



December 2015



From the Desk of Fr. Mark Bosco, S.J.

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As we come to the end of another semester, I am reminded of those famous lines of Charles Dickens from *A Tale of Two Cities*: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." We have indeed seen the best of times—the joy of Pope Francis's hugely successful pastoral visits to the United States and Africa—and the worst of times—police brutality in our cities, gun violence, and the plight of refugees. We witnessed the best of Catholic social teaching in the groundbreaking encyclical on the environment, *Laudato Si*, yet also witnessed the worst of our inhumanity toward one another in the terrorist attacks in Paris. The legacy of the Catholic intellectual heritage reminds us that life is neither black nor white but, as Graham Greene once put it, life is lived in the gray area, where dialogue and solidarity can grow, rather than stagnate in sectarian debate and discord. As we enter more fully into the Church's season of Advent, we remember, too, that the Christian story is a tale of the best of times and the worst of times, of refugee parents like Mary and Joseph looking for sanctuary, of the ache of longing for justice to come to our world.

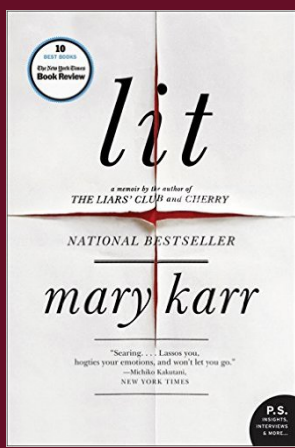
And so, here at Loyola University Chicago, like so many other Jesuit institutions, we study, we teach, we learn how to live in the gray area, to enter a dialogue that builds solidarity, and, in this Advent season, how we might prepare ourselves to live into the life that God calls us.

In that spirit of prayer and anticipation, we at the Hank Center wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season. And we wish a special fond farewell to Dr. Ann Astell, our Teilhard Fellow in Catholic Studies, as she returns to her home institution, Notre Dame.

As we look towards the spring programming, please enjoy some of the photos and highlights from the fall semester.

Peace,
Fr. Mark

**SIGN UP FOR FACULTY
READING GROUP**



CCIH Spring 2016 Faculty Reading Group is dedicated to critically acclaimed American writer

MARY KARR

The CCIH Faculty Reading Group will read *Lit* this spring semester.

Lit is about getting drunk and getting sober; becoming a mother by letting go of a mother; learning to write by learning to live. Written with Karr's relentless honesty, unflinching self-scrutiny, and irreverent, lacerating humor, it is a truly electrifying story of how to grow up—as only Mary Karr can tell it. The Boston Globe calls *Lit* a book that "reminds us not only how compelling personal stories can be, but how, in the hands of a master, they can transmute into the highest art."

[Learn more about the author and the book](#)

CONTACT CCIH TO REGISTER

PANEL DISCUSSION

Exploring Pope Francis' Theological Foundations: A Conversation with Carlos María Galli on 'Teología del Pueblo.'



April 8, 2016

Publication Colloquium

Democracy, Culture, Catholicism & the Transnational Impact of Jesuit Higher Ed

Wednesday, February 3
3:30PM - 5:30PM

Information Commons, 4th Fl
Loyola University Chicago
1032 W. Sheridan Rd.
Chicago, IL 60660

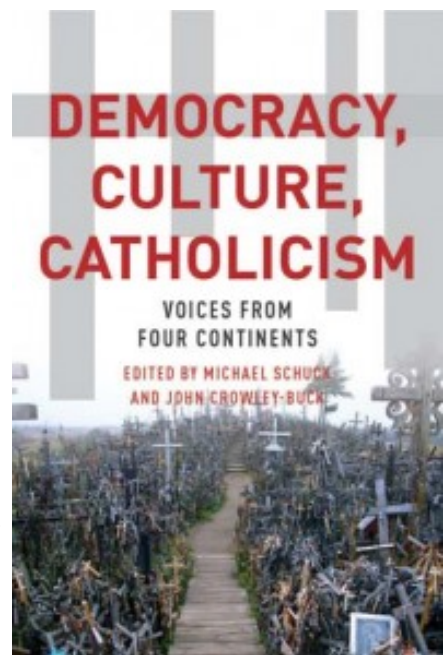
In the fall of 2015, Fordham University Press published a collection of essays titled *Democracy, Culture, Catholicism: Voices from Four Continents*. This volume was the result of a three year, international research project that brought together scholars from Jesuit, and Jesuit related, institutions of higher education around the world in order to explore and interrogate the relationship(s) between democracy, culture, and Catholicism in each of their respective locations. On the one hand, this volume offers a unique, scholarly contribution to the academy; on the other hand, this volume stands as a testament to the collaborative and transformative possibilities contained within the transnational community of Jesuit institutes of higher education.

The colloquium will look at the international research project and its resulting volume to celebrate its completion and to examine what it accomplished. It will also explore the terrain of international Jesuit higher education and draw from this volume some conclusions, and some future possibilities, for connecting Jesuit institutes of higher education around the world.

The colloquium will feature presentations from scholars published in the volume, from volume co-editor Dr. Michael Schuck (Department of Theology), from Prof. Joy Gordon (Ellacuria Chair of Social Ethics, Department of Philosophy), and others. The event will be moderated by CCIH Post-Doctoral fellow, and volume co-editor, John Crowley-Buck.

Book for purchase is available from Fordham University Press.

Event is free and open to general public.



THE HANK CENTER FALL 2015 SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS



Loyola University Chicago
will host

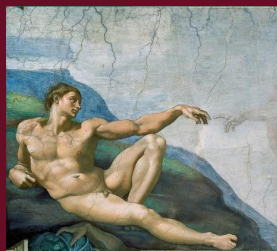
Fr. CARLOS MARIA GALLI

for a panel discussion
on the Pope's ecclesiological
vision. Fr. Galli, a personal
friend of Pope Francis and a
priest of the Archdiocese of
Buenos Aires, is Professor of
Theology at the
Pontifical Catholic University
of Argentina

**CONTACT CCIH FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

UPCOMING CONFERENCE

**The Challenge of God:
Continental Philosophy
and Catholic Intellectual
Heritage**



14-16 April, 2016

In the past decade or more we
have seen a number of
significant continental thinkers
engage with religious themes
in ways both productive and
insightful.

Yet, and in a more focused
manner, what can continental
philosophy teach us about the
Catholic intellectual heritage?

How can Catholic teachings -
especially those associated
with the Ignatian tradition -
contribute to the further
development of continental
thought?

This international and
interdisciplinary conference
aims to address these
questions from a variety of
angles, hoping to produce a
deeper and sustained
engagement with both
continental philosophical
discourses and the Catholic
intellectual heritage.

Catholicism in Dialogue Series

Dr. Shahla Talebi (Arizona State University) and Fr. Thomas Michel, SJ (Georgetown University) were joined by LUC undergrads Lizzie Sextro, Abdullah Ansari, and Adil Ahmed at the Catholicism in Dialogue lecture in September 2015. The event was coordinated by Dr. Bret Lewis (Loyola University Chicago), and focused on the theme of Islam and inter-religious dialogue



P. Teilhard de Chardin Fellow

Prof. Ann Astell from University of Notre Dame, is the Hank Center's 2015 Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, S.J. Fellow in Catholic Studies. As part of her fellowship, Prof. Astell gave this year's Teilhard de Chardin Lecture titled *Violence, Mysticism, and Rene Girard*. Her research focuses on medieval literature and spirituality.

She is the author of six books, including *The Song of Songs in the Middle Ages* (1990), *Job, Boethius, and Epic Truth* (1994), *Chaucer and the Universe of Learning* (1996), *Political Allegory in Late Medieval England* (1999), and *Joan of Arc and Sacrificial Authorship* (2003) Her most recent book is *Eating Beauty* (2006).

Chicago Catholic Immigrants: The Poles

Loyola University Chicago students and alumni reflect on their experiences of growing up Polish and Catholic in Chicago at the 2015 Chicago Catholic Immigrants Conference: The Poles. In addition to hearing from Loyola students and alums, this two-day event featured panel discussions on various aspects and dimensions of being Polish, Catholic, and from Chicago. Two keynote lectures were delivered at the conference by Bishop Andrew Wypych of the Archdiocese of Chicago and local author, and writer-in-residence at Northwestern University, Stuart Dybek.



2015 Denise Levertov Conference



Renowned novelist Mary Gordon (Barnard College, Columbia University) gave a keynote lecture at the Hank Center's conference *The Poetry and Poetic Life of Denise Levertov* titled "Denise Levertov: The Uses of Outrage." She is pictured, here, with Mark Bosco, SJ (Director of the Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage) and Janet W. Sisler (Director of the Gannon Center for Women and Leadership) of Loyola University Chicago.

[Click here for conference videos](#)

Catholicism in the Arts Series

For further information on the conference, please check out any of the following links to conference social media:

[Conference Tumblr Page](#)
[Conference Twitter Feed](#)
[Conference Facebook Page](#)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)



Fr. Bill McNichols contemplates *The New Pentecost of Viriditas*, an icon he was commissioned to write for Loyola University Chicago, and which he spoke about at the Catholicism and the Arts lecture in September 2015. It is made up of six pieces that include the Holy Spirit from Genesis hovering over the void and braking out into a flood of light and a gathering of three Saints-St. Hildegarde of Bingen, St. Francis of Assisi, and St. Ignatius of Loyola-who draw us to participate in this whirl of light. The Latin term "Viriditas" means "greening," and icon invites us to contemplate our spiritual vocation to give witness to environmental sustainability.



The icon hangs in the atrium of LUC's Institute for Environmental Sustainability.



Catholic Studies Students Shine

Dr. Michael P. Murphy, Director of Catholic Studies

The Catholic Intellectual Tradition is sometimes referred to as an "embarrassment of riches"-and with good reason. From the vast reasonableness and practicality of Catholic Social Teaching to the Incarnational heart of Catholic arts and architecture, the Catholic Heritage provides an abundance of resources that both enrich our understanding and move us to constructive action. Catholic Studies, as a self-conscious discipline, is ever-conscious of this rich tradition. As an integrated liberal arts minor, moreover, Catholic Studies is premised on exploring such mysteries-both inside and outside the classroom.

But the mysteries do not come alive unless there are people to experience them, people to wonder with awe and gratitude at the deep mystery of our lives in God. I am therefore most delighted to report that things are thriving in this regard in the Catholic Studies community, and that our students are reaching new heights of discernment and understanding. Thanks to our crackerjack CCIH student staff, we have expanded our social media platforms. Of course, we still highlight "Major Minors of the Month" and "Featured Intellectuals," but we have now added first class Blog content from our thriving CS student community, a robust CS YouTube channel (where you can view all of the proceedings from our 9/9 *Laudato Si'* symposium and more) and our Reports from the Road (Papa Francesco in Philly!).

See for yourself the rich lives our students are leading as they contribute their own

experience and reflections to building the Catholic Intellectual tradition. If the tradition is "an embarrassment of riches," our students are at least a bouquet of marvels! Click on the links below and see why.

- [Check Website](#)
- [Check Wordpress](#)
- [Check YouTube Channel](#)

Contacts

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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.