

February 20, 2022 | Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Birth of American Catholic Theology

ne of the beauties of youth consists in the illusion that the world has always been the way one finds it. One of the deeper characteristics of maturity is to know that it was not. When a young person asks, "What is a fountain pen?" you suddenly realize and gasp at the difference. We are approaching the point where many take American Catholic theology for granted. This lecture intends to show that at one time, not so long ago really, there was no American Catholic theology. Catholic theology was either Roman or perhaps more generally European. Today there is an American Catholic theology.

Time also mediates the ability to understand what this theology consists of. One might think that a thorough description of what is going on in the theology departments of our universities would do the trick; but it can't, at least not adequately. Each of the features of Catholic theology as it unfolds today arose because in various ways the ground under our theologians' feet shifted. Things change from generation to generation. Prior to Vatican II, certain features of theology were in place and had been for a long time. Then, like water rising behind a dam when Vatican II shook the Catholic world, the dam was breached, and a flood of new ideas swept through the minds of Catholic theologians.

Much of what was released by the Council could be called at the time "experimental," projections of new ideas that may or may not have taken hold. But other ideas corresponded with what everyone knew were true because they corresponded with knowledge from other sources and other forms of everyday life. Once spoken, these kinds of basic expressions of experiential knowledge could not be called back. The ten to fifteen years after Vatican II were both confusing and creative. This was when the birth of American Catholic theology took place. But like a child on unsteady legs gradually learns to run and jump, the next forty years gave American Catholic theology plenty of time to come of age.

This is a story that still needs to be told in depth and detail. But two sources are readily available for the impressionistic but documented account that this lecture will provide. They are the Jesuit-sponsored theological journal, *Theological Studies*, which began to publish Catholic theological scholarship quarterly in the spring of 1940. The other mine containing rich deposits is *The Proceedings of the Catholic Theological Society of America*, which came into existence after the war in 1946. It contains the record of the yearly discussions of this professional society that was founded in that year.

What is the conclusion to this story of American Catholic theology? I'm sure that nobody would be surprised by the easy answer that there is no conclusion because we participate in time, which is always in motion. But we should be able to do a little better than that. One form of the conclusion might attempt evaluation. But one need not praise the computer at the expense of the fountain pen. Valuation is far too complicated for a short talk. Another form of theological conclusion can more objectively appeal to Catholic conciliar thinking. Whatever may be said about American Catholic theology, it has performed what Vatican II called for: to adjust Catholic thinking to the culture it inhabits.

Rev. Roger Haight, S.J.Union Theological Seminary

Join us on Monday, February 28th at 7 PM in the Church and via livestream for the lecture *The Birth of American Catholic Theology*, presented by Fr. Haight. For more information, please see page 3.



NOVENA of GRACE of ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

Friday, March 4th to Saturday, March 12th

Church of St. Ignatius Loyola 980 Park Avenue, New York, NY (212) 288-3588 ignatius.nyc

FRIDAY, MARCH 4TH

7 PM PRAYER SERVICE PRESIDER:

Fr. Daniel Gustafson, S.J.

Pastoral Year Priest,

Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

REFLECTION: Adele Gallo

Religion Teacher,

Convent of the Sacred Heart

SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH

5:30 PM MASS
PRESIDER/PREACHER:
Fr. James Carr, S.J.
Chaplain & Religion Teacher,
Loyola School;
Superior, St. Ignatius Loyola
Jesuit Community,
New York City

SUNDAY, MARCH 6TH

11AM SOLEMN MASS
PRESIDER/PREACHER:
Fr. Walter Modrys, S.J.
St. Aedan's Church,
Jersey City, New Jersey
Novena prayers offered by
Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.,
Associate Pastor,
Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

Monday, March 7th

7 PM PRAYER SERVICE PRESIDER:

Fr. Dennis Yesalonia, S.J.

Pastor,

Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

REFLECTION:

Sr. Catherine Patten, RSHM

TUESDAY, MARCH 8TH

7 PM PENANCE SERVICE
PRESIDER/PREACHER:
Fr. Michael Hilbert, S.J.
Associate Pastor,
Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9TH 7 PM PRAYER SERVICE

Presider/preacher:
Fr. Thomas Feely, S.J.
Superior, Xavier Jesuit Community,
New York City

THURSDAY, MARCH 10TH

7 PM PRAYER SERVICE PRESIDER:

Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.

Associate Pastor,

Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

REFLECTION: Nicole Bedard

FRIDAY, MARCH 11TH

7 PM PRAYER SERVICE PRESIDER:

Fr. Daniel Gustafson, S.J.

Pastoral Year Priest,

Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

REFLECTION:

Concepcion Alvar,

Headmistress,

Marymount School of New York

SATURDAY, MARCH 12TH

5:30 PM SOLEMN MASS

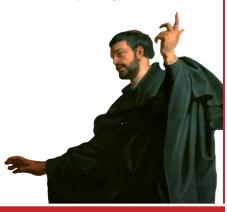
Celebrating the 400th anniversary of the canonization of St. Ignatius Loyola & St. Francis Xavier

PRESIDER/PREACHER:

Fr. Dennis Yesalonia, S.J.

Pastor,

Church of St. Ignatius Loyola



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21st Presidents' Day.

One Mass will be celebrated in the Church at 8:30 AM. There will be no 12:10 PM or 5:30 PM Masses.

The Parish House will be closed.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd

Tuesday Night Book Group — Introduction to the Spiritual Life: Walking the Path of Prayer with Jesus by Dr. Brant Pitre. 7 PM. Zoom.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd

Meeting Christ in Prayer: Winter Session. 7 PM. Zoom.

War and Peace Discussion Group

Monday, March 21st at 7 PM Parish Lounge

TOPIC: Practical and Moral Issues Raised by Drone Warfare

The PBS Frontline documentary *Rise of the Drones* provides an excellent introduction to this topic: https://tinyurl.com/RiseOfTheDrones

Please email Fr. Hallinan at hallinanm@saintignatiusloyola.org to request the readings in advance of the class.

Proof of vaccination is required.

Emmaus Bereavement Support Group

Begins Tuesday, March 15th at 7 PM Parish House

A six-session support group for those who have experienced the death of a loved one.

The sessions, both educational and supportive, are run by experienced facilitators.

Registration is required.

Email EmmausBereavementGroup@gmail.com or call the Parish House at (212) 288-3588 and leave your name and telephone number with the receptionist.



To stay up-to-date on parish news, follow us on Instagram and Facebook at *stignatiusnyc*.

LECTURES AT ST. IGNATIUS

The Birth of American Catholic Theology

Monday, February 28th at 7 PM Main Church & Livestreamed

PRESENTER REV. ROGER HAIGHT, S.J.

Pioneering Catholic theologian, former President of the Catholic Theological Society of America, and Visiting Professor at the Union Theological Seminary

The talk will set the background of pre-Vatican II Catholic theology and then describe how this theology developed in the United States after the Council and characterizes its present-day character.



To view the livestream or set a reminder for this presentation, visit youtube.com/c/ChurchofStIgnatiusLoyolaNYC or scan the QR code at left.

The 2022 Lectures at St. Ignatius series has been generously underwritten by an anonymous donor.

RETREAT

Parish Lenten Retreat: From Ashes to Glory

Friday, March 25th to Sunday, March 27th Jogues Retreat Center Cornwall, New York

This year's Lent can be different. It will take an openness to God's grace, a deep desire to receive what is being offered us, and a few signs and symbols to help us stay focused.

Join us for a weekend of restful prayer in an atmosphere of hope and shared faith.

This parish retreat is fully subsidized by a generous donor.

Spaces are limited.

For information and to register, contact Fr. Hilbert at silparishretreat@gmail.com.



Join Our Email Mailing List!

To sign-up for our e-newsletter, scan the QR code at left or visit *ignatius.nyc*.

CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA

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PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Dennis J. Yesalonia, S.J.

Associate Pastors

Rev. Mark C. Hallinan, S.J. Rev. Michael P. Hilbert, S.J.

Senior Priest

Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.

Pastoral Year Priest

Rev. Daniel N. Gustafson, S.I.

Pastoral Associates

Kate Noonan Jean Santopatre Brian Pinter

Pastoral Assistant

Maureen Haley

Assisting Priest

Rev. James Martin, S.J.

Music Ministries

Scott Warren, Director

Daniel Beckwith Maureen Haley Philip Anderson Robert Reuter Michael Sheetz

Danya Katok, Director of Concerts

Assistant to the Pastor Diane M. Boyle

Administrative Assistant

Patricia Schneider

Director of Communications

Elizabeth O'Sullivan

Director of Facilities

Robert Cisternino

Director of Development

Erin Pick

Treasurer

Fernando Castro

Weekday Masses (Monday - Friday)

8:30 AM, 12:10 PM, and 5:30 PM

Saturday: 8:30 AM

Masses for the Weekend of February 27th:

Saturday Vigil 5:30 рм Fr. Yesalonia Sunday: 8:00 AM Fr. Hallinan 9:30 AM Fr. Hallinan Solemn 11:00 AM Fr. Bergen Wallace Hall Family 11:00 ам Fr. Hilbert 7:30 рм Fr. Bergen

Religious Education for Children

Ms. Kate Noonan, Director (212) 288-3588 x609

Saint Ignatius Loyola School

Upper Campus

(First Grade through Eighth Grade) Ms. Mary Larkin, Head of School M.S. Ed. (Admin.), M.S. Ed. (Literacy) 48 East 84th Street (212) 861-3820 Fax: (212) 879-8248

Lower Campus

(PreK-3 through Kindergarten) Ms. Mary Larkin, Head of School 240 East 84th Street (212) 734-6427 Fax: (212) 734-6972

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Sundays at the 9:30 AM Mass.

Confessions

4:30 PM Saturday or by appointment.

Baptisms

Please call Maureen Haley at the Parish House (212-288-3588 x636) to arrange for a Baptism and the preparation given prior to Baptism.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Contact Maureen Fullam, M.A., Director, at the Parish House.

Marriages

The Bride or Groom should call Maureen Haley at the Parish House (212-288-3588 x636) to begin preparation for Marriage, normally one year in advance.

Visits to the Sick

Please contact the Parish House between the hours of 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM.

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, February 21st

(7th Monday in Ordinary Time) James 3:13-18 Psalm 19 Mark 9:14-29

8:30 MEM Mona Schmid Cavanagh

Tuesday, February 22nd

(The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle) 1 Peter 5:1-4 Psalm 23 Matthew 16:13-19

8:30 MEM Anne Marie McCarthy 12:10 MEM Charles Regan 5:30 MEM Nathan Davidson

Wednesday, February 23rd

(St. Polycarp)

James 4:13-17 Psalm 49 Mark 9:38-40

8:30 MEM John & Margaret Reilly

12:10 MEM Victor Donald Russo 5:30 MEM Diane Lomonaco

Thursday, February 24th

(7th Thursday in Ordinary Time) James 5:1-6 Psalm 49 Mark 9:41-50 8:30 MEM Frances Jean Gillespie 12:10 MEM Heidi Lange

5:30 MEM Living & Deceased Members of the Wallace Family

Friday, February 25th

(7th Friday in Ordinary Time) James 5:9–12 Psalm 103 Mark 10:1-12

8:30 MEM John Joe Smith

12:10 MEM Victor Donald Russo 5:30 MEM Frances Jean Gillespie

Saturday, February 26th

(7th Saturday in Ordinary Time) James 5:13-20 Psalm 141 Mark 10:13-16 8:30 MEM Donald Gordon

Sunday, February 27th

(8th Sunday in Ordinary Time) Sirach 27:4-7 Psalm 92 1 Corinthians 15:54-58 Luke 6:39-45