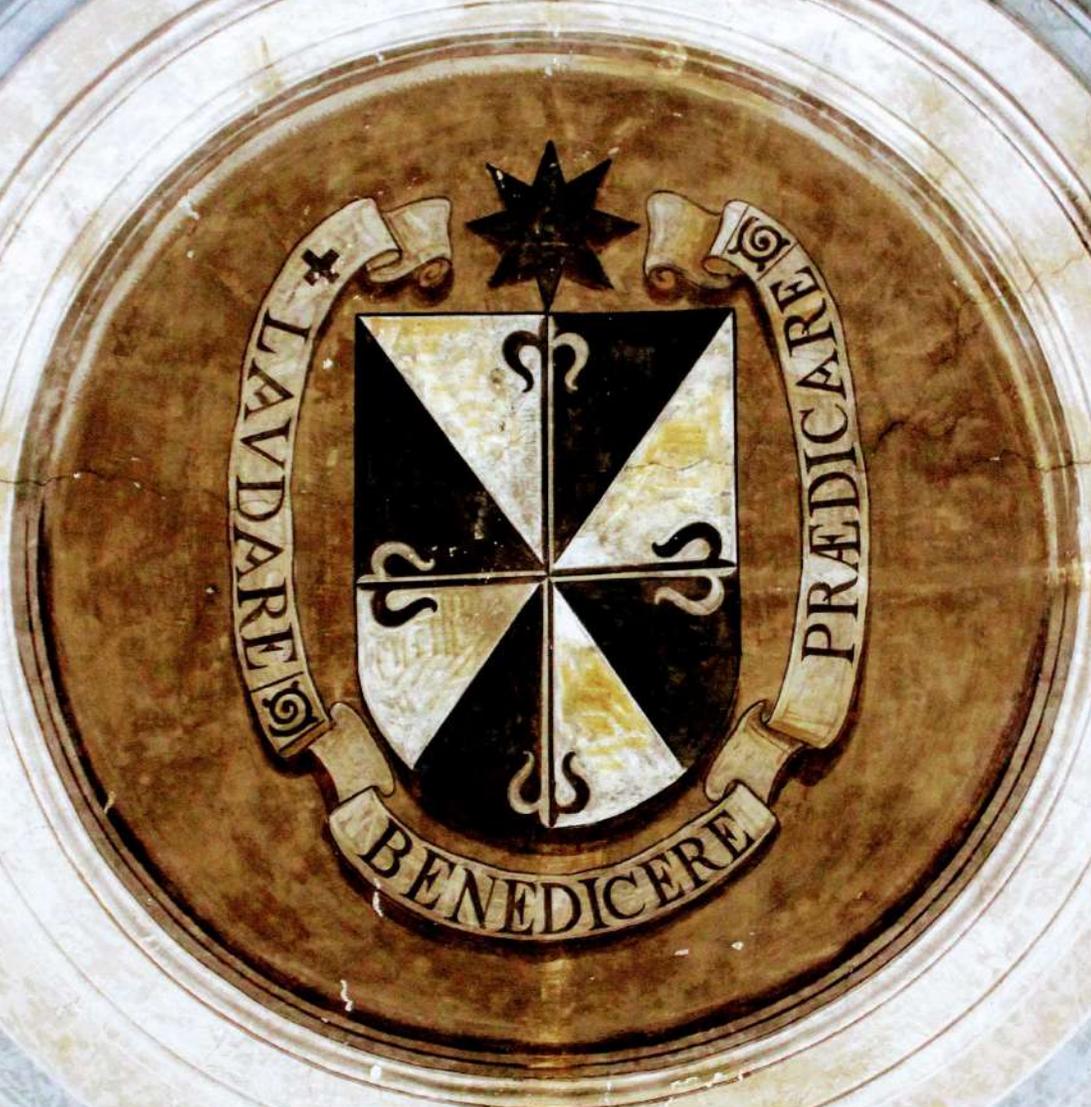


THE ANGELICUM

The Pontifical University of
St. Thomas Aquinas
Winter 2021



Ever Ancient
Ever New



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Publisher:

Fr. Benedict Croell, O.P.

Co-Editors:

Mrs. Carmen Luisa Coya-van Duijn, O.P.
Sr. Mary Angela Woelkers, SCTJM

Editorial team:

Mrs. Marta Neri
Ms. Lucy Taeuber

Graphic Design and Layout:

Mr. Kaloyan Kanchev

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“Late have I loved you, O Beauty ever ancient, ever
new, late have I loved you!”

-Book 10, Confessions of St. Augustine

Cover: Angelicum main entrance, shield of the Dominican
Order (16th c.)

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Left: Choir chapel of the Angelicum

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Ever Ancient, Ever New



Fr. Benedict Croell, O.P.

Greetings from Rome! Each night I am part of a small group of friars who walk our university cloister while praying the Rosary for the Church, our university, all our friends, and those suffering from the pandemic. We finish the Rosary at 9PM, when the last bells of St. Mary Major are heard throughout the Eternal City. They remind us that the Mother of God is with us, protecting us and praying for us. It is something from which we should take tremendous consolation. "How truly precious is the gift of Faith! St. Augustine captures our prayer to God: "Late have I loved Thee, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new."

Isn't it true that our lives are taken up into this ancient story of salvation and the Church? Rome is truly a city where one century is absorbed into the next, going all the way back to the time before Jesus Christ. The neighborhood where we live is called Rione Monti (the Mountain District) where Julius Caesar grew up. The Angelicum sits on the highest point of the Quirinale - one of the seven hills of Rome. Our actual location is called Mount Magnanapoli, upon which our university church of Saints Sixtus and Dominic was built 451 years ago - directly over an ancient 10th century church.

In this issue we bring hope and consolation because the worldwide mission of the Church is being realized. Our university is charged with passing on what is ancient in

an ever new way for modern times. In this way, we continue to prepare our students to fulfill this mission. We hear a story of hope from Dan Ebert, Denmark's only native-born seminarian, as he prepares for full time ministry in the mission territory of Scandinavia. We also hear from Joan Lewis about her tremendous evangelical work in the Vatican for EWTN as a journalist and Dr. Edward Sri, who co-founded the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS). It is truly remarkable how our university was able to prepare them as Catholic leaders in the Church.

We are grateful to God for all He has accomplished and we are happy to share this issue with you and invite you again to join us in this Mission. We entrust each of you to the powerful intercession of Our Lady during these challenging times. Particularly now, with so much division and suffering throughout the world, we ask the Blessed Mother to cover all of us with her mantle. In particular, we pray for peace and unity in the USA.

Our needs are so tremendously large, but we try to take small successive steps. I invite you to go to ANGELICUM.it/GIVE to see how you can help us. Thank you most especially for your prayers! Post-pandemic, we hope you will plan to come visit us for our next Angelicum Donor Homecoming - date TBA.

**Yours in Christ,
Fr. Benedict Croell, O.P.**



Photo by Steve Trank ©2019

Sr. Maria Silva, O.P.

New Director of Administration

Sister Maria is a Dominican Sister of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist from Ann Arbor, Michigan. Sister was born and raised in the Bronx, New York and prior to entering the convent was the Chief Financial Officer of three car dealerships in New York. She entered the Order in 2007 and made perpetual vows in 2015. Before coming to Rome, Sr. Maria worked as the Director of Catholic Identity at Presentation School in Sacramento, California. She also worked in the Mission Advancement Office for her community, helping to raise funds for their newly constructed priory in Georgetown, Texas. Arriving in Rome two years ago, she began working for the North American College as their librarian. This year she was appointed Director of Administration for the Angelicum by the Master of the Order, Fr. Gerard Timoner, O.P.



"Under Divine Providence the Lord can use our past to sanctify the future." -Sr. Maria Silva, O.P.

Sr. Maria is thrilled to be a part of the Angelicum family and to use the gift of her experience from the secular world to build up the Body of Christ. Welcome Sr. Maria, from your entire Angelicum family!

Rev. Franciszek Longchamps de Bériér

Visiting professor for the Saint John Paul II Institute of Culture

A priest of the Archdiocese of Warsaw, Father Longchamps de Bériér studied Law at Georgetown University (Washington, D.C.) and then the University of Warsaw. Currently he is head of the Department of Roman Law on the Faculty of Law and Administration of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków. He also teaches in the Faculty of Law and Administration of the University of Warsaw. An expert in Bioethics for the Polish Episcopal Conference, he has been elected to the Committee of Legal Sciences for the Polish Academy of Sciences (for the fourth time), and to the Joint Managerial Committee of China – European Union School of Law at the China University of Political Science and Law in Beijing.

His research is focused on the areas of Roman and civil law, legal history, European legal tradition, law of succession, methodology of private law, freedom of speech, and freedom of religion in US law. Fr. Longchamps de Bériér will be teaching *Anthropology and Law: Thinking with John Paul II* in the Spring 2021 semester.



Photo by Teologia Polityczna

Land of the Danes to Rome

Daniel Steiner Ebert, S.T.B. cand. '21
Diocese of København (Copenhagen)

The Diocese of Copenhagen is small in size and population, but is strong in the gift of faith. Daniel Steiner Ebert shared with us about himself, his country, and his experience studying at the Angelicum.

My name is Daniel Steiner Ebert. I am 31 years old, and am in my last year of studies for the bachelors in Theology. I have come to the Angelicum from my home country, the Kingdom of Denmark, where I was born and raised. At this moment I am the only Dane studying for the priesthood for the diocese of København (Copenhagen) which encompasses the entire country. We do have a few missionaries in priestly formation as well from Italy, Spain, Poland, and Croatia.

When I was sixteen, I had a very powerful experience of Christ, and from that moment on I knew I had to give Him my entire life. At that moment, I did not know it would mean becoming a priest, which I only understood after a few years of discernment. Eventually I accepted my vocation and so did the bishop, and so I was sent to seminary in 2015. Since we do not have a seminary of our own, the Danish seminarians (when there are some) go to the English seminaries, mainly the Venerable English college in Rome, and to the Angelicum for their academic formation.

Being the only Danish seminarian is not always easy. Unfortunately, many Danes still hold on to a negative view of the Catholic Church due to a biased Lutheran history. I know that everything I experience and see

here in Rome and at the Angelicum will not be present at home, since Denmark is a Lutheran country.

What gives me hope to go back to what seems like an impossible mission, is Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

With the Blessed Sacrament, and through the Blessed Sacrament, I am sure Denmark will be reconverted, and come back to its first love, Jesus Christ within the Catholic Faith, which our kingdom served and loved until the sad Reformation in the 1500's.

My experience at the Angelicum has been excellent, and I do believe that I will take much of what I have learned in my time of studies back to Denmark, and use it for the mission and to bring many souls back to Christ. Even though the situation seems hopeless to many - very few Catholics, constant financial challenges, few local vocations to the diocesan priesthood, and so on - I stand firm in my faith with Jesus Christ in my heart, a rosary in hand and the *Summa Theologiae* in my mind. It's not a bad combination, one that I can thank the Angelicum for, and with which I look forward to embracing the mission of the priesthood in the land of the Danes.

God willing, Daniel will be ordained to the diaconate this summer.



A conversation with **Joan Lewis**



EWTN interview overlooking St. Peter's Square

Joan Lewis, an Angelicum alumna of the school of Canon Law, was a founding member of the Vatican Information Service (VIS) in 1990, and the first Rome Bureau Chief of EWTN from 2005 to 2016. She continues to evangelize through TV, Radio and her blog.

Joan can you share with us how you came to Rome?

In 1990 I was asked to work for the Vatican Information Service, set up by Pope John Paul II as a new multi-language news service. When I started working as the English editor, I realized I needed a more varied background and knowledge of the Church. I went to the Angelicum, in part because one of my good friends, Fr. Joseph Fox, O.P., was teaching in the school of Canon Law. He gave me some good advice, “Joan, if there’s anything that is going to get you through your work in the Vatican, it will be a good knowledge of Canon Law.” And he was so right! In Vatican news there would frequently be references from Canon Law. In those early days, there was no internet, but whatever had to do with the life of the Church, it was all there in the Code of Canon Law. When I first came to the Angelicum, what struck me was the similarity with my experience when I studied at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland. It included meeting students from all over the world and learning about different cultures.

So your studies at the Angelicum prepared you for your work in the Vatican?

Yes. There I was in Rome, this international and Eternal City. I was studying alongside priests, sisters and laity from all over the world while I was preparing for work in the Vatican. I was surrounded by so many wonderful people from every culture. They were days of wonderful friendships and learning, experiences that will remain forever in my heart. When I started working for EWTN, I had the pleasure of meeting Mother Angelica on the day I signed my contract.

Joan, over the years have you seen an evolution in the way the Vatican operates?

Absolutely; your readers may not know this, but I have been in Rome for 4 decades! When the world wide web was just beginning, I wrote an article entitled, “I consider myself an electronic Apostle.” I believe I still have the same mission, and if the Apostles had the internet available, I am certain they would have used it as well. The Church is ever ancient and ever new. The teachings of Christ are always relevant but the ways they are communicated change. We do have to avail ourselves to new things, and I love to learn. Whatever is on the horizon for tomorrow, I will be there.

Read more at Joan’s Rome blog:
<https://joansrome.wordpress.com>



EWTN

Vatican

EDWARD SRI

STD '2001

BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWAL OF YOUR MIND. (ROM 12:12)

Dr. Edward Sri is perhaps best known for his work as one of the co-founders of FOCUS (The Fellowship of Catholic University Students), an organization established for evangelization on university campuses throughout the United States and around the world. He is also a theologian, popular speaker and author, as well as a visiting professor at the Augustine Institute in the Archdiocese of Denver, Colorado (USA). However, before he began these apostolic endeavors, Edward Sri was a student at the Angelicum. He recently shared with us about his time in Rome and its significance for his life.

How did the Angelicum prepare you for FOCUS and your work with the Augustine Institute?

Well, I am so grateful for my time at the Angelicum. I still have friendships from my time in Rome. As a young layman, I met people from all over the world, and it gave me a broad sense of the universal Church. I am grateful, in particular, for friends who have become true colleagues working in the Lord's vineyard together, whether it's in research, writing, the world of philosophy & theology, or just serving the Church in evangelization and catechesis. These friendships have enriched my life as a whole.

I always leaned toward Aquinas as the common doctor of the Church (as one should!), but to come to the Angelicum - where in so many of my classes, I had to read his writings - was a tremendous blessing. I had a class on the virtues, for example, with Fr. Basil Cole, O.P., and this inspired me to go back and read

Aquinas himself on this topic, which was a great gift. St. Thomas' writings on the virtues have shaped my life and so much of my teaching and writing. As a Theology professor, they were particularly helpful to present the Christian life in the context of virtuous friendship and the pursuit of happiness. Aquinas' wise insights into human nature helped students see Christian morality not as a bunch of rules but as "the art of living."

So you are a fan of Aquinas! What about John Paul II, our most distinguished alumnus?

Aquinas and JP II are two of my biggest heroes. I think the world needs this deeper Thomistic anthropology; the younger generation especially need this. There is a lot of excitement and enthusiasm for Jesus, Adoration and Our Lady. This is all really wonderful, but enthusiasm can only carry them so far. If their spiritual and moral life is not really

grounded in a solid anthropology - which Aquinas gives - it won't last, it won't take root for the long haul. We want people not just on fire for the faith when they're young, zealous college students; we want them to live lifelong discipleship and to be missionary disciples. That involves a conversion of the mind. Saint Paul says in Romans 12, "Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind." St. Paul is writing to Christians living in the midst of a pagan culture. If young people in the midst of our secular world today are going to be faithful in following Christ, the key will be having a renewal of mind, and St. Thomas gives us that key to interpret reality. That's why bringing more Thomistic anthropology and ethics has been one of the biggest projects of formation within FOCUS in recent years. Aquinas has always been important for my formation. But I don't think I would have been as deeply immersed in Aquinas if I had not come to the Angelicum and

been immersed in the wonderful tradition of the Dominicans. JP II also has been so important for my life and teaching, especially in the way he was able to take the wisdom of Aquinas and connect it to the average person's experience.

Most of all, the classes I took with Fr. Paul Murray, O.P. in Spiritual Theology changed my life. I came to the Angelicum with a desire to bring the worlds of Biblical scholarship and dogmatic theology closer together today. But in my time there, I also gained a deeper love for Catholic Spiritual Theology, especially within the Dominican tradition. And this has been a tremendous gift to me personally. St. Catherine of Siena, for example, has become one of my closest friends in my spiritual life. People who take my classes or read my books would probably encounter some nugget of wisdom which I received from Fr. Murray.

There are many places one can go for a great formation, but the unique contribution that the Angelicum brings to the Church, and to the world, in fact, is this Thomistic approach of looking at reality. We are living between two ages, like the times of St. Augustine and St. Benedict. With the rise of secularism, the former Christian ways of life and institutions are either in significant decline or under attack. So in times of great cultural crisis, we need to make sure we are level-headed and seeing reality clearly. There are few places in the world where one can find the clear teaching of St. Thomas Aquinas. The Angelicum provides a strong Thomistic formation to prepare disciples to think clearly in these uncertain times and share the faith effectively. Enthusiasm and good intentions are not enough. Today we must be transformed by the renewal of our minds.



.....
“Aquinas’ wise insights into human nature help students see Christian morality not as a bunch of rules but as ‘the art of living.’”



MEET FR. SIMON FRANCIS GAINÉ, O.P., 2020-21 PINCKAERS CHAIR IN THEOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY AND ETHICS



My baptismal name is Simon, and my religious name is Francis, from St. Francis of Assisi. I was clothed in the Dominican habit in 1996, a member of the Order's English Province (also known as the Blackfriars), and I've come to Rome as the first holder of the Pinckaers chair in the Thomistic Institute at the Angelicum. The chair honours Fr. Servais Pinckaers, one of the great Dominican figures in moral theology in the 20th century, who was instrumental for the recovery of virtue-based ethics characterized by the search for happiness. The chair exists for understanding and research pertaining

to the human person, grounded in the theological and philosophical wisdom of St. Thomas Aquinas.

I first met the Order as a student at Oxford, when I was on my way to becoming a Catholic. I had already read about Dominicans, and I was taken by the idea of the friars' devotion to study instead of the manual labour performed by monks! I felt a pull towards serving God through both pastoral and intellectual work, and concluded that I might belong in an Order that lived them both. But I suppose I stayed in the Order because I was convinced of the surpassing value of its mission to preach the Gospel by sharing the fruit of our contemplation with others. I've published two books, *Will There Be Free*

Will in Heaven? Freedom, Impeccability and Beatitude; and Did the Saviour See the Father? Christ, Salvation and the Vision of God.

With taking up the Pinckaers chair, my research is turning more and more to what theology has to say about human beings. My latest article is on Whether Christ died for Neanderthals: Were they very different from us or were they truly human just as we are? I'm also contributing chapters to a number of projects, including one on Church teaching and evolution. But my main project is a textbook for students on theological anthropology and grace. I'm teaching both these subjects this academic year, so I'm hoping the book will write itself.

Upcoming events of the Thomistic Institute

The Thomistic Institute is hosting a major conference April 16-17 on Contemporary Nature Grace Controversies, which will be the occasion for Fr. Gainé to give his first public presentation on behalf of the Pinckaers Chair. A number of prominent academic theologians from various European settings have kindly agreed to participate. The aim of the event is to promote understanding of current debates in theology, on the nature of human origins and original sin, on the unique mediation of Christ and the Catholic theology of non-Christian religions, the question in our secular age of whether human beings are naturally religious, as well as a number of topics related to the harmony of faith and reason. The Pinckaers Chair and Fr. Simon's presence with us at the Angelicum will offer us the opportunity routinely to engage in deeper theological discussions of this kind.

The Evangelical Mission Inside and Outside the Classroom

Fr. Francesco Giordano, Professor of Dogmatic Theology

When one is anchored to certain principles, it should be normal for him or her to apply them in every single sphere of their life. This vision encapsulates the life and mission of Father Francesco Giordano, the Director of Human Life International's Rome office and Angelicum professor of Dogmatic Theology. Born in France, he lived in South Africa for some time before moving to the United States. In 2005 he arrived in Rome after completing studies at Vanderbilt University and the University of Chicago. A diocesan priest for the Diocese of Albenga - Imperia (Italy), Fr. Giordano studied at the Pontifical Universities of Holy Cross and St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum).

In 2015, Fr. Giordano began teaching at the Angelicum and his courses and seminars tackle topics through a multi-perspective approach where he expertly knits together gender issues, transhumanism, ecclesiology and apologetics. What renders them so popular among students is this multifaceted, interdisciplinary point of view which he adopts, alongside his attention to contemporary subjects that bring dogma to life in reality.

Speaking with Fr. Giordano, one is struck by the deep spirituality found behind his words. He is keenly attached and strives to uncover more deeply the concept of what it means to be human. In his inquiry into the true meaning of being human, Fr. Giordano includes not only a biological point of view but also a metaphysical and theological one. As Fr. Giordano explained; "The beauty in what I teach lies in the very fact that I put a lot of effort to find these answers outside the classrooms as well."

He is aptly linked to the Roman office of Human Life International, an American-based pro-life and family organization, whose mission is to train and organize pro-life and family movement leaders. Due to this commitment, Fr. Giordano travels in Europe as well as to the States, but has also been to Asia on several mission trips, where he participated in two HLI ASPAC (Asia Pacific) conferences, one in Bangkok, Thailand and another in Cochin, India. ASPAC's mission is to unite people from different countries and backgrounds within the pro-life context; willingly seeking to understand what it means to be human, and, by contrast, what is dehumanizing. Within the context of ASPAC, families' representatives are hosted in order that they meet, exchange their points of view and, most importantly, to create an indispensable opportunity for cultural exchange.

Fr. Giordano considers it a blessing to experience in person how, regardless of her diversity, the universal Church is present in every part of the world. He stresses that experiencing first hand this global context induces personal development, but also aids his teaching of students who have these diverse global roots. Indeed, he is fully aware of the fact that, "You can give a lot to students, if you see the big picture."

Therefore, considering his teaching content and private involvements, Fr. Giordano conveys the beauty of applying one's convictions in every single sphere of life, positively impacting and contributing to the life of others and the universal Church.



Photo Credit: Vita Umana Internazionale

DIOCESAN
PRIEST BEATIFIED:

Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney

The founder of the Knights of Columbus, Fr. Michael J. McGivney, is known throughout the world for the international fraternal order he began for working-class and immigrant Catholics, and for his holiness as a diocesan priest of the Archdiocese of Hartford. Founded on the principles of charity, unity and fraternity, the Knights of Columbus continue their work to bring financial aid and assistance to the sick, disabled and needy families. On October 31, 2020, Fr. Michael J. McGivney was beatified in the Cathedral of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Connecticut (USA).

Today Bl. McGivney is entombed in the parish church of Saint Mary's, where he served. When the young Fr. McGivney finished his assignment as assistant pastor, the church was entrusted to the pastoral care of the Dominican friars. At Fr. McGivney's funeral on August 18, 1890 the homily was delivered by the Dominican pastor of St. Mary's, Fr. Arthur Higgins, who preached a 40-minute eulogy devoted to his late friend "with great feelings," such that "many were moved to tears" in the presence of the Archbishop of Hartford and his brother diocesan priests.

Among the Angelicum's 1,000 students, a significant number are seminarians studying for the diocesan priesthood and diocesan priests in graduate studies. Among our student priests and seminarians, many are members of the Knights of Columbus, which includes both laity and clerics. But the connection between the Angelicum and this new Blessed has a deeper bond in the Dominican spirituality. When the tomb of Fr. McGivney was opened in 1982, they found that he was wearing a white Dominican scapular, showing

a special relationship he had with the Order of Preachers.

Joining the celebrations from Rome, the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas held a prayer vigil and Mass on campus in our university church, coinciding with the actual time of the official Mass of Beatification in the United States. Though not an Angelicum alumnus, we give thanks for the witness of holiness and pastoral zeal of the diocesan priest, Blessed Michael J. McGivney and the Knights of Columbus, and we ask

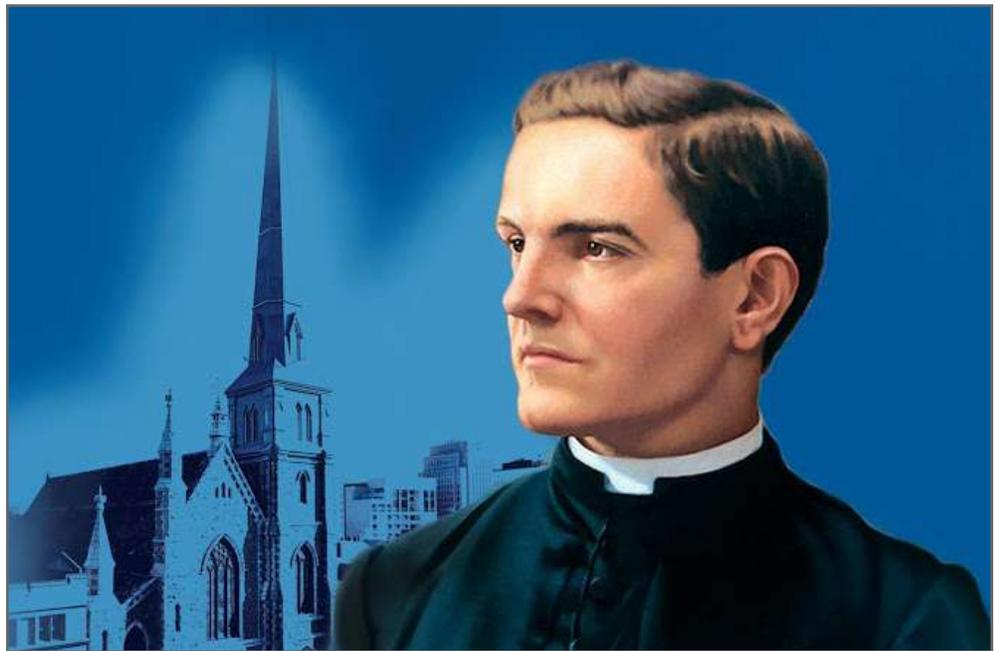


Photo from: KofC.org



Knights of Columbus®

his special intercession in particular for friends, students and alumni of the Angelicum.

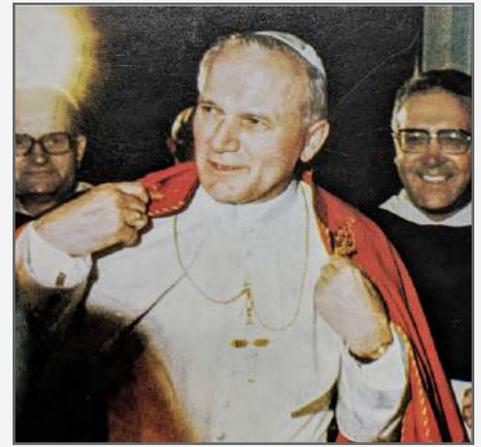
Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney:

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Bl. Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bl. Michael McGivney, pray for us!

To learn more, or to report favors received through the intercession of Bl. McGivney, go to: FatherMcGivney.org

“Fr. McGivney was always a realist. He understood that one can do impossible things with God’s grace. One can be heroic in carrying out the duties of one’s state in life, provided one depends on the grace of God.” (*Parish Priest: Father Michael McGivney and American Catholicism*, by D. Brinkley and J. Fenster)



John Paul II visits his Roman alma Mater, 1979

“To all the benefactors of the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas. To all those who bring to it their help, to its students of yesterday and today, to the administration and to the professors, and to you dear master general of the dominicans and grand chancellor of the Angelicum, to all of you, with all my heart, I extend my apostolic benediction.”

Joannes Paulus II

(Vatican, Feb. 4, 1980)

Renovations continue at the Angelicum. Classrooms were renovated and fitted with new technology. For the university's convent (priory) above the university, the second floor of the fourth wing was completed and the third floor of the fourth wing is now underway, adding ten additional rooms for Friars. The projected completion date is June 2021.



The opening of the academic year also launched a new lecture series by the St. John Paul II Institute of Culture under the Angelicum's faculty of Philosophy. The conference, "Does Christianity Need Culture?" was delivered by His Eminence, Gianfranco Cardinal Ravasi, President of the Pontifical Council for Culture. The talk with English subtitles can be accessed via the Angelicum's YouTube channel (youtube.com/prpust).



The University launched a comprehensive program for COVID compliance for Fall 2020 found at the top of ANGELICUM.it

The Angelicum's Institute for Ecumenical Studies hosted a special lecture on December 3rd in honor of the 25th anniversary of Ut Unum Sint and the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity. Fr. Hyacinthe Destivelle, O.P. serves as a Vatican official for the council, and is also the director of the Angelicum Ecumenical Institute. His Eminence Kurt Cardinal Koch, the president of the Council, gave a presentation which can be accessed on the Angelicum's YouTube channel (youtube.com/prpust).

Fr. Serge-Thomas Bonino, O.P. of the Province of Toulouse (France) was named the 2020-21 Fr. Val McInnes chairholder. Normally our Angelicum Donor Homecoming takes place in May but due to the pandemic the date has yet to be announced. Post-pandemic we invite you to come visit the Angelicum anytime - contact us.



The St. John Paul II Institute of Culture will welcome during the Spring semester two guest professors, Dr. Remi Brague from the Sorbonne (Paris, France) and Dr. Renato Cristin from the University of Trieste (Italy). Follow the Institute's work at ANGELICUM.it

2021 marks the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Dominic de Guzmán, founder of the Dominican Order.

Fr. Joseph D'Amecourt, O.P. (1961-2020)

With tremendous sadness, we announce that Fr. Joseph D'Amecourt O.P. of the Province of Bordeaux (France), beloved professor, Vice Dean of Philosophy at the Angelicum, died peacefully on the Dominican feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (7 October 2020) in Bordeaux, France.

Fr. D'Amecourt was born in 1961 and entered the Order of Preachers in 2002. Ever since Fr. D'Amecourt arrived at the Angelicum, he has been a beloved professor of Philosophy. In his most recent service as the Vice Dean of Philosophy he has been well respected and ever present to all his students and colleagues. He will be remembered most fondly for his lively and vivacious courses and his presence around the campus will be sorely missed.

In his homily for the university's memorial Mass, Fr. Thomas Joseph White, O.P. shared that, "Joseph's vocational calling began when he was a teenager in France during the summer vacations, when they stayed at his grandparents' home in the countryside. After dinner each night he, his siblings and cousins, parents and grandparents, would pray the rosary together, kneeling on the wooden floor of the house. In that solemn moment of prayerful stillness, the world was made subject to the Virgin Mary. 'Pray for us now and at the hour of our death.' We have reason to believe that the Blessed Mother was faithful to that request, and remained present to Joseph in the hour of his need."



Fr. Joseph D'Amecourt, O.P.



Fr. Walter Senner, O.P.

Fr. Walter Senner, O.P. (1948-2020)

It is with great sorrow, we also share that Fr. Walter Senner, O.P., from the Province of Teutonia (Germany), died on July 3. Fr. Senner is remembered for his studies of philosophy, theology and library sciences and his work in the Pontifical Leonine Commission, established to create a critical text of the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas, the Common Doctor of the Church.

Fr. Senner joined the Dominican Order in 1968 and was ordained to the priesthood on June 29, 1974. Beyond his studies and work, he also served as the president of the Thomistic Institute and Professor of Philosophy at the Angelicum in Rome from 2006-2019. Notably, the Master of the Order and Grand Chancellor of the Angelicum, Fr. Bruno Cadoré, O.P., conferred

the highest academic honor of the Dominican Order upon Fr. Senner, the degree of Master of Sacred Theology in 2014.

Fr. Senner, a great scholar, man of wisdom, beloved by his Dominican brothers and students, humbly approached the opportunity to grow and learn. Fr. Senner was known for his generosity and great heart and remarked that the Angelicum was a "wonderful international community," remembering his time here as "a great joy and a great challenge." Anyone who had the blessing of knowing Fr. Senner would testify to the love he had for our university and all his students. Moved by this great loss we unite in prayer; may he rest in peace.

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Thank you,
Luigi Stacchi

for 37 year of service at the Angelicum!

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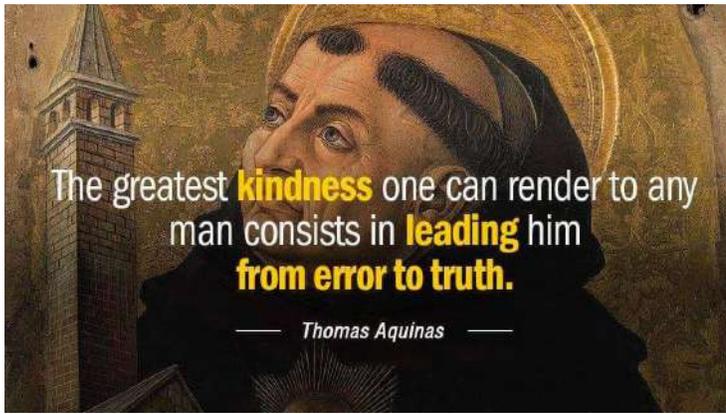
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