



# The Center for Dominican Studies

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 7 FALL 2009

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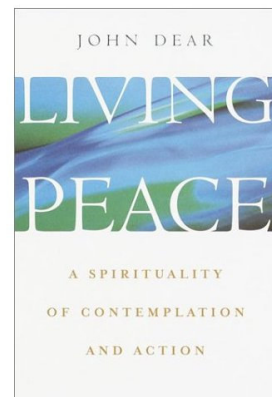
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"Peace begins within each of us. It is a process of repeatedly showing mercy to ourselves, forgiving ourselves, befriending ourselves, accepting ourselves.

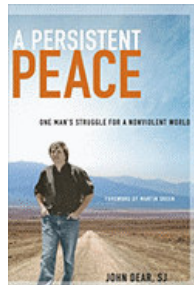
As we learn to appreciate ourselves and accept God's gift of peace, we begin to radiate peace and love to others."

(John Dear, S.J.)



On the evening of **September 30, 2009**, over 300 participants came to the ODU campus to hear Jesuit Father John Dear share his stories of *Living Peace: A Spirituality of Contemplation and Action*. John Dear, S.J. is noted for his work as a pastor, peace activist, organizer, lecturer, retreat leader, and has published many works on the topic of peace and justice.

John's work for peace has taken him to El Salvador, where he lived and worked in a refugee camp in 1985; to Guatemala, Nicaragua, Haiti, the Middle East, and the Philippines; to Northern Ireland where he lived and worked at a human rights center for a year; and to Iraq, where he led a delegation of Nobel Peace Prize winners to witness the effects of the deadly sanctions on Iraqi children. John's commitment to peace and justice has led him to peaceful protests against nuclear arms. He has organized numerous demonstrations against war and nuclear weapons across the country. Along with peace activist, Jesuit Philip Berrigan, he spent months incarcerated in North Carolina county jails paying the price for peace. Additionally, John worked with Mother Theresa of Calcutta, Sr. Helen Prejean and others to end the death penalty. He was nominated by Bishop Desmond Tutu for the Nobel Peace Prize. The lecture was followed by a question and answer session that engaged the audience in both a challenging and inspiring exchange. During the reception, John joined the audience for conversation and a book signing.



"Silence is countercultural and more; it leads us beyond culture, beyond illusion, beyond worlds, to the truth of peace." (John Dear, S.J.)



## Dominican Conversation Circles Dinner September 10, 2009

*Fra Angelico: Preaching through Art*

Featured Barbara Cervenka, OP

September 10, 2009



Sister **Barbara Cervenka**, OP, Associate Professor of Art at Siena Heights University in Adrian, Michigan shared the inspiring story of Fra Angelico, a noted Dominican Friar and early Italian Renaissance painter who in Barbara's words "was a man of his time, a profoundly professional artist, as well as a deeply religious and holy Dominican." Barbara shared inspiring stories related to Fra Angelico that included insights into how he became an artist, was trained in the art of painting and special techniques, and reflected openness to change in his response to the world of his day. Sr. Barbara teaches watercolor, painting, and drawing and is a painter in watercolor. She has exhibited widely in the United States and Canada. Since 1989 she has also curated shows of Latin American popular art. One entitled *Cuadros of Pamplona Alta: Textile Pictures of Women of Peru* has been exhibited in more than 20 sites, including the Field Museum in Chicago. She recently served on the Exhibit Committee entitled, *Women and Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America*. This exhibit featured artifacts, pictures and stories collected from religious congregations of women in the U.S. that highlighted the contributions made by Orders of Roman Catholic Sisters in the United States over the past two centuries.



## Life of the Mind Lecture

*Politics, Spirituality and the  
Common Good*

Featured Dr. Barbara Wall

September 23, 2009



**Dr. Barbara Wall** Vice President for Mission and Ministry at Villanova University and Associate Professor of Philosophy, (Marxism, Political Theory, Catholic Social Teaching and Feminism) delivered both a scholarly and inspiring presentation entitled *Politics, Spirituality and the Common Good*. Dr. Wall earned a B.A. in Philosophy from Fordham University, Bronx, New York; an M.A. in Philosophy, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and a Ph.D. in Political Philosophy, Marquette University. She is co-editor of the *Journal of Catholic Social Thought* and the *Journal for Peace and Justice Studies*. She was a participant in the Francis & Ann Curran Center for American Catholic Studies, Fordham University project entitled "Passing on the Faith, Passing on the Church," a three year research study focusing on the American Catholic future. Dr. Wall offered the audience practical ways in which the rich patrimony of the Church found in Catholic Social Teaching might enhance the mission of the university on all levels.

***"Belief in the inherent dignity of the human person is the foundation of all Catholic Social Teaching. Human life is sacred, and the dignity of the human person is the starting point for a moral vision for society," (Key Principle of Catholic Social Teaching)***



## ***Dominican Life of the Mind Lecture***

**TOPIC: *Meaningful Change within a Living Church: Cardinal Yves Congar's Vision of True Reform***

**Featured: Paul J. Philibert, OP**



Fr. Paul Philibert, OP

Fr. Paul Philibert, OP, a member and former Prior Provincial of the Southern Dominican Province of St. Martin de Porres, was the guest speaker at the November 17, 2009, Life of the Mind Lecture. Fr. Philibert served as visiting professor of Pastoral Theology at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, where he held the chair in French Pastoral Theology for three years. Among other institutions, he taught at Providence College, the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and Aquinas Institute in St. Louis, Missouri. An author of several books and many articles, he is a member of the permanent commission on Studies of the Dominican Order and chairs the Board of the Congar Institute. Fr. Philibert shared insightful stories from the life and works of Congar that brought great relevance to our call today to be people of faith committed to humanity.

***Yves Marie-Joseph Congar, O.P.***  
***April 8, 1904 – June 22, 1995***



Yves Marie-Joseph  
Congar, OP

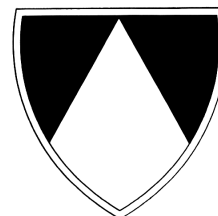
- 1925 – Dominican Novitiate at Amiens
- 1930 – ordained presbyter
- 1940 to 1945 – prisoner of war of the Germans
- 1960 – named to the council's Preparatory Theological Commission by Pope John XXIII
- 1994 – made Cardinal by Pope John Paul II

### ***Service of Congar at the Second Vatican Council***

- An Expert of Five Theological Commissions of the Council
- Contributed Major Texts on Church, Ecumenism, Mission, and Laity
- Served on the Vatican's International Theological Commission for 15 years following the Council

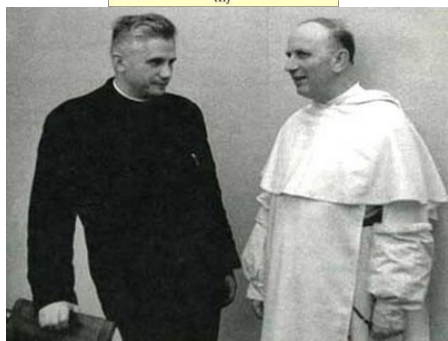
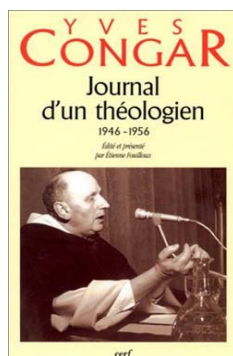
### ***Some Key Writings of Yves Congar***

- Divided Christendom: A Catholic Study of the Problem of Reunion, 1937*
- True and False Reform in the Church, 1950*
- Lay People in the Church, 1953*
- Dialogue Between Christians, 1955*
- The Mystery of the Temple, 1962*
- Tradition and Traditions, 1963*
- Power and Poverty in the Church, 1964*
- I Believe in the Holy Spirit (3 volumes), 1983*
- Journal of the Council, 2002*



“God has fulfilled me. He has given me gifts in profusion, infinitely more than my literally nonexistent merits deserve.”

**(Yves Congar, O.P.)**



Yves Congar with a young Joseph  
Ratzinger

**Thirty- One Members of the ODU Community Participated in the Fall  
Semester 2009 Book Study Opportunity  
Sponsored by The Center for Dominican Studies**

**Book: *Being Consumed: Economics and Christian Desire*  
Author: William T. Cavanaugh**

“Christians vaguely sense that all is not well with their relation to consumer society, but find it difficult to name just what ails them. In *Being Consumed*, William Cavanaugh offers the clearest, most helpful diagnosis I have ever seen. No liberal guilt-tripping here, just some serious theological reflection on matters like God, desire, justice, pluralism, and the nature of human freedom. I especially like Cavanaugh’s concrete examples of economic practices consistent with life in the body of Christ. This book will be required reading in my introductory theology course.” (Joseph Mangina, Wycliffe College, Toronto)

**Reflections from Two Participants**

William T. Cavanaugh’s book, *Being Consumed*, offers an explanation for and solution to the consumer culture that afflicts American culture. Unlike other books on the topic, such as *Affluenza: The All-Consuming Epidemic*, Cavanaugh’s work seeks to find solutions in the body of Christ and the Church. Using the philosophy of St. Augustine and Catholic social teaching, he exposes the machinery of consumer culture. He notes, for example, it “is not just a matter of wanting too much; it is a matter of wanting without any idea why we want what we want. To desire with no good other than desire itself . . .” This is one of the great problems of American consumer culture—the desire to desire with no end in sight. Such a situation, then, leaves individuals vulnerable to manipulation. Americans, for example, think they are “free” to make decisions, but without an end to desire, what we are left with is a competition of wills: “Persuasion in this context can only be the domination of one will over another.” Cavanaugh’s examples of this domination will resonate with any consumer in contemporary culture—our purchases are noted, our choices manipulated, and our social environments saturated by marketing campaigns that touch every aspect of our lives, from cradle to grave. And what the marketing campaigns frequently highlight is our self-sufficiency, offering us the “right to be different,” “express ourselves,” but, in fact, we are all succumbing to marketing manipulation. For Cavanaugh, “the true identity of each unique human person is thus founded on the overcoming of an illusory self-sufficiency through the overcoming of the opposition between the One and the many, God and creatures.” Of course, the solution for Catholics is the body of Christ which offers both individualism and community. Individuals thrive through the Holy Eucharist, “communion.” In very practical terms, he advises us to buy locally, to work globally, and to really understand how and by what means items come into our lives—the treatment of third world workers, for example, to create playthings and clothing. But Cavanaugh is no Marxist, and I think that is important to emphasize. He supports the free market in terms of free will. People have the right to make mistakes and to succeed, but what we have now in the United States is not free; it is about what Augustine calls *libido dominandi*, the lust for power.

This book will be useful as I teach a class on wealth and poverty, the haves and the have-nots, as part of the Interdisciplinary curriculum here at Ohio Dominican. Since the class is about justice, this book offers some very practical and insightful uses of Catholic social justice teachings...Finally, I think that anyone running a business—from a small company to a mega-corporation to a university—should read this book. It is a good reminder that we are all connected. (Dr. Ann Hall, Professor of English at ODU)

After reading the book, *Being Consumed: Economics and Christian Desire* by William T. Cavanaugh, I was enlightened with thoughts about living a life in a world where materialism and consumerism has infiltrated the American Way of Life, especially when it comes to work life and personal life based on money... With the current economic climate, it certainly has forced many people to look at how they spend their money and why they do so. It is unfortunate that people have had to awaken to how materialistic they have become over the years when the economy was doing so well. Now we have all been forced to evaluate where our priorities should be...that money here today can disappear quite quickly... In conclusion, this book made me step back and evaluate my own relationship of my work life to my personal life. I feel that my work life is a part of my faith life working at a Catholic Higher Education Institution based in the Dominican Heritage. Through my relationships and my responsibilities, I feel it is my responsibility to give 100% of my self in sharing the Catholic and Dominican identity of Ohio Dominican with others and to engage them deeper with the University... I think *Being Consumed* would be a great book for a business class at Ohio Dominican. Whether you own a company or you are a consumer as well as being an employer or employee, this book forces one to think about our world today and why materialism and consumerism need to be thought about in regard to our relationship with God. (Christie Flood-Weiner, Office of University Advancement)





## A Call for Stewardship of the Earth



Featured



Patricia Siemen, OP, J.D.



Faculty members Virginia McCormack and Sr. Roberta Miller share ideas.

Sr. Patricia Siemen engages in conversation with two participants.

Dominican Sister Patricia Siemen directed a large audience of participants in a discussion of our responsibility to reverence the earth as gift. Both insightful and practical examples were given to encourage the listeners to take responsibility for preserving life at all levels. Sr. Patricia serves as the director of the Center for Earth Jurisprudence, a collaborative initiative cosponsored by Barry and St. Thomas Universities. Among her many previous positions held, Patricia served as coordinator of the Healing the Earth Center at the Institute of Pastoral Ministry, St. Thomas University and director of the Earth Ethics Institute at Miami Dade College (2001 - 04), that engaged students and staff in programs and workshops in Earth Literacy. She holds a Juris Doctor from Northeastern University School of Law, Boston; a Master in Public Affairs from the University of Texas at Austin; and a Master in Culture and Spirituality from Holy Names University, Oakland, California. Her B.A. is in History and Political Science from Siena Heights University, Adrian, Michigan.



Members of the CDS Advisory Board and MAP Committee gathered in conversation previous to the luncheon.



### CDS Advisory Board Fall Meeting

October 23, 2009



Dr. Aurelie Hagstrom

The Fall 2009 Center for Dominican Studies Advisory Board meeting was held in the President's dining room of the Griffin Center on **October 23, 2009**. The meeting opened with a luncheon that included a keynote speaker, Dr. Aurelie Hagstrom, Associate Professor of Theology, Providence College, who gave an insightful and challenging presentation on the topic:

#### ***Transformation: A Catholic Agenda in the Dominican Tradition The Biblical Notion of Hospitality as the Model of a Catholic University***

Dr. Aurelie Hagstrom, Associate Professor of Theology, holds a B.A. in Theology and Philosophy from Providence College, an MA. in Biblical Studies from Boston College and an S.T.L. in Dogmatic Theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas: Rome, Italy.



She received the Faculty Award for Outstanding and Commendable Achievement at the University of St. Francis, Joliet, Illinois and was a Board Member of The Lay Centre at Foyer Unitas, Rome, Italy from 1992 -2004. Her research and interests include: theology of laity in the Church; theological and philosophical concept of hospitality and the theology of ecology. On the first page of her web site, Aurelie writes: "Hospitality in the classroom includes intellectual generosity and reciprocity and it promises the possible transformation and fulfillment of both teacher and student – host and guest." This theme was developed in her presentation which was followed by a lively round table discussion by the members of the CDS Advisory Board and Mission Animation and Planning Committee of the Office of the Vice President for Mission and Identity.





## ***Keep it Real!*** ***Truth in Academic Life***



On **October 25, 2009**, Dominican Father John Boll, Chaplain at Ohio Dominican University, addressed a group of over forty participants at the Truth Seekers luncheon which focused on the topic ***Keep it Real! Truth in Academic Life***. Father John guided the group in a reflection on questions that included "What is truth? and How do we approach our search for truth? He suggested practical ways of being attentive on a daily basis to our search for truth at all levels. A creative PowerPoint slide show enhanced the focus of the reflection. Fr. John Boll, OP is a graduate of Ohio Dominican University, Class of 1976 with a degree in Biology. He joined the Dominican Order, was ordained a Catholic Priest and, since 1981, has worked in a number of colleges in the office of Campus Ministry. Fr. John says "his favorite thing is to work with students and their questions about life, the world and faith."



## ***Catholic Social Teaching and Issues of Justice in Higher Education***

### ***A Truth Seekers Faculty Panel***

In the summer of 2009, Dr. Shannon Markiewicz and Dr. Godwin Duru were recipients of a special scholarship through The Center for Dominican Studies to attend a week long Curriculum Development Workshop on Catholic Social Teaching and Issues of Justice. The event took place from June 8-12 at Villanova University and was sponsored by the Office for Mission Effectiveness under the direction of Dr. Barbara Wall, the Vice President for Mission Effectiveness at Villanova. Both Shannon and Godwin were excited to share their experience during a faculty panel facilitated by Dr. Barbara Finan. The knowledge and insights gained from the summer event provided many new ideas for enhancing their coursework particularly courses taught in the Core Curriculum.

**Faculty Panel: Dr. Shannon Markiewicz, Dr. Godwin Duru and Dr. Barbara Finan**

## ***Noted International Artist Presents Concert at ODU***

Christ the King Chapel, in Sansbury Hall, provided the perfect venue for Tatiana Cameron, noted international artist, to perform an inspiring concert the evening of October 3, 2009. **Sacred Music Concert: *I Do Believe***

Tajci (Tatiana Cameron) is an accomplished musician and singer who moved from poverty in Communist Yugoslavia, where she was trained at the Music Conservatory from age four, to stardom in Central Europe. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, she joined thousands of Croatians who flocked to the churches to pray freely for the first time. Her concert tells of this journey in song.



***Tajci***



**Tajci performs with her children.**