

**The 47th Annual Meeting of the
AMERICAN MARITAIN ASSOCIATION**

**Maritain on Democracy: Promise and Peril;
and, Commemorating the 750th Anniversary of
St. Bonaventure and St. Thomas Aquinas**



Thursday, April 11 to Saturday, April 13, 2024

Hosted by:
**Hosted by the St. Bernard's School of Theology,
Rochester, New York**

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

St. Bernard's School of Theology
Rochester, New York

Thursday, April 11, 2024

3:00 pm President's Welcome and Address
4:00 pm Opening Mass
7:00-9:00 pm Concurrent Session A
9:00 Presidents' Reception

Friday, April 12, 2024

9:00-11:00 am Concurrent Session B
11:00 am Mass
11:30 am Lunch
1:00-3:00 pm Concurrent Session C
3:15-4:15 pm Plenary I
4:15-5:15 pm Plenary II
5:15-7:30 pm Dinner
7:30-9:30 pm Concurrent Session D
9:30 pm Reception

Saturday, April 13, 2024

9:00-11:00 am Concurrent Session E
11:00 am-1:00 pm Business Meeting and Lunch
1:00-3:00 pm Concurrent Session F
3:15-4:15 pm Plenary III
4:15-5:15 pm Plenary IV
5:30 pm Closing Mass
6:30 pm Reception and Banquet

Thursday, April 11, 2024

3:00 PM: **President's Welcome and Address**
Location: Room B
Stephen Loughlin, St. Bernard's School of Theology

James Jacobs, Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans: "The Democratic Conundrum: Can the People be a Rule and Measure for Themselves?"

4:00 pm **Opening Mass**
Location: St. Bernard's Chapel
Celebrant: Rev. Christopher Cullen, SJ, Fordham University

5:00-7:00 **Dinner**
Consult the list of local restaurants in the conference folder.

----- **Concurrent Session A: 7:00-9:00 pm** -----

Session 1: Maritain and Personalist Democracy
Location: Room A
Chair: James G. Hanink, Independent Scholar

Joel Johnson, Borromeo Seminary at John Carroll University:
"Maritain and the Economic Foundations of Personalist Democracy"

Joshua Lehman, U.S. Military Academy, West Point: "A Heroic Adventure: Maritain's Personalist Vision of American Democracy"

Walter Schultz, Dominican University College, Ottawa: “Maritain’s Personalist Community as the Remedy for Tribal Hegemony and Liberal Individualism”

Session 2. Epistemology, Reason, and Nature

Location: Room C

Chair: Matthew Miner, Byzantine Catholic Seminary of St. Cyril and Methodius

Denis Scrandis, Independent Scholar: “Jacques Maritain’s Christian Ideology”

Travis Dumsday, Concordia University, Edmonton: “God as a Bird? A Scholastic Engagement with Wallace’s Christian Animism”

Session 3. Léon Bloy and Flannery O’Connor

Location: Room D

Chair: Aileen Casillas, Franciscan University

Joshua Le Huang, Franciscan University: “Flannery O’Connor’s Thomistic Aesthetics Concerning Mystery”

Miriam Shah, University of Pennsylvania: “Léon Bloy’s Influence on Jacques Maritain”

9:00 am

Reception

Location: Rotunda

Friday, April 12, 2024

----- Concurrent Session B: 9:00-11:00 am -----

Session 4: Substance and Existence

Location: Room A

Chair: Henry Wickus, John Paul II Institute at Catholic University of America

Carl Vater, Saint Vincent College: “St. Bonaventure on Divine Ideas and What is ‘Really Real’”

Michael Hall, Franciscan University: “Is There Existence Beyond the Quantifier? Extending Geach’s Frege-Aquinas Parallel”

Christopher Albrecht, Independent Scholar: “Four Senses of Substantial Nature in Aquinas, and their Relations to the Supposit”

Session 5: Democracy and America

Location: Room C

Chair: Francesca Zaccaron, Seton Hall University

William F. Murphy, St. Edmund’s Retreat and Mundelein Seminary: “Catholicism and Renewal of Constitutional Democracy: The Interwar Shift and its Relevance”

Michael Morris, University of South Florida: “Metaphysics, Industrial Civilization, and American Democracy”

Jose Freire Nunes, Catholic University of America: “A *Maritainismo* Revival: Pathways Toward a New Christendom in America’s Sociopolitical Culture”

Session 6: Bonaventure, Christ, and the Polis

Location: Room D

Chair: David C. Paternostro, SJ, St. Louis University

Christopher Cullen, SJ, Fordham University: “The Political Thought of St. Bonaventure”

Caitlin Smith Gilson, University of the Holy Cross, New Orleans: “Maritain and Aquinas: The Image and Christ in the Polis”

Francisco Plaza, Palm Beach Atlantic University: “The Quest for Autonomy in the Liberal-Democratic Conscience: A Key Theme in Yves R. Simon’s Political Philosophy”

11:00 am: Mass
Location: St. Bernard’s Chapel
Celebrant: Rev. David C. Paternostro, SJ, St. Louis University

11:30 am: Lunch
Location: Room B

----- **Concurrent Session C: 1:00-3:00 pm** -----

Session 7: Panel on The Challenge of Philosophical and Theological Pluralism: Thomas, Thomisms, and other Traditions of Thought
Location: Room A

Matthew Miner, Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Ss. Cyril and Methodius

Matthew Kuhner, St. Bernard’s School of Theology

Michael Torre, University of San Francisco

Session 8: Family, Biology & Life

Location: Room B

Chair: Michael Hall, Franciscan University

Daniel C. Wagner, Aquinas College: “The Order of Intention and Being after Parental Abandonment: A Thomistic-Augustinian Analysis”

Marco Stango, St. Bernard’s School of Theology: “Blondel before Heidegger: Aristotle’s Practical Philosophy and the Problem of the Meaning of Life”

Jordan Jones, SJ, Boston College: “Thomas Aquinas on the Heart: The Organ by which the Soul as Mover is Active on the Body”

Session 9: Elizabeth Anscombe and Yves Simon
Location: Room C
Chair: Timothy Samuel Shah, University of Dallas

Len Ferry, Niagara College: “Freedom through Authority: A Defense of Yves R. Simon”

Daniel B. Gallagher, Ralston College: “Revisiting Yves Simon’s Principles for a ‘Deficiency Theory’ of Government in the Twenty-first Century”

James G. Hanink, Independent Scholar: “Anscombe’s Voting Paradox: A Test for Democracy”

Session 10: Democracy and the Public Sphere

Location: Room D

Chair: Rebecca Shah, Independent Scholar

Kevin M. Scott, Independent Scholar: “Public Reason Theism: A New Articulation of Political Liberalism”

Michael Humpherys, Independent Scholar: “Wall Street’s Charging Bull and Dominic’s Dumb Ox: Toward Financial Realism”

Plenary I: 3:15-4:15 pm
Location: Room B
Chair: James Murdoch, Villanova University

Junius Johnson, Junius Johnson Academics: “*Ekstasis* and the Limits of Thought: Bonaventure on the Modes of Knowing.”

Plenary II: 4:15-5:15 pm
Location: Room B
Chair: Christopher Cullen, SJ, Fordham University

Timothy Noone, Catholic University of America: “Bonaventure and Aquinas: Philosophers in Dialogue”

5:15-7:30: Dinner
Consult the list of local restaurants in the conference folder.

----- Concurrent Session D: 7:30-9:30 pm -----

Session 11: Reason, Nature, and God

Location: Room A

Chair: Christopher Albrecht, Independent Scholar

Richard DeClue, Word on Fire Institute: “Ratzinger on St. Bonaventure’s Natural and Supernatural Epistemology”

Donna E. West, SUNY Cortland: “Maritain’s Protocol for Visionary Insight”

Session 12: Democracy in Dialogue

Location: Room C

Chair: Jordan Jones, SJ, Boston College

Francesca Zaccaron, Seton Hall University: “Peril or Promise? An Imaginary Dialogue with Nikolaj Berdjaev and Bernard Lonergan on Democracy”

Robertson Gramling, John Paul II Institute at Catholic University of America: “Charles Peguy and Liberal Democracies”

Herbert Hartmann, Catholic University of America: “Law as an Act of Reason in the *Summa Theologiae*”

Session 13: Integralism – Pro and Con

Location: Room D

Chair: Marco Stango, St. Bernard’s School of Theology

Grady Stuckman, Bowling Green State University: “Integralism
Contrary to the Natural Law: Disrespect of the Good of Autonomy”

Francisco E. Plaza, Holy Apostles Seminary and the University of
St. Thomas-Houston: “Maritain’s Defense of Democracy: Against
Integralist Critics”

Scott Roniger, Loyola Marymount University: “Sacred History as
Teacher: Church and State in Catholic Social Doctrine”

9:30: Reception
Location: Rotunda

Saturday, April 13, 2024

----- Concurrent Session E: 9:00-11:00 am -----

Session 14: Creation and History

Location: Room A

Chair: Daniel B. Gallagher, Ralston College

Greg Kerr, DeSales University: “Gillespie, Ockham, and
Modernity”

Caitlyn Pauly, John Paul II Institute at Catholic University of
America: “Sacrament and Theophany: Addressing Secularism with
Aquinas’s Doctrine of Creation”

Christopher Albrecht, Independent Scholar: “St. Thomas and St.
Bonaventure on the Eternity of the World: A Murmerer’s Defense of
the Seraphic Doctor”

Session 15: Ethics, Virtue, and Conscience

Location: Room C

Chair: Giuseppe Butera, Providence College

Matthew Miner, Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Ss. Cyril and
Methodius: “The Necessity of Acquired Virtue for the Political
Life: A Critique of Certain Contemporary Claims Regarding the
Relationship between Acquired and Infused Moral Virtues”

Richard Feist, St. Paul University, Ottawa: “Aquinas, Maritain, and
the Ongoing Role of Conscience in Just War Ethics”

Aileen Casillas, Franciscan University: “A Three-fold Model of
Patience”

Session 16: Integralism, Aquinas, and Ecclesiology

Location: Room D

Chair: Grady Stuckman, Bowling Green State University

Christopher M. Cullen, SJ, Fordham University: “Aquinas and Integralism: A Political Theory of Medieval Christendom”

David C. Paternostro, SJ, St. Louis University: “Divine Love and Civil Authority”

Elisha Novak, Franciscan University: “Papal Supremacy and the Episcopacy: Ecclesiology and the First Two Vatican Councils”

11:00 am-1:00 pm: **Business Meeting and Lunch**
Location: Room B

----- **Concurrent Session F: 1:00-3:00 pm** -----

Session 17: Free Will and Philosophy of Mind

Location: Room A

Chair: Giuseppe Butera, Providence College

Marie George, St. John’s University: “Philosophers of Mind Would Do Well to Keep Aquinas’s Teachings in Mind”

Henry Wickus, John Paul II Institute at Catholic University of America: “Freedom for Loving the Good: Why Bonaventure is Not a Voluntarist”

Nikolaj Zunic, St. Jerome’s University: “Freedom, Free Will, and Free Choice: Dynamic Distinctions in Search of a Unity”

Session 18: Maritain and Democracy

Location: Room C

Chair: Greg Kerr, DeSales University

Bruno M. Shah, OP, Providence College: “Unarmed Prophecy: Jacques Maritain’s Vision of Authentic Democracy”

Miriam Shah, University of Pennsylvania, and Timothy Samuel Shah, University of Dallas: “A Strangely Neglected Response by Jacques Maritain to His Critics on the Subject of Liberal Democracy: A Translation and Analysis”

Lauren Revay, Catholic University of America and the University of Notre Dame: “Reclaiming Democracy through Maritain’s Aesthetics”

Session 19: Models of Perfection

Location: Room D

Chair: Travis Dumsday, Concordia University

Sr. Anne Frances Ai Le, OP, Diocese of Fort Worth: “The Blessedness of Mourning: Aquinas as a Model for Scholars”

Heather M. Erb, Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania: “*Contemplation on the Roads*: Mid-Twentieth Century Pilgrims in a Distant Land”

Plenary III: 3:15-4:15 pm

Location: Room B

Chair: Francisco Plaza, Palm Beach Atlantic University

David J. Walsh, Catholic University of America: “The Secret of Liberal Resilience”

Plenary IV: **4:15-5:15 pm**
Location: Room B
Chair: Scott Roniger, Loyola Marymount
University

Russell Hittinger, Catholic University of America and Dominican
School of Philosophy and Theology: “Notes on Revivals of
Thomistic Political Philosophy”

5:30 pm: **Closing Mass**
Location: St. Bernard’s Chapel
Celebrant: Most Rev. Salvatore Matano,
Bishop of Rochester

6:30: **Reception and Banquet**
Location: Room B

RECENT TITLES FROM THE AMA

Restoring Ancient Beauty:
The Revival of Thomistic Theology
Edited by JAMES KEATING
978-0997220537

Facts are Stubborn Things:
Thomistic Perspectives in the Philosophies of Nature and Science
Edited by MATTHEW K. MINERD
978-0997220520

In Search of Harmony
Metaphysics and Politics
Edited by JAMES G. HANINK
978-0-997220513

The Things That Matter
Essays Inspired by the Later Work of Jacques Maritain
Edited by HEIDI GEIBEL
978-0997220503

Engaging the Times
The Witness of Thomism
Edited by JOSHUA SCHULZ
978-0-9827-1199-6

The Wisdom of Youth
Essays Inspired by the Early Work of Jacques and Raïssa Maritain
Edited by TRAVIS DUMSDAY
978-0-9827119-8-9

A Piercing Light
Beauty, Faith & Human Transcendence
Edited by JAMES M. JACOBS
978-0-9827119-7-2

Redeeming Philosophy
From Metaphysics to Aesthetics
Edited by JOHN J. CONLEY, S.J.
978-0-9827119-6-5

Human Nature, Contemplation & the Political Order
Essays Inspired by Maritain’s Scholasticism and Politics
Edited by PETER KARL KORITANSKY
978-0-09827119-5-8

PAST PRESIDENTS

Donald A. Gallagher 1977—1987
Raymond Leo Dennehy 1987—1994
Deal Hudson 1994—1997
Curtis Hancock 1997—2000
John G. Trapani, Jr. 2000—2001
Alice Ramos 2001—2004
Ralph McInerny 2004—2006
John G. Trapani, Jr. 2006—2012
Michael D. Torre 2012—2016
James Hanink 2016—2022

FOUNDERS AWARD

Daniel A. Gallagher 1987
Anthony O. Simon 2012
Raymond Leo Dennehy 2015

ANTHONY O. SIMON AWARD

John G. Trapani, Jr. 2012
Giuseppe Butera 2014
Gavin T. Colvert 2015
Michael D. Torre 2016
James Hanink 2023

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Jude P. Dougherty, 2005
Leo Elders, 2006
William Schickel, 2007
Victor B. Brezik, CSB, 2009
Ralph M. McInerny, 2010
Anthony O. Simon, 2011
James V. Schall, SJ, 2014
Joseph D. Fessio, SJ, 2015
Matthew L. Lamb, 2016

SCHOLARLY EXCELLENCE

Mortimer J. Adler, 1988
Jude P. Dougherty, 2000
Bernard E. Doering, 2001
Michael Novak, 2002
Alasdair MacIntyre, 2003
Rev. Robert Sokolowski, 2004
Edmund Pellegrino, 2005
James V. Schall, SJ, 2005
Lawrence Dewan, OP, 2006
John M. Dunaway, 2007
Joseph W. Koterski, SJ, 2008
John Deely, 2009
Thomas S. Hibbs, 2010
Kenneth L. Schmitz, 2011
Msgr. John F. Wippel, 2012
Mary Prudence Allen, RSM, 2014
René and Dominique Mougel, 2015
Brian Davies, OP, 2016
Thomas Weinandy, OFM Cap., 2019
John Rist, 2022

HUMANITARIAN SERVICE

John Cardinal O'Connor, 1994
William J. Bennett, 1995
Herbert Jones, 1996
Charles Jones, 1997
Theodore M. Hesburgh, CSC, 2000
Anthony O. Simon, 2001
Ralph McInerny, 2002
Raymond Dennehy, 2003
Francis Slade, 2004
Hamilton Reed Armstrong, 2005
Kenneth Whitehead, 2006
Alice Osberger, 2007
Sean Patrick Cardinal O'Malley, 2008
Richard L. Jusseaume, 2010
W. David Solomon, 2011
Eva Muntean & Dolores Meehan, 2015
Mark and Louise Zwick, 2016
Abp. Charles Chaput, OFMcap, 2018
Timothy and Rebecca Shah, 2023

**THE AMERICAN MARITAIN ASSOCIATION
WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING:**

St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry

President Stephen Loughlin

Vice President Matthew Kuhner

