

**THE** The Pontifical University of  
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# ANGELICUM

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**THEOLOGY FOR A  
MISSIONARY CHURCH**





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“If there are any virtues that we should strive to cultivate, it is the spirit of charity, truth and humility; precisely because the world lacks these three things and it is up to us to be the contradiction of this century in order to be its remedy.”

*-Letter of Bl. Hyacinthe Cormier to a young man who wants to enter religious life, circa 1867*

Cover: Fr. Thomas Joseph White, O.P., begins his role as Rector of the Angelicum in September 2021.

Credit: don Elvir Tabaković, Can. Reg.

Right, top to bottom:

Angelicum students on pilgrimage in Monte Cassino this spring.

Credit: Fr. Joseph Hudson, OSB

The front gate of the Angelicum, with the Dominican church of Sts. Dominic and Sixtus in the background

Credit: don Elvir Tabaković, Can. Reg.

Rector emeritus Fr. Michał Paluch, O.P. (left) with Rector Magnificus Fr. Thomas Joseph White, O.P. (right)

at the celebrations for the close of the academic year

Credit: don Elvir Tabaković, Can. Reg.

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## Theology for a Missionary Church



Fr. Benedict Croell, O.P.  
Director

Upon approval of his nomination by the Vatican's Congregation of Catholic Education, our new Rector Magnificus, expressed a clear desire that our university expand her mission, calling for Theology for a Missionary Church. Fr. Thomas Joseph White, O.P. brings experience from his years of teaching and administration. He is a gifted scholar, author and speaker as well as the founder of the Thomistic Institute in both Washington, D.C. and Rome. We are excited to welcome him in this new role as our pontifical university strengthens her mission to faithfully communicate the deposit of our Catholic Faith to the world. Please keep him in your prayers.

In this issue, we travel from Northern Italy (p. 11) to rural Australia (p. 12), while also welcoming the new Val McInnes scholar, Fr. Anthony Akinwale, O.P. from the University Ibadan in Nigeria (p. 10).

Though no one can foresee all that this year will bring, it is clear that there are new beginnings in the air. We are excited to continue the essential work of helping

to carry the Gospel to surprising locations in the countries of our impressive students and alumni (p. 8, 14).

Of particular excitement, we welcome a hopeful team of young Dominican priest scholars from different countries joining the Angelicum's Dominican community, (who will also live and study in the Angelicum's convent located above the university cloister); you will meet them in the next issue. These 37 student friar priests hail from 21 countries! None of this could have happened without the generosity of many people and the International Dominican Foundation.

A special word of thanks to all of you, and in particular, those who responded to our call to become monthly donors (it is not too late to become one), which allows our outreach to continue to build up the Angelicum infrastructure and provide new programs and professors. We continue this mission with a difficult year behind us, and with our new rector, we continue with a new chapter of Angelicum history. THANK YOU and please plan to come visit us!

*Fr. Benedict*  
(US mobile: +1.202.642.3597)



*Fr. Akinwale will address the university community on 13 May 2022 during the Angelicum's Annual Donor "Homecoming," a unique opportunity for friends of the university to travel to Rome and meet our students and professors while experiencing the most significant historical locations of the Eternal City. Save the Date and plan to join us! (development@pust.it)*

**Father Thomas Joseph White , O.P.**, on Leading the Angelicum, Vocations, and the **Hillbilly Thomists**



**EXCERPTS FROM AN INTERVIEW BY EDWARD PENTIN**

Originally printed in the National Catholic Register (June 14, 2021)

**D**ominican Father Thomas Joseph White says he is “humbled by the decision” to be appointed rector of the prestigious Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome, and at the same time hopes to bring positive elements of the American ethos to the university.

A convert son of a Jewish father and Presbyterian mother, Father White, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, also explains his journey to the faith, and answers the all-important question of whether he will be able to continue the popular bluegrass band he founded with brother Dominicans, the Hillbilly Thomists.

Appointed June 10 by Dominican Father Gerard Timoner, the Master of the Order of Preachers, Father White will begin work as rector of the Angelicum, whose famous alumni include Pope St. John Paul II, on September 14.

***What experience and expertise do you hope to bring to the role, and are you the first American rector in the Angelicum’s history?***

In fact, I believe Dominican Fr. Benedict Blank of the Western U.S. Province was appointed rector for a brief time in 1951. First things first, Americans have reason to enter the European theatre of academic life with a great deal of humility. Europe with its prestigious spiritual and intellectual heritage provides a patrimony that still nourishes the universal Church, often in vibrant ways. The custom of sending seminarians from around the world to study in Rome presupposes also that there is a value to Roman education, including exposure to the Italian synthesis of art, culture, learning, and spiritual life. So, I’m humbled by the decision of the Master of the Order to nominate me to this position.

At the same time, there are positive contributions that come from the American ethos. The Catholic Church in the US is often quite hopeful, despite its trials, evangelical in the best sense of the world, efficient, and it has an important voice in public culture. Before I came to the Angelicum, I was director of the Washington, D.C. Thomistic Institute for ten years, which brings Catholic intellectual talks and conferences to secular university campuses. We started our programs at Harvard, Yale, and Brown and extended out from there to dozens of campuses. Those of us working on this project have been engaged for years in conversations with scholars



Credit: Paul Padgett

and in our own historical moment. This experience translates pretty fluidly into the European context, where the Church is confronted with the sociological fact of increased secularization, and the need for a new missionary initiative. It also provides a way of thinking about global influences and pressures placed today on nations in the global south, in countries that were once more religious but that now confront new alternatives coming from their secular neighbors to the north.

***While some in the past have had concerns about the academic quality at the Angelicum, today it seems that there's been a steady increase in quality. How do you plan to continue this momentum, both in terms of faculty and students?***

Over the past 5-10 years the Order has assigned a wave of excellent scholars to the Angelicum, and we have evolved professionally as well. Today I think it is fair to say that the university provides a truly excellent education in many domains, including in dogmatics, moral theology, spirituality and philosophy. We've renovated our Thomistic Institute and have also created a series of new

initiatives in regard to the contemporary dialogue between science and religion, Catholic ecumenism (especially with the Eastern Churches), and conversations with contemporary philosophies. While doing all this we keep the pastoral vision of theology in view, thinking about how it impacts the real life of pastors and local Churches. In the near future we are planning to recruit more faculty with expertise in canon law, inter-religious dialogue, Christian spirituality, and New Testament exegesis. We also need to expand our conversation with the larger academic world to prepare our students to engage fully with the challenges and questions of our non-Christian contemporaries, speaking to them with both faith and reason, in the light of Christ and the Catholic intellectual tradition.

***Many view this as a time of confusion and disagreement in the Church. How can the Angelicum promote a culture of sound doctrine at this time?***

The Angelicum is a pontifical university, so our teaching is always conducted cum Petro et sub Petro, in the service of the Holy See and the universal magisterium of the Catholic Church. In fact, the ground of unity in the Church stems from an

intellectually informed, integral confession of the faith, and from the communion of love. Here a knowledge of tradition plays a role, but so does the search to know Christ personally and to love others who God places on our path. To seek the fullness of the truth in love is the vocation of the Catholic intellectual. To love in the truth is the vocation of the Christian. Pope Francis rightly challenges those concerned with doctrinal rectitude to couple their zeal for the truth with a love for persons, one that makes us both merciful and vulnerable of heart. The Dominican intellectual tradition seeks to preserve the acquired wisdom and doctrinal patrimony of the past, and in that sense it is “conservative” in the best sense of the term, but it is also a living tradition engaged with new questions and challenges, in biblical interpretation, dogmatics, philosophy, bioethics, and social doctrine. John Henry Newman spoke of the Church’s life as one characterized simultaneously by both conservation and chronic vigor. If we practice theology in that way and integrate it into a spiritual life seeking holiness and union with God, then we can continue to speak to our own age effectively and dynamically, while also speaking out of the apostolic teaching and the ancient wisdom of the Church.

***As well as being a well-known Thomist, you’re also famous for being a founding member of the bluegrass Hillbilly Thomists band. How did that band begin and will you be able to continue it?***

This is the real question. What will happen to the band? The Hillbilly Thomists are a bluegrass/Americana band composed uniquely of Dominican friars that took their name from a saying of the Southern Catholic literary author Flannery O’Connor. It was formed initially in 2005 by two of us, and grew progressively as several professional young musicians entered the Dominican House of Studies in Washington D.C.. Today the band has two well-known albums, including one recently released in January called *Living for the Other Side* which is available in many venues online. We are also recording a new album this coming August. Our music is not for liturgical purposes. It’s for ordinary life. Bluegrass music has a unique energy, and it helps one celebrate life. It’s joyful music for ordinary times, and Christians need that too. For more information and to find the latest album, visit [www.hillbillythomists.com](http://www.hillbillythomists.com)



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 (REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION, READ THE FULL INTERVIEW ONLINE: [NCREGISTER.COM](http://NCREGISTER.COM))

# The Rossi Family of the Angelicum

By the Rossi Sisters

**One family, four Angelicum professors: three sisters who teach in the faculty of Theology and one brother (Girolamo) in the faculty of Social Sciences.**



*Left to right: Teresa Francesca, Teodora, and Margherita Maria Rossi*

It is rare, but also quite simple to explain. We grew up in a family in which we were taught, with love and joy, that God is at the center of our existence. Our Dad, an erudite and brilliant man, was the director of the Italian Library of Parliament. Our Mother had a literary education, but preferred not to work in order to raise us and be close to us. She still served as a catechist and parish liturgical coordinator for 42 years.

Freedom of spirit and family unity have shaped our personalities and built an inner home that accompanies us to this day. Some priests also contributed decisively to our formation: the famous Fr. Ansgarius Dirks O.P., liturgist during the pontificate of Paul VI; Monsignor Giulio Ricci, founder of the Roman Center of Sindonology, and the Passionist, Fr. Enrico Zoffoli, founder of the “St. Thomas Study Groups”; the Marianists of our home parish and, of course, many of the Dominican priests of the Angelicum: Fr. Dalmazio Mongillo, Fr. Remi Hoeckman, and Fr. Frank Von Gunten....just to name a few.



## TEODORA

I began theology out of pure passion - aiming for the doctorate from the beginning - at a time when the Italian State had not yet recognized ecclesiastical academic degrees. When I finished my doctorate, the Dominicans offered me a teaching position at the Angelicum. I was delighted, because I have always found them to be welcoming, constructive, and witnesses to the serious practice of virtues and religious commitment. I am grateful for the opportunities they have given me as an instructor and as editor of a series of books from the Thomistic Institute. My propensity to experiment and the need to balance teaching for the university and for a wider public led me to introduce some innovations at the Angelicum, which proved to be long-lasting. My research (and publications) follow two main branches: 1. the moral projects of recent pontiffs, touching upon the contemporary anthropological questions; 2. Morality from a Thomistic perspective, with attention to the textual and structural dynamics and the sources. I have recently proposed, in the quadrilogy I am writing on Aquinas' morality, the hypothesis of a new source for St. Thomas. How do I relax, besides reading St. Thomas? I write poetry and love thrillers made in the U.S.A.



## MARGHERITA MARIA

When I was a teenager, in the climate of protest against institutions and the Church of the 70's, I began to aspire to a deepening "apologetic" of my faith. Theology was a thunderbolt: to rationally argue for Catholic tradition! So, I studied Theology because of its existential echo, and at the Angelicum I found what I was looking for, and also other stimuli through my experience as Head of the Thomistic section, and director of the St. Thomas Institute, and chief editor of the Angelicum Journal.

My field of research is "Biblical Thomism," but I also study the sermons of St. Thomas, which I believe generated some of his other works. I have also hypothesized a correspondence between theological genres and mental faculties, which I have expressed in my "environ-mental" (with intentional dashes) method of analysis (published in 2015). It focuses on the working environment and inspiration of Aquinas' individual works. This method also reflects the Thomism of the Angelicum: open, translating well to contemporary reality, and integrable with the truth present in other traditions of thought. I try to teach this to students by inviting them to re-propose the dialectical force of the Thomistic texts in contemporary debate. In my spare time I make clothing accessories..... that I often even have the courage to wear!



## TERESA FRANCESCA

My theological itinerary developed through several events in my life, including a very strong experience of the sacrament of Confirmation that deposited in me the seed of the search for communal dynamics within diversity. The Angelicum itself has also marked my path. I was ten years old when I began to come to the University as the Rossi's "little sister", fascinated by the spirituality and distant cultures I encountered there. At that time, I would have thought it unlikely to one day be counted among the professors, a Vice-Dean or Coordinator of the Ecumenical section within Theology! I study in the fields of Pentecostalism (which I introduced to the Italian academic scene 20 years ago), the history of the Ecumenical Movement and the context of the post-conciliar Church. As a delegate for the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity and for the Ecumenical Council of Churches I have the possibility to see the way that life and Theology impact each other in official dialogues, because ecumenism is an "existential discipline". I work at the Pro-Union Center of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, devoting myself to ecumenical "modeling," developing educational formats and doing research on ecumenical epistemology in places that vary from Yale University to a local Roman church. I love photography, decorating, and gardening... but the latter yields poor results!

## From Nigeria to Italy:

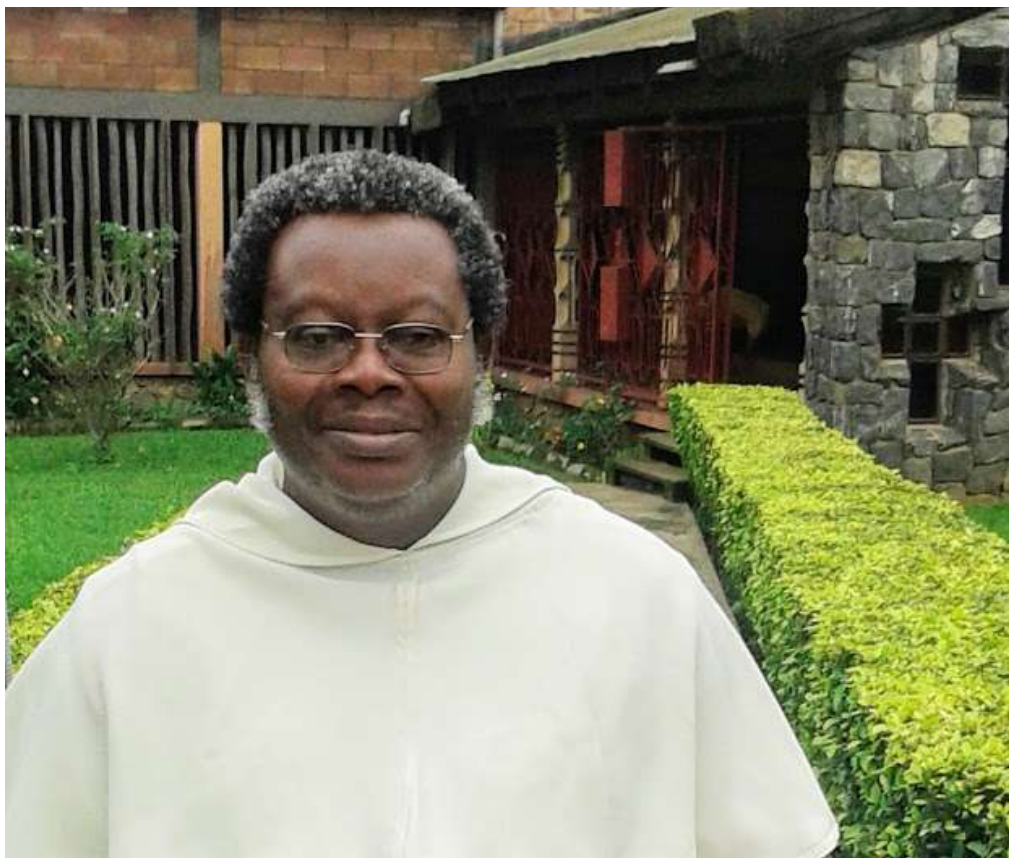
Fr. Anthony Akinwale, O.P.

### Fr. Akinwale, as the 2021-22 Val McInnes Academic Chairholder, can you tell us a little about yourself?

I am a Dominican friar of the Province of St Joseph the Worker in Nigeria. I was born in Lagos on June 10, 1962 and made my profession in 1981. I was ordained to the priesthood on December 20, 1987 after initial studies in Philosophy at the Seminary of Sts. Peter and Paul in Ibadan, Nigeria, and Theology at the Universite Catholique de Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo. After ordination, I was assigned to work in the Diocese of Sokoto, in northwestern Nigeria. I was sent to the College Dominicain de Philosophie et de Theologie in Ottawa, Canada for the licentiate degree in Theology. I then did doctoral studies in Theology at Boston College, writing a thesis entitled “The Theology of the Passion of Christ in Thomas Aquinas and its Possible Relevance to Liberation Theology.” After those studies, I returned to Nigeria to teach at the Dominican Institute of Philosophy and Theology in Ibadan, and at the Seminary of Sts. Peter and Paul. The Institute was the embryo out of which the Dominican University Ibadan was born in November 2016. I was appointed its pioneer Vice Chancellor (Rector) by its Board of Trustees in August 2017.

### Can you tell us more about the Province of Nigeria? I understand your province also runs a university?

The history of my province in Nigeria is traceable to February 27, 1951. On that day, three Dominican friars of the Province of St. Albert the Great (Central USA) - Frs. Edward Lawton, Michael Dempsey and



Arthur Kinsella - landed in Lagos. At the invitation of the Holy See, the Dominicans were to work in the civil province of Sokoto in North Western Nigeria. It was and still is the seat of the spiritual leader of Islam in Nigeria. The ecclesiastical Prefecture of Sokoto, founded by the Dominicans, became a diocese in 1964, and Frs. Lawton and Dempsey served as the first two Bishops. More Dominican communities were opened in other parts of Nigeria, like the formation house in Ibadan, South Western Nigeria in 1968. The Province of St Joseph the Worker was officially established in 1993. Currently, there are 207 friars affiliated to the Province, which runs the Dominican University Ibadan.

### Do you have any plans for this next academic year at the Angelicum? Will you teach?

I am working on an essay provisionally entitled “Sapientia et Scientia: Envisioning a Dominican University,” which I hope to present as a public lecture. I also look forward to teaching one or two courses. I am currently designing a course on Contemplation, Eucharist and Mission of the Church. Above all, I hope to learn.

*Fr. Akinwale will address the university community on 13 May 2021 during the Angelicum’s Annual Donor Homecoming. Learn more on page 4.*

# A Student Pilgrimage to Loreto

The author, Angelicum student, Fr. Joseph Hudson O.S.B., is a Benedictine monk of Our Lady of Clear Creek Abbey in Oklahoma.



**D**uring these last two years we have put on pause many of our normal routines. This is as true of Rome as other parts of the world. Pilgrimages may not seem like the most necessary of life's realities, but in Rome they are a part of daily life. As soon as restrictions allowed Romans to travel outside their region, Angelicum students began suggesting that we make a pilgrimage to Loreto since the shrine is celebrating a Jubilee year. With the assistance of Angelicum's student association, I was delighted to help organize this event. We carried 57 students and professors on two separate buses in order to maintain social distancing regulations.

The Holy House of Loreto has always had a fascinating attraction for the devout and curious alike. The legend is astonishing. A house in Palestine, reputed to be the home of the Holy Family, was miraculously transported by angels to a town in northern Italy. However, the architecture and art alone make this Basilica a must-see. The facade that encases the Holy House, in the center of the sanctuary, was designed by one of Italy's most famous renaissance architects, Donato Bramante. The dome above provides a celestial vision that seems to draw one ineluctably to heaven.

The inside of the Holy House remains wisely unchanged except for one side, where there is an ornate altar. The

altar replaces the fourth wall, missing because formerly the wall was merely the side of the hill next to which the Holy House was built. In the wall of this hill stood a grotto, the grotto of Nazareth, over which the magnificent Basilica of the Annunciation now stands in the Holy Land. The dimensions of the two walls that would have connected to the side of the hill in which the grotto was carved are said to perfectly match the remains of a foundation that date back to the time of Jesus' earthly life.

The devotion of the Italian people towards the Mother of Jesus of Nazareth is apparent in every detail of this beautiful church. Century after century has attracted new devotees, artists, and pilgrims, so many of whom have left lasting tributes of their attachment to this place.

Not all the students who came either knew the history of the shrine nor were ready to accept the legends at face value, but this invited a discussion about the nature of the miraculous, of history, of art, of devotion, of piety and of so many other distinctively Catholic beliefs, practices, and culture. All of them went away with a deeper appreciation of the mystery of the Incarnation. Ultimately, this is what the House of Loreto continues to say to us: God became man and dwelt among us. Inside the ornate facade the humble red brick structure testifies to the humility and intimacy in which the Holy Family lived with God made man.

## Matt Tan

### '11, Dean of Studies for the seminary of Wagga Wagga, Australia

**D**r. Matthew Tan is an Angelicum alumnus and the current academic dean of Vianney College Seminary in Wagga Wagga, Australia. Matthew was in the second cohort of the Russell Berrie Fellowship, finishing his studies at the Angelicum in 2011. The fellowship allows students to pursue a licentiate in theology, with a specialization in ecumenism and dialogue, or a diploma in interreligious studies. After graduating, Matthew taught at Campion College in Australia and DePaul University in Chicago, and worked for the Archdiocese of Sydney before accepting his current position at Vianney College. We sat down with Matthew to reflect on his experience at the Angelicum and the impact it had on his impressive resume of work today.

#### **Can you explain your journey of getting to the Angelicum?**

Originally I had not thought about studying in Rome. I heard about the scholarship and I applied. Once accepted, it was an offer that was too good to refuse, so I decided to take the plunge.

#### **Can you tell me about the Russell Berrie scholarship?**

The Russell Berrie Fellowship in Interreligious Dialogue is a scholarship set up by the Russell Berrie Foundation based in New York, dedicated to the promotion of better relations between Jews and Catholics. Part of that

endeavor provides scholarships and experiences that help students learn about interreligious dialogue through their studies at the Angelicum.

#### **How did your time at the Angelicum prepare you for this job you have now?**

Studying there, getting a feel of the pontifical system made me aware of the differences between studying in a pontifical setting and studying in a secular setting. I wouldn't have been able to get that variety of knowledge were it not for my time in Rome.

On another level, a lot of the material that I learned in Rome I'm learning to apply to my classes here at the seminary as well. The most obvious way that is playing out is my course on ecumenism.

#### **If you could sum up your experience at the Angelicum, what would you say?**

The experience was incredibly rewarding. There are a lot of trials that come with studying in an unfamiliar setting. One of those trials was being a lay person in a largely ecclesiastical ecosystem. That took a lot of getting used to. But having said that, it's not something I would exchange for anything else. I definitely have no regrets going to Rome because I knew that that was where God wanted me to be. It's incredibly rewarding, incredibly trying, and I definitely would not exchange it for anything else in the world.

*Written by Gianna Bonello-Freund, micro-intern from the University of St. Thomas (St. Paul, MN)*



## Bl. Hyacinthe-Marie Cormier 1832-1916

***Bl. Hyacinthe-Marie's feast day is celebrated on May 21st, the anniversary of his election as Master General.***



St. John Paul II stated that by proclaiming Hyacinthe-Marie a Blessed, “the Church wishes to recognize and honor the work of the human intellect, illuminated by faith.” He had both a deep love for truth and a trusting surrender to the providence of God. He was a model of what it meant to live a life immersed in prayer, study, and preaching.

Bl. Hyacinthe-Marie was born in Orleans, France on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 1832. He joined the minor seminary at the age of thirteen. Shortly after ordination, he received permission from his home diocese to join the Dominican Order. He loved the Dominicans, but he suffered from chronic hemorrhages and his condition was so severe that the Dominican community decided to send him home before he made vows. Providentially, the Master General of the Order visited the French novitiate shortly before his departure. The Master was so impressed with the young Dominican that he asked the novice to return to Rome with him as his personal secretary. He petitioned the Pope for a special dispensation for Bl. Hyacinthe-Marie to make his profession in the Order's international novitiate at Santa Sabina. The Pope agreed to do so if Bl. Hyacinthe-Marie could complete one month without any hemorrhage attacks. Unfortunately he grew decidedly worse, and was allowed to make vows on what was presumed to be his deathbed. To the surprise of everyone, he proceeded to make a full recovery and regained his health completely.

Almost immediately, Bl. Hyacinthe-Marie was chosen for positions of leadership. Over the next twenty years, he was appointed novice master, prior in Corsica, Toulouse, Marseilles and then Prior Provincial. He was also actively engaged in teaching, giving spiritual direction, and writing. He never failed to spend several hours a day in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

In 1904, Bl. Hyacinthe-Marie was elected the 76th Master General of the Order. He joked that while Pope Pius X's motto was “to restore all things in Christ,” his mission was “to restore all things in St. Dominic.” This was precisely what he did. During his time as Master General, he restored many suppressed provinces and erected new ones (including the Western Dominican Province in the United States). He is best known for his role in reorganizing the Angelicum as the flagship pontifical university of the Dominican Order and bringing it to its current location in the heart of historic Rome. He also opened up attendance at the university to those outside the Order.

Bl. Hyacinthe-Marie died on Dec. 17, 1916. His body was transferred to the Angelicum's Church of Sts. Dominic and Sixtus where it currently rests within the high altar. His fellow Dominicans at the Angelicum testified to his love of knowledge and love of Christ. Several recounted seeing him levitate in the chapel while at prayer.



## Magda Lekiasvili:

### A new beginning for the Faculty of Theology

*The author, Sr. Maria Silva, O.P. (Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist), serves as the Administrator of the university.*

The newest addition to the Faculty of Theology might be a familiar face to the Angelicum community. Magda Lekiasvili, the new secretary for the faculty, is experiencing her very own new beginning, since she formerly worked as an administrative assistant for the Angelicum's John Paul II Center for Interreligious dialogue.

Magda was born in Tbilisi, Georgia, on August 20, 1989. She came to Italy in 2012 on a scholarship from Porticus that was a part of the Bridge Builders project, dedicated to Eastern European countries. From January 2019 until a few months ago she was the graduate administrative assistant at the John Paul II Center for Interreligious Dialogue. Last year she started teaching online *Theories of International Relations* at Sabauni, the Catholic University of Georgia.

Magda holds a doctorate in International Relations, Geopolitics as well as a Licentiate in Social Sciences from the Angelicum. Previously Magda has also worked for Caritas of Rome and has been a blogger and journalist for the Pietro Nenni foundation, dealing with the politics of Russia and the countries of Eastern Europe.

#### Fun Facts about Magda:

1. Magda is a polyglot – she speaks 4 languages: Georgian, Italian, English, and Russian.
2. She is married to Oreste who also works for the Angelicum. Since 2016 they have been good friends and in January 2017 they were married.
3. Magda and Oreste have a beautiful daughter, Mathilde.
4. Matilde's first word was "Mamma", but in Georgian (deda).
5. One of Magda's favorite Churches in Rome is the Georgian National Catholic Church, Chiesa di San Salvatore ai Monti, where she can participate in the Mass in Georgian.
6. Next year Magda will celebrate her 10<sup>th</sup> year at Angelicum where she first began as a student.

When asked why she wanted to work specifically for the Angelicum she related:

"This was the first place where I understood how beautiful the diverse world is, with all our cultural and human backgrounds. I realised that the Angelicum was and remains a place without prejudice, that gives an opportunity to everyone. I'm enjoying working with the students and with professors, facilitating their being at the Angelicum. Especially I appreciate the working environment where colleagues always say Thank You to each other. Some people may not believe when one says that the workplace is the second family. It looks like an edited/fake sentence. But for me the Angelicum is a real family, supporting me with prayers and in fact in difficult times of my life."

*Welcome, Magda, to the faculty of Theology!*

# UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Fr. Thomas Joseph White, O.P.**, of the Province of St. Joseph, will be installed as the new Rector Magnificus on 18 October during a university Mass with His Eminence, Luis Antonio G. Cardinal Tagle, the Vatican's Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples.

**Sr. Helen Alford, O.P. (Dominican Sisters of Saint Catherine of Siena of Newcastle, Natal, South Africa)**, Vice Rector of the Angelicum, was appointed an ordinary member of the Pontifical Academy of the Social Sciences in September 2020, appointed Consultor to the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development in December 2020, appointed President of the External Visitation Team by AVEPRO (Quality Agency of the Holy See) for the Faculty of Catholic Theology of the Vytautas Magnus University in Lithuania in March 2021, and appointed by Pope Francis as a member of the external visitation team of the Vatican's Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development in June 2021.

**Thanks to the generosity of multiple benefactors**, in the 2021-22 Academic Year, the Angelicum's Convent will house 75 friars from 27 countries teaching, studying and working in the university.

**The Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education** has approved new General Statutes (effective 12 September 2021) for the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas.

**Fr. Cezary Binkiewicz, O.P.**, of the Province of Poland, is the new director of the St. John Paul II Institute of Culture under the faculty of Philosophy.

**Fr. Anthony Akinwale, O.P.** of the Province of Nigeria, was named as the 2021-22 Val McInnes Academic Chair. His address to the university will be on 13 May 2022 during the university's Annual Donor Homecoming (11-15 May 2022).

**Students and faculty** participated in Italy's National March for Life in Rome on 22 May.

**In Lent/Easter 2022** Fr. Benedict Croell, O.P. and a team of Dominican friars connected with the Angelicum will preach four parish missions in Colorado, Ohio and Kentucky. To follow their itinerary or make a donation to support this preaching ministry for the good of the Church and the Angelicum contact Fr. Benedict directly: +1.202.642.3597.

**Fr. Benedict will be chaplain for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Scott & Kimberly Hahn** from 11-20 March 2022. For more info go to: [206Tours.com/ScottHahn](https://206Tours.com/ScottHahn)

# THE ANGELICUM EXTENDS WARM CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ALUMNI ON THEIR RECENT APPOINTMENTS.

FOR STORIES AND MORE ON OUR LAY, RELIGIOUS AND CLERICAL ALUMNI, VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [ANGELICUM.IT/ALUMNI](http://ANGELICUM.IT/ALUMNI)

## Cardinal Alumni

- » His Eminence, Jose Fuerte Cardinal Advincula '88 (Philippines), created and proclaimed Cardinal by Pope Francis in the consistory of 28 November 2020, appointed Metropolitan Archbishop of Manila on March 25, 2021.
- » His Eminence, Mario Cardinal Grech '98 (Malta), appointed Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops on September 15, 2020, created and proclaimed Cardinal by Pope Francis in the consistory of 28 November 2020.

## Bishop Alumni

- » Bishop Alessandro Damiano '02, appointed Bishop Coadjutor of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Agrigento (Italy)
- » Bishop Koru Tito '08, appointed Bishop of Tarawa and Nauru Nauru (Republic of Kiribati, Oceania)
- » Bishop Greg Charles Bennet, '00 appointed Bishop of the Diocese of Sale (Australia)
- » Bishop Omar Alberto Sánchez Cubillos, O.P. '95, appointed Metropolitan Archbishop of Popayán (Colombia)
- » Bishop Victor Manuel Ochoa Cadavi '94, appointed Bishop of the Military Ordinariate for Colombia
- » Bishop Stephen Hero '00, appointed Bishop of Prince Albert (Canada)
- » Bishop Paul Sundu '14, appointed Bishop of Kundiawa (Papua New Guinea)
- » Bishop Anthony John Ireland '92, appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne (Australia)
- » Archbishop Leomar Antônio Brustolin '00, appointed Metropolitan Archbishop of Santa Maria (Brasil)

## Superiors and other Ecclesial Missions

- » Fr. Florentino Bolo Jr., O.P. '16 (Province of the Philippines), appointed as Socius for Apostolic Life of the Dominican Order
- » Fr. Prasad George, O.P. '96, elected Provincial of the Province of India
- » Msgr. Marcos Pavan '08, Campo Limpo (Brazil), as director (first non-Italian) of the Pontifical Musical Chapel (Sistine Chapel Choir).
- » Mr. Matthew Tan '11, appointed Dean of Studies for the Seminary of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga (Australia).
- » Fr. Simon Ckuj '93 of Sydney, named to the honor of "mitred archpriest" by His Beatitude, Sviatoslav Shevchuk of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.
- » Fr. Michael Palud, C.O. '92, (Provost of the Congregation of the Oratory, Port Antonio and Judicial Vicar for the Western Antilles – Kingston Jamaica), elected president of the Antilles Canon Law Society.

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**01**

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**02**

**03**

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