

Pontificia Università di  
San Tommaso d'Aquino  
Fall 2022

# THE ANGELICUM

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*A Renaissance  
of Thomism*



ANGELICVM  
THOMISTIC INSTITUTE

**Dear Friends,**

I wanted to give you some updates as I begin my second year as rector of the Angelicum. As you can imagine, the first year was one of great work for myself and the administration but also a time of great excitement and possibilities.



### **Academics and Administrative Staff**

The Master of the Order has designated the following friars to permanently come and teach or work at the Angelicum this academic year in the positions noted:

- **Fr. Adrian McCaffery, O.P.** (Central Province U.S.A.): Philosophy – Spring 2023
- **Fr. Pius Pietrzyk, O.P.** (Eastern Province U.S.A.): Canon Law
- **Fr. Philip-Neri Reese, O.P.** (Eastern Province U.S.A.): Philosophy
- **Fr. Mirek Sander, O.P.** (Poland): Canon Law
- **Fr. Gian Matteo Serra, O.P.** (Roman Province): Assistant to the Administrator while pursuing Canon Law studies
- **Fr. Michael Sherwin, O.P.** (Western Province U.S.A.): Moral Theology
- **Fr. Paweł Trzopek, O.P.** (Poland): New Testament and appointed Prefect of the Library by the Master of the Order

In addition, we also have the following individuals who have joined the Angelicum:

Prof. Gavin D'Costa (University of Bristol): Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations – beginning Spring 2023. He will visit the university every spring semester for the next 5 years and take doctoral dissertation students.

Sr. Maria Veritas Marks, O.P. (Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist – Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA): Assistant to Sr. Collette Keane, O.P. in admissions while pursuing doctoral studies in theology.

### **Material Renovations**

In consultation with the Master of the Order and following various efforts in fundraising, I am pleased to announce that the university will be in a position in the coming years to renovate the following spaces:

- The front entrance area and façade
- The central cloister area and garden of the university
- The library
- The Convitto San Tommaso college, which adjoins the university

Additionally, we hope to also be able to renovate the refectory of the friars. The university has hired project managers to help oversee this multi-year project and they have been engaging in initial research of our facilities. We hope the first series of renovations will happen slowly and progressively. Funding for this was accorded by generous benefactors to help the Angelicum at this time to advance its mission. We are truly grateful to all of our donors who have made these renovations possible as well as for the many generous benefactors who assist the Angelicum in its work in various ways.

Do know of my prayers for all of you and do kindly pray for me.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Thomas Joseph White, O.P.

*Rector Magnificus*

# Other New Faculty Members 2022-2023 Academic Year

## Faculty of Theology

Fr. Michal Paluch, O.P., Province of Poland - Fundamental Theology and Eschatology

Fr. John Emery, O.P., Province of Argentina - Dogmatics; Fr. Val McInnis Chairholder

Prof. Elizabeth Lev - Catholic Studies Program

Prof. Thomas Cattoi, Italy - Ecumenical section; "Introduction to Buddhist-Christian Dialogue"

Fr. Benoît-Dominique de la Soujeoule, O.P., Province of Toulouse - Theology

## Faculty of Canon Law

Prof. Luigi Janiri, Italy - Specialist in Psychiatry, "Medicine and Canon Law"

## Faculty of Philosophy

Fr. Fausto Grimaldi, Italy - "Determinism and Liberty: Between Metaphysics, Ethics and Science"

Prof. Andrew Steel, United States of America - "Medieval Philosophy - History"

## Faculty of Social Sciences

Fr. Joseph-Thomas Pini, O.P., Province of Toulouse - Human Rights, Fr. Val McInnes Chairholder

## Mater Ecclesiae Institute

Prof. Bruna Graselli, Italy - "Teaching Catholic Religion to Persons with Disabilities"

Prof. Alessandra Bartolomei Romaagnoli, Italy - Church History (Italian section)

Fr. Joseph Hamilton, Australia - Church History (English section)

Prof. Sara Ianniello, Italy - "Philosophy of Knowledge and Logic"



**Fr. John Emery, O.P.**  
photo: don Elvir Tabaković Can. Reg.



**Sr. Maria Veritas Marks, O.P. & Sr. Collette Keane, O.P.**



**Fr. Paweł Trzopek, O.P.**  
photo: don Elvir Tabaković Can. Reg.

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# NEW DIRECTOR FOR THE INSTITUTE OF SPIRITUALITY

**F**r. Michael S. Sherwin, O.P., from the Western Dominican Province (USA) is the new director of the Institute of Spirituality at the Angelicum and is also a professor of moral theology. A native of the US, he has taught for more than 20 years at the University of Fribourg. He is an avid equestrian and enjoys the opportunities he has had to serve as a chaplain on horseback for pilgrimages organized by the l'Association Nationale des Cavaliers Catholiques in France.

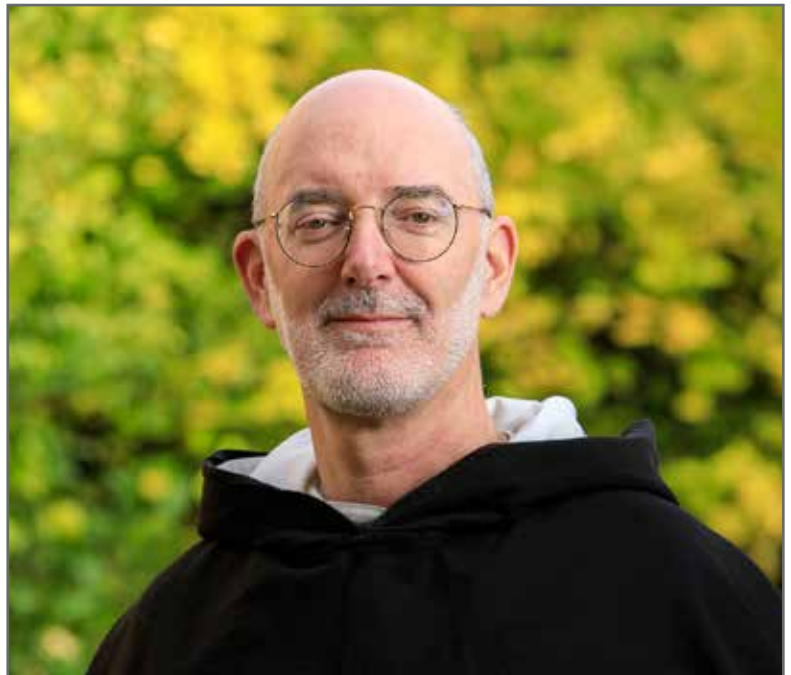
The Institutes at the Angelicum are further options for those who are not planning to take a full course of studies in one of the 4 faculties. The Institute of Spirituality was founded in 1950, originally for priests and religious. This 1-year program designed to go deeper into the Dominican spiritual tradition is open for religious and laity, as well as priests, and provides a unique opportunity to learn more about the spiritual life through the Dominican lens.

St. Dominic considered that the body is an important part of the life of prayer and spirituality.

Another central Dominican insight is the understanding that the spiritual life is nothing other than the Christian life, the life of charity. This leads to an approach to spirituality that is balanced, holistic and integrated. “In our times, people only think about the body. We need a spiritual life, but we cannot have it as something separated from our bodies. This Cartesian separation has been one of the greatest struggles in spirituality in general, but the Dominican perspective has a natural understanding of their unity. We cannot reduce healthiness to holiness, but our bodies are an important part of our journey to holiness.”

Fr. Sherwin sees the future of the Institute in light of the gift it already is for the Angelicum and beyond. He also recognizes, however, that great professors are often more attentive to their teaching than promoting their programs of study. He plans to focus on updating foundational documents and promoting this unique program to create a greater knowledge of this opportunity. Another goal is to renew the curriculum with a Roman pilgrimage element, incorporating classes that take the students out into the city.

He also shared that one contemporary need is to increase awareness of the classical works of Dominican spirituality. There are decent translations available, but they need updated introductions and references, as well as some modernization of the language itself. “It is one of our dreams to be able to ensure that this intellectual and spiritual tradition can be more accessible in our times.”



*Fr. Michael Sherwin, O.P.*  
photo: don Elvir Tabaković Can. Reg.

To learn more about the Institute of Spirituality, see our website: [https://angelicum.it/institutes/institute\\_spirituality/](https://angelicum.it/institutes/institute_spirituality/)

# ANGELICUM Thomistic Institute

at a glance

Currently supports events in

**8** different  
countries

Over

**425,000**

views/downloads of our past events on  
YouTube, SoundCloud, and Apple Podcasts

**6** 2-day conferences  
scheduled for the 2022-2023 academic year,  
as well as multiple week-long workshops and seminars

Sponsored six 2-day conferences  
which were attended by over

**1500** people

in person and online during the 2021-2022 academic year

Supports **7** professors

**7** & **6**

student  
scholars

during the 2022-2023  
academic year

Online content in

**9** languages

English, Italian, French,  
Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese,  
Portuguese, Swedish, and German

## Fr. Simon Gaine, O.P.

Angelicum Thomistic Institute

**F**ascination with the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas is on the up. The proof was on display at the Angelicum this past September. The Eleventh International Thomistic Congress demonstrated that this burgeoning interest is worldwide and not limited to one continent or culture. Over 300 participants converged on Rome from 40 countries, from Africa, Asia, North and South America, from all around the globe.

The Congress was organised as a partnership between two of the institutions in Rome which are leading a *renaissance in Thomism*. One is the Pontifical Academy of St. Thomas Aquinas and the other is the Angelicum Thomistic Institute (ATI). The mission of the Academy was renewed in 1999 by Pope St. John Paul II. This Pope, who had been a student at the Angelicum, dubbed St. Thomas the 'Doctor of humanity'.

The members of the Academy were joined by a broader group of scholars who addressed the whole scope of St. Thomas's perspective on the human being as one who has both origin and goal in God. St. Thomas's teaching, which has this stunningly wide breadth and depth of reach, can touch on potentially any topic, illuminating it by putting it in the context of humanity's relationship to God. Combining the old and the new, speakers addressed the history of Thomism and the perspectives of this living movement on important questions today, across metaphysics, sin and grace, morality, marriage and economics and more.



Find out more:



Supporting the congress in all its practical aspects from beginning to end was the team at the Angelicum Thomistic Institute. The professors of the Institute teach at the Angelicum and are engaged in research projects on science and religion and contemporary philosophy. In addition to the professors publishing books and scholarly articles, the Institute also has a mission of outreach in different parts of the world. The ATI supports speaker events for students in several countries, including France, Spain, and now Germany, and reaches wider audiences with online talks in several languages, including Chinese.

Among the events we are planning for next year is a conference entitled 'St Thomas Aquinas: Medieval Thinker in the Twenty-First Century Global Village' to be held at Dominican University Ibadan in Nigeria. This will celebrate the 700th anniversary of St. Thomas's canonization as a saint. The legacy of this saint's contemplation of divine truth and his remarkable teaching is growing. He still teaches us the truth about God and about ourselves and helps us on our way to join him in heaven!

*We are incredibly grateful to all those who have contributed to the work of the Angelicum Thomistic Institute!*



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**T**he Angelicum Thomistic Institute encourages the study of Thomas Aquinas and promotes the Thomistic tradition as a living voice and inspiration for Catholic theology and philosophy. It does so by means of ongoing research and public colloquia, as well as collaboration with other institutes and university entities. In September the Angelicum welcomed over 300 scholars from 40 countries for the XI International Thomistic Congress, the largest gathering of Thomistic scholars in the world.



“ Aquinas is important today because he teaches us that both outside faith, in the realm of philosophy and within theology, on the basis of faith we can think; we can arrive at the truth and we can structure our mind on the basis of this revealed Truth, but also with full respect for the capacities of the human mind.

*Fr. Wojciech Giertych, O.P.  
Papal Theologian,  
Angelicum Professor of Theology*

“ [The XI Thomistic Congress] is, in my mind, perhaps the greatest assembly of Thomistic scholars in the world there has been for many years.

*David Elliot  
Professor of Moral Theology at  
Catholic University of America*



*Prof. te Velde*

“ I enjoyed being at the Congress very much because it gave an important opportunity to meet other people who are working with Aquinas from different perspectives, with different personalities and different questions....

*Rudi A. te Velde,  
Professor of Philosophy at Tilburg University,  
The Netherlands*

*Photos: Bénédicte Cedergren*

# UPDATE FROM THE DIRECTOR



**A**s I begin my 5th year at the Angelicum, I can truly say there is “A Renaissance of Thomism” happening around the world. Faithful Catholic philosophy and theology is still alive and well. Our patron, St. Thomas Aquinas, provides the key to a solid approach with an extraordinary ability to engage the culture. The Angelicum’s current role involves facing some of the greatest challenges in our lifetime, and it would not be possible without your generosity. Through the generosity of our benefactors, scholarship programs are expanding for young Dominican priests coming from all over the world from the global south for licentiate and doctorate degrees. As of the writing of this issue, the Angelicum educates 91 Dominican friars and sisters from over 25 countries both in formation and a number of them doing upper level studies as future academic theologians, philosophers and canon lawyers.

As you can see, our newly established Donor Guilds are now memorialized in our Mission Advancement office. As is always the case, we welcome your special petitions and the Angelicum friars and sisters remember you in our prayers and Masses.

*Fr. Benedict Croell, O.P.*  
Fr. Benedict Croell, O.P.

GUILD	DONATION RANGE
MARY, PATRONESS OF THE DOMINICAN ORDER	LEGACY GIFT
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SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA	\$25K-\$99,999
SAINT PIUS V	\$5K-\$24,999
SAINT ROSE OF LIMA	\$1K-\$4,999
BLESSED HYACINTHE CORMIER	\$250-\$999

## Ways to join the Mission with your strong support:

Keep us in your prayers!

Make a secure donation at [angelicum.it/give](http://angelicum.it/give)

Mail a donation to the Angelicum via the International Dominican Foundation (back cover)

Include us in your Planned Giving or Legacy Gift

Host us for an Angelicum Gathering with your friends in your home

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE FIRST

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# ALMA MATER LONG WEEKEND!



AN EXCLUSIVE 4-DAY EXPERIENCE CUSTOMIZED FOR REGISTERED ATTENDEES & GUESTS FEATURING:

- EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION & MASS
- UNIQUE ACTIVITIES FOR OUR SMALL GROUP OF GUESTS
- PRIVATE LECTURES
- VISIT OF THE VATICAN MUSEUMS BY NIGHT
- MEALS IN SELECTED LOCATIONS

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OFFICE OF MISSION ADVANCEMENT - PONTIFICAL  
UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS AQUINAS - ANGELICUM

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION: [DEVELOPMENT@PUST.IT](mailto:DEVELOPMENT@PUST.IT)

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# UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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The 2022-23 academic year began with an enrollment of over 1,000 students from over 100 countries, including 70 Dominican friars and 22 Dominican sisters from 32 countries.

The first annual Alma Mater Long Weekend (see p. 9) will be 11-14 May 2022 to welcome our Friends from around the world for the Fr. Val McInnes Lecture with Fr. John Emery, O.P. of the Province of Argentina: “The Divine Guest: Friendship and Human Flourishing.” We hope you can join us!

His Excellency, Bishop Guido Marini (Diocese of Tortona and former MC of Pope Emeritus BXVI) was the principal celebrant and preacher for the Mass of the Holy Spirit in October. His Beatitude, Sviatoslav Shevchuk, Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and Angelicum alumnus, spoke virtually to the entire university for the Inauguration of the Academic Year in the Aula Magna.

The St. Catherine of Siena Scholarship Program has launched. The one year program was created for religious sisters to study in the Faculty of Theology or the Mater Ecclesiae Institute, and covers academic fees and living expenses. The inaugural group includes 15 sisters from 10 countries, many from Africa and Asia, with 5 more sisters arriving in the Spring semester.

The Angelicum’s Dies Academicus, a gathering of the university community each semester, included presentations by former Anglican Archbishop and convert to Catholicism, Rev. Msgr. Michael Nazir-Ali: “A Christian Worldview and the Renewal of Culture” and Rev. Msgr. Piero Coda: “St. Thomas and his Decisive Contribution to a New Era of Thought.”

A group of Dominican Nuns were recently in Rome representing the world’s federations of cloistered Dominican Nuns; they visited the Angelicum, the former Monastery of Saints Dominic and Sixtus - and were warmly received by the university administration.

The Angelicum’s Institute of Ecumenical Studies organized three major conferences in November with the Eastern Orthodox Church, Assyrian Church of the East, Syrian Orthodox Church, Armenian Apostolic Church to the Holy See, Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church, Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, and the Coptic Orthodox Church.

In October the Angelicum Student Association took 50 students on a pilgrimage to Orvieto and Aquino, Italy, to walk in the footsteps of our patron, St. Thomas Aquinas.

The Office of Development and Mission Advancement is preparing to hire a Chief Advancement Officer to coordinate and expand the Angelicum’s cultivation of major gifts.

Angelicum Alumni / Friars from France, England, Bolivia, Philippines, Mexico and the USA will be preaching four Lent and Easter parish missions in 2023 in Venice and Lake City (Florida), Houston (Texas), and Woodstock (Georgia). Angelicum Gatherings will take place around these missions with the friars. Contact Fr. Benedict for details.

Photo: Pontifical North American College

# Congrats to all the Pontifical North American College Deacons!

A number of these men, ordained on 29 September 2022 to the transitional diaconate, study at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas. The Angelicum is proud to be a part of the formation of these men preparing for the priesthood.

THE ANGELICUM THOMISTIC INSTITUTE PRESENTS

## MODELING, IDEALIZATION, AND TRUTH

A DIALOGUE BETWEEN CONTEMPORARY  
PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE AND THE  
ARISTOTELIAN TRADITION

24-25 February 2023

Aula Minor, Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas



ANGELICVM  
INSTITUTO TOMISTA

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