EXAMINING THE CATHOLIC INTELLECTUAL TRADITION

Edited by
Anthony J. Cernera
and
Oliver J. Morgan
OF RELATED INTEREST

Vatican II: The Continuing Agenda
Edited by Anthony J. Cernera
The essays in this collection examine the spirit of Vatican II at work during a period of rapid changes and profound transitions within the global community. Contributors include John Borelli, Anthony J. Cernera, Brigid Curtin Frein, Jeffrey Gros, F.S.C., Jan Michael Joncas, James F. Keenan, S.J., Georgia Masters Keightley, H. Richard McCord, Jr., William C. McDonough, Oliver J. Morgan, S.J., David J. O'Brien, and Margaret Palliser, O.P.

Continuity and Plurality in Catholic Theology:
Essays in Honor of Gerald A. McCool, S.J.
Edited by Anthony J. Cernera
The essays gathered in this Festschrift, on the occasion of Father McCool's eightieth birthday, celebrate his life and contributions to the Church and the Catholic intellectual tradition. Contributors include John P. Boyle, William V. Dych, S.J., Donald L. Gelpi, S.J., Joseph A. Komonchak, Matthew L. Lamb, John O'Donnell, S.J., Thomas F. O'Meara, O.P., Andrew Tallon, and Frans Joze P. van Beeck, S.J.

FORTHCOMING

Religion and Violence, Religion and Peace
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*Anthony J. Cernera and Oliver J. Morgan*  

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In 1997, as the two of us walked the countryside surrounding Mount Saviour Monastery in Elmira, New York, we came to the conclusion that a project needed to be undertaken. Both of us had worked in Catholic higher education for a number of years and been engaged in efforts to articulate and reclaim the Catholic identity of our institutions. Both of us had been schooled in the philosophical and theological underpinnings of the Catholic intellectual tradition, and in its potential integrating applications across several other disciplines, in our undergraduate days at Fordham University. Now, several decades later, we had come to believe that a number of contemporary writings about the Catholic identity of colleges and universities were correct in asserting the need to lift up, transmit, and develop the Catholic intellectual tradition as central to the task of Catholic higher education.

As we walked, it seemed clear to us that one way to proceed would be to develop a resource book for discussion among faculty and staff at our universities. Many of our colleagues—good and hard-working people, willing to make their contribution to the overall good of the institution—were ignorant about the Catholic intellectual tradition. They would be open, we felt, to discussion and even self-education about the “tradition.” However, it seemed to us that not much had been written about the tradition in a contemporary vein that was both clear and engaging. The landscape delimited by the term “Catholic intellectual tradition” seemed vague at best, or was addressed in a variety of places and in language that was not accessible to a number of our colleagues.

Some persons with whom we discussed the idea of a published resource in this area wondered who the representative authors
might be; others suggested a variety of representative titles; still others spoke about a particularly Catholic "sensibility," noteworthy qualities of a "Catholic imagination," or a unique approach to education. The variety of responses to our initial idea indicated the need for such a project.

These were the beginnings of the book you hold. It is intended to lay out some of the content behind the term "Catholic intellectual tradition." As Monika Hellwig suggests in her initial essay, the "tradition" is both a "heritage," that is, a treasury of classic and more contemporary works, including intellectual, religious and aesthetic products by a variety of creative persons, and a "way of doing things" borne of experience, prayer, and critical reflection. Another volume, lengthier and more detailed, is planned and will investigate the relationship of the Catholic intellectual tradition to a number of different intellectual pursuits and disciplines.

A special word of thanks is due to two members of the Sacred Heart University community, Sidney Gottlieb, Professor of English, and Michelle Quinn, editorial assistant in the President's office, for their extraordinary efforts in bringing this volume to completion.

Anthony J. Cernera and Oliver J. Morgan
NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

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ANTHONY J. CERNERA, PH.D., has been President of Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut since 1988. He earned his doctoral degree in systematic theology at Fordham University and continues to teach at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. He has lectured extensively on world hunger, on justice and peace issues, on social action, and on a variety of theological topics. His articles have appeared in Living Light, Momentum, and The Way. He has edited three books: Toward Greater Understanding (1995), Vatican II: The Continuing Agenda (1997), Continuity and Plurality in Catholic Theology (1998), all published by the Sacred Heart University Press.

FRANCIS X. CLOONEY, S.J., is Professor of Comparative and Systematic Theology at Boston College. He is the author of Hindu Wisdom for All God’s Children (Orbis, 1998), and editor and translator, with Anand Amaladass, of Preaching Wisdom to the Wise: Three Treatises by Roberto de Nobili, S.J. (Institute of Jesuit
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**Jeremy Driscoll,** O.S.B., S.T.D., is a Benedictine monk and a priest at Mount Angel Abbey in Oregon. In addition, he is a professor of theology both at Mount Angel Seminary and at the Pontifical Athanaeum Sant’ Anselmo in Rome, spending one semester each year in each school. His main fields of academic interest are patristics and liturgical theology as well as the specific contribution that monastic theology can make to the general academic discourse in theology. He also writes poetry with a view toward expressing in that genre the best insights of the Catholic spiritual tradition.

**Louis Dupré,** Ph.D., has been T.L. Riggs Professor of Philosophy and Religion at Yale University since 1973. Recognized as a preeminent Catholic philosopher, author, and lecturer, Dr. Dupré is a past president of the American Catholic Philosophical Association and of the Hegel Society of America. He has lectured at universities throughout the United States and Europe, including his alma mater, the University of Louvain, and participates in the biennial Colloque de Rome in Philosophy and Religion. The author of several books, including one on Marxism, his most personal book is *Transcendental Selfhood* (Seabury Press, 1976), in which he assembled evidence from a number of viewpoints for a religious conception of the person.

**Andrew M. Greeley,** Ph.D., is a Roman Catholic priest, a theologian, a distinguished sociologist, a best-selling novelist with over fifteen million copies of his books in print, a newspaper columnist, and the author of many scholarly works. He is also a Research Associate at the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago and an Honorary Senior Fellow at the University of Ireland in Dublin. He divides his teaching time between the University of Chicago and the University of Arizona in Tucson.

**Monika K. Hellwig,** Ph.D., has been serving since 1996 as executive director of the Association of Catholic Colleges and
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**Ursula King, Ph.D.**, received her STL degree from the University of Paris, her M.A. from the University of Delhi, and her Ph.D. from the University of London. Since 1989 she has been a professor and the department head for the University of Bristol’s Department of Theology and Religious Studies. For five years she was Visiting Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Delhi and for eighteen years was lecturer and senior lecturer in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Leeds. In addition, she is the author of several books, including *Women and Spirituality* (New Amsterdam Books, 1989), and the editor of several others, including *Turning Points in Religious Studies* (T & T Clark, 1991).

**Gerald A. McCool, S.J.**, Professor Emeritus at Fordham University in New York, is considered to be one of the preeminent scholars of Thomistic thought. His many published works include deeply influential studies of the roots of contemporary Catholic thought, such as *Catholic Theology in the Nineteenth Century* (Seabury, 1977), and his history of Thomism, *From Unity to Pluralism: The Internal Evolution of Thomism* (Fordham University Press, 1989). The collection of essays *Continuity and Plurality in Catholic Theology*, published in 1998 by the Sacred Heart University Press, honors and further elaborates on Father McCool’s many contributions to examining the Catholic intellectual tradition.

**Oliver J. Morgan, Ph.D.**, is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Counseling and Human Services at the University of Scranton in Pennsylvania. He is also Co-Chair of that
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