

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

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The university's "spring break" is a misnomer this year and should be called "winter break," for it is a frigid 12 degrees Fahrenheit as we go to press. But the cold has not stopped the Hank Center from a month of wide-ranging programs. Two events, in particular, grapple both intellectually and artistically with the dilemma of racism in our country. As this past year has illustrated--in almost epic proportions in places like Ferguson and Staten Island--there is extensive structural and institutional racism that still exists in many modes of American life. Join us for two opportunities to explore this. First, on Wednesday March 11, we welcome Bishop Edward K. Braxton of Belleville, Illinois, to discuss his recent pastoral letter, "The Racial Divide in the United States: A Reflection for the World Day of Peace 2015." The afternoon symposium will offer an in-depth conversation on the Church's role in combating the sin of racism.



If Bishop Braxton suggests theological reflection, then a week later on March 19, the Hank Center's *Catholicism and the Arts Series* presents an artistic rendering of racism in America by bringing the celebrated New York ensemble, La Compagnia de' Colombari for a one night performance of "Everything that Rises Must Converge." The play, directed by Karin Coonrod, is a dramatic performance of Flannery O'Connor's famous short story about racial tensions on a post-segregation Atlanta bus trip in the 1960s. The play, which performed off-Broadway and at many university campuses around the country, arrives at Loyola for its Chicago premiere. See more details below.

Finally, the Hank Center is proud to celebrate the conferral of an honorary doctoral degree upon His Eminence, Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi, on March 25 in Madonna della Strada Chapel. The President of the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Culture and a leading figure at the recent extraordinary synod on the Family, Ravasi will give a lecture entitled "American Culture, Catholic Higher Education, and the Contribution to the Global Church." Please join us for this wonderful celebration.

All good things,  
Mark Bosco, S.J.

FAITH IN FOCUS FILM  
SERIES

Calvary

## The Racial Divide in the United States

Symposium with guest speaker

Rev. Edward Braxton, Bishop of Belleville

Wednesday, March 11

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Information Commons, 4th Floor

Loyola University Chicago

1032 W. Sheridan Rd

Chicago, IL 60660

The Hank Center welcomes the Most **Reverend Edward K. Braxton, the Bishop of Belleville**, who will address "The Racial Divide in the United States." His pastoral letter on this topic, issued for the 2015 World Day of Peace, has captured national and international attention.



Tuesday, March 31  
6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Screening of *Calvary*, a 2014 Irish Comedy drama film written and directed by John Michael McDonagh. Post-screening discussion will be led by Catholic Studies Program Director Dr. Michael Murphy, LUC

Damen Student Center Cinema  
Loyola University Chicago  
1032 W. Sheridan Rd.  
Chicago, IL 60660

## CALL FOR PAPERS

Conference on the Poet  
Denise Levertov  
**October 2015**  
Loyola University Chicago



We welcome proposals for twenty minute presentations on any aspect of Levertov's work. Send 250-500 word proposals to Dr. Melissa Bradshaw at [mbradshaw@luc.edu](mailto:mbradshaw@luc.edu) by April 15, 2015.

**Chicago Catholic  
Immigrants Conference:  
The Poles**

November 13-14, 2015

Bishop Braxton was a founding member of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium in 1978 where he spoke on "Religion, Values, Ethnicity and the Black Experience," utilizing the work of the great Jesuit theologian, Bernard Lonergan. Throughout his priestly and episcopal ministry (in St. Louis; Lake Charles, LA; and Belleville), he has continued to speak and write about the evils of racism from a Catholic perspective.

In his pastoral letter, the bishop urges his readers to enter imaginatively into the experience of Black Catholics in an overwhelmingly White church; to grasp more deeply the anti-racist implications of our faith; to reflect more carefully upon the recent killings of young African-American males; and to discard the language of "minority groups." He also offers concrete proposals for grappling with this sin and heresy that poisons the Church and our national life.

A unique feature of the letter is its accompanying Study Guide to help individuals and groups move from prayer to thought to action. Bishop Braxton's work is thus an important resource for our necessary, ongoing struggle against white supremacy.

Responding to Bishop Braxton's presentation will be Loyola University's own Dr. Timone Davis of the Institute of Pastoral Studies and Dr. Jon Nilson, Professor Emeritus of Theology.

[Copy of the letter could be found here](#)

**This event is free and open to the public**

## Catholicism and the Arts Series

### Everything That Rises Must Converge

Thursday, March 19  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

**Kathleen Mullady Theater**  
Centennial Forum  
Loyola University Chicago  
1032 W Sheridan Rd  
Chicago, IL 60660

New York City based [Compagnia De' Colombari](#) is pleased to announce the four city national tour of Flannery O'Connor's *Everything That Rises Must Converge*, created for the stage and directed by Karin Coonrod.

*Everything That Rises Must Converge* by Flannery O'Connor and created for the stage by Karin Coonrod is a tragic-comic interracial seat shifting dance by whites and blacks on a moving bus in America's deep south. Playing and speaking out the story verbatim, eight Colombari actors with razor sharp precision create all the characters and all the narration. Georgia's red earth is slammed up against the eternal. O'Connor's voice spread out across the company of actors carries the power of the apocalyptic comedy right into the audience.

From *Time Out New York*

*The ensemble is terrific, smoothly slipping in and out of character. It's also gratifying to see so many body types-stout, skinny, short and tall-onstage together, like a tiny village bustling about...dark unsettling magic of O'Connor's art-coming through full force in this exceptionally sensitive translation.*

Tickets can be purchase at [luc.tix.com](http://luc.tix.com). Students with ID-\$2, General Public-\$7





The Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage (CCIH) in collaboration with the Interdisciplinary Polish Studies Program will host the third conference in a series of conferences that focus on the historical, cultural, and religious roles that Roman Catholicism played in sustaining ethnic identity for many immigrant communities of people who came to Chicago in the 19th and 20th centuries.

The 2015 Chicago Catholic Immigrants Conference (CCIC) will focus on the Polish immigrant community here in Chicago. We would like to invite scholars from the fields of ethnic studies, urban and cultural history, literature and language, theology, and sociology of religion. This conference will also highlight the Polish heritage and traditions with the participation of Chicago artists, students, and Catholic religious leaders.

Please submit your papers to **Bozena Nowicka McLees** Director of the Interdisciplinary Polish Studies Program, at [bmclees@luc.edu](mailto:bmclees@luc.edu). If you have any questions please call 773-508-2864.

### THE QUEENS SPEECH

a new play by Terence Boyle  
Department of English, LUC

The Queen's Speech is English professor Terry Boyle's contemporary re-telling of the Cain and Abel story, inspired by the form and content of the great "Mystery Plays" that developed in medieval Europe. In this modern interpretation of the original tale, Cain is still the "marked man," marginalized by those from whom he seeks approval

March 9, 10  
March 14, 15  
7:30 PM - 8 :30 PM

## Catholic Thought and the Professional Life Series

### A Contemplative in Action: Is It Really Possible?

A panel discussion with guest speaker **Mr. Mark Kennedy Shriver**

**Wednesday, April 8**  
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

**Regent's Hall, Lewis Towers**  
**Water Tower Campus**  
Loyola University Chicago  
820 N. Michigan Ave  
Chicago, IL 6066



The Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage will host a panel discussion on Loyola's Water Tower Campus as part of its *Catholic Thought and the Professional Life Series*. This series, which takes place each spring semester, seeks to connect faculty from across Loyola's Professional Schools in conversation about the role of Catholicism in their disciplines today. This year's panel - *A Contemplative in Action: Is It Really Possible?*- will feature guest speaker Mr. Mark Kennedy Shriver. Mr. Shriver's recent book, *A Good Man: Rediscovering My Father, Sargent Shriver* (St. Martin's Griffin, 2012), looks back at the life of his father, Sargent Shriver, and the example he provides of a real-life contemplative in action. Not only did Sargent Shriver count among his professional accomplishments the founding of the Peace Corps and the invaluable contributions he made to President Johnson's War on Poverty, but his personal accomplishments of living a public life of faith, hope, and love - even while he struggled with Alzheimer's - speak to the question of what it means to be both a contemplative person - and a good person - in the world today.

In conversation with to Mr. Shriver, six members of Loyola's faculty will participate in our panel discussion: Stacy Platt (School of Law); Cliff Schultz (Quinlan School of Business); Ann Marie Ryan (School of Education); Elizabeth Coffman (School of Communication); Dean Darrell Wheeler (School of Social Work); and Marian Diaz (Institute of Pastoral Studies).

**Event is free and open to the public**

## LUC confers the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters upon Cardinal Ravasi and holds colloquium on The Preferential Option for Culture in Latino/a Theology



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

Free admission

For reservations contact  
[vivariumtheater@gmail.com](mailto:vivariumtheater@gmail.com)

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**Wednesday, 25 March 2015**

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

**Madonna della Strada Chapel**

Loyola University Chicago  
1032 W. Sheridan Rd.  
Chicago, IL 60660

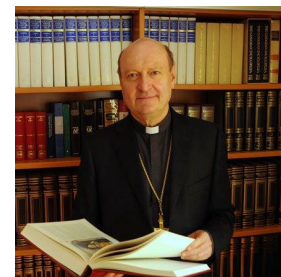
**On March 25th**, Loyola University Chicago will confer upon **His Eminence Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi** an honorary doctoral degree. Cardinal Ravasi is the President of the Pontifical Council for Culture and the Pontifical Commission for Sacred Archeology. An expert in biblical languages, he served as Prefect of the Biblioteca-Pinacoteca Ambrosiana in Milan and taught Old Testament Exegesis at the theological Faculty of Northern Italy.

**Thursday, 26 March 2015**

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Information Commons, 4th Floor**

Loyola University Chicago  
1032 W. Sheridan Rd  
Chicago, IL 60660



**On March 26th** Cardinal Ravasi, President of the Pontifical Council for Culture will participate in an unprecedented conversation with a prominent group of Latino/a theologians. The theologians will address key themes related to the emergence, development, and ongoing contribution of Latino/a theology in the United States. Exploring the central role and distinct interpretation that Sacred Scripture and Popular Catholicism carry within Latino/a theology, they offer Christian challenges to cultures of privilege that all too often feed, in the words of Pope Francis, "the globalization of human indifference." Their valuable ecumenical and inter-religious insights will extend the conversation to popular cultures and the "American" experience of mestizaje. The colloquium offers fresh approaches to Jesus, Mary, and God as Latino/a theologians translate ancient Catholic doctrines into new and culturally relevant words. Join us as we enter into an opportunity to encounter the contribution that this community makes to the Church, to our country, and to a world in much need of justice, peace, and reconciliation.

**[Learn more at Luc.edu/ccih](http://Luc.edu/ccih)**

## 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.