of Catholic Theology, Washington, D.C.
- June 20, 2011: “Aquinas and Barth on the Communication of Idioms,” Princeton Theological Seminary, Conference: *Aquinas-Barth: An Unofficial Ecumenical Dialogue*.
- June 25, 2011: “Judaic-Christian Reason and the Divine Names of God,” St. Mary’s College, Newburgh, N.Y., at the conference: *Thomas Aquinas and Contemporary Philosophy*.
- Feb. 16, 2012, “Monotheistic Rationality and Divine Names: Why Aquinas’s Analogy Theory Transcends both Theoretical Agnosticism and Conceptual Anthropomorphism.” Blackfriars Hall, Oxford University
- Feb. 26-27, 2013: Lectures on Aquinas’ Philosophy and Theology, *Lumen Christi* Institute, University of Chicago.
- March 12, 2013, “Exodus 3:14: The Metaphysics of the Divine Name: A Theological and Biblical Discussion,” The Catholic University of America.
- April 20, 2013: “Sacraments and the Virtues of Religion,” Conference on the Virtues of Religion, Providence College.
- July 1, 2013: “Thomism after Vatican II,” at “Dominicans and the Renewal of Thomism,” International Conference on Thomism, PFIC, Washington, D.C.
- March 30, 2014, “Aquinas on Imperfect Happiness and the Final End of Man,” DSPT, Berkeley, CA.
- Jan. 27, 2015, “Divine Simplicity and the Holy Trinity,” Annual Aquinas Lecture, Blackfriars, Oxford University.
- Feb. 2, 2015, Annual Aquinas Lecture, Priory Institute, Dublin, Ireland
- July 31, 2015, Lectures in Divine Simplicity, Templeton Seminar, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN
- Dec. 3, 2015, Duke Divinity School: Lecture and Discussion on Aquinas on the Incarnation
- Dec. 15-20, Presentation at John Templeton Foundation grant “Virtue, happiness, and the Meaning of Life,” organized by Candace Vogler and Jennifer Frey, Columbia, South Carolina.

- March 2016: “Aquinas on the Incarnation,” Harvard University.
- June 2016: 6th Annual Newburgh Aquinas Philosophy Workshop, “Thomistic Principles for thinking about the Right to Religious Freedom.”
- June, 2016: Chicago, Illinois, Presentation on “Aquinas and Nietzsche on Truth,” John Templeton Foundation grant “Virtue, happiness, and the Meaning of Life.”
- June, 2016: “Aquinas and Nietzsche on Truth.” Paris, France, Irish College, “Aquinas and Modern Philosophers” Conference organized by Fran O’Rourke, on
- July, 2016 “Infused Science of Christ,” at Third International Conference on Thomistic Philosophy at Universidad Santo Tomás, Chile, July 19-21 of 2016.
- July 26, 2016: “Infused Science of Christ,” at a workshop at the Dominican School of Theology, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Sept. 10, 2016: “Happiness without Religion?,” New York University Catholic Center.
- Oct., 2016, “Reasonable Redemption? Aquinas on the Ethics of the Atonement,” Brown University.
- Nov., 2016, “Aquinas and Nietzsche on Christianity and Happiness,” Yale University.
- March 2017, “What is Beauty? Aquinas on the Nature of Beauty,” Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- December, 2017, “After-Christ: Understanding Nietzsche’s Post-Modern Critique of Christianity,” Harvard University.
- Dec. 11, 2018, “Ecclesiology and Sacrament of Confession in Thomistic Perspective,” at the Thomas Institut, Utrecht, Netherlands.
- Sept. 13-14, 2019, presentation at conference on “New Trinitarian Ontologies,” Cambridge University.

Organization and Direction of Academic Events

As Director of the Thomistic Institutes in Washington D.C. and subsequently in Rome, I have organized approximately 350 academic events (conferences or lectures) in the past 15 years.

- Thomistic Circles events at the Dominican House of Studies, 2009-2018.
- Thomistic Circles events at the Catholic Center, New York University, 2012-2018.
- Co-founder with Fr. Dominic Legge, O.P. of the Campus Chapters of the Thomistic Institute, (2015-) <https://thomisticinstitute.org/campus-chapters/>
- Organizer of Annual “Aquinas Philosophy Workshop,” Mount St. Mary’s College, Newburgh, NY, 2009-2018.
http://www.msmc.edu/News/inaugural_philosophy_workshop_at_mount_saint_mary_.be
- Director of events at the Thomistic Institute at the Angelicum in Rome, 2018-2021.
<https://angelicum.it/thomistic-institute/thomistic-events/>

Representative Interviews

- <https://www.bigquestionsonline.com/2017/07/20/human-person-naturally-religious/>
- <https://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2017/08/catholicism-in-the-modern-world>

- <http://www.catholicworldreport.com/2017/10/03/we-cannot-love-what-do-not-know-an-interview-with-fr-thomas-joseph-white-o-p/>