

Matthew G. Kuhner, Ph.D.

Academic Dean and Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology
St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2019-Present	ST. BERNARD'S SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY Academic Dean
2018-2019	ST. BERNARD'S SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY Interim Academic Dean
2017-Present	ST. BERNARD'S SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology
2016-Present	AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY Adjunct Professor of Theology

EDUCATION

2013-2017	AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY Ph.D., Systematic Theology Dissertation: "We Have Beheld His Glory, Glory as an Only-Begotten of the Father": Mission and Personhood in Hans Urs von Balthasar Director: Dr. Michael Maria Waldstein, Th.D.
2011-2013	PONTIFICAL JOHN PAUL II INSTITUTE (LATERAN, ROME) Washington, DC Session M.T.S., Sacred Theology (<i>magna cum laude</i>)
2006-2010	DESALES UNIVERSITY B.A., Theology (<i>magna cum laude</i>) B.A., Philosophy (<i>magna cum laude</i>)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Christology
- Theology of Hans Urs von Balthasar
- Marriage and Sexuality (especially John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*)
- Catechesis and Evangelization

AREAS OF COMPETENCY

- Moral Theology
- 20th Century Catholic Theology
- Theology of Thomas Aquinas
- Gospel of John

COURSES TAUGHT

St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry

- The Gospel of Life: Life Issues and Contemporary Challenges (Summer 2017)
- Catechesis and the New Evangelization: Content, Method, and Challenges (Fall 2017)
- Speaking the Truth in Love: Introduction to Apologetics (Spring 2018)
- Faith, Fiction, and Film: The Drama of Belief (Summer 2018)
- Mary, Mother of God (Fall 2018)
- Church and Ministry (Fall 2018)
- The Gift of Meaning: The History of the Church (Spring 2019)
- Theology of the Body: Sexuality and the Sacred (Summer 2019)
- Catholic Spirituality and Culture (Summer 2019)

Ave Maria University

- Sacred Scripture (Undergraduate) (Fall 2016)
- Christian Marriage: Theology of the Body (Online, Undergraduate and Graduate) (Summer 2016; Summer 2017; Summer 2018)

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Articles

- 2017 "The 'Aspects of Christ' (Epinoiai Christou) in Origen's *Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans*," *Harvard Theological Review* 110:2, 195-216.
- 2017 "Ignatius of Antioch's Letter to the Ephesians 19:1 and the Hidden Mysteries: A Trajectory of Interpretation from Origen to Thomas Aquinas," *Journal of Theological Studies* 68:1, 93-120.
- 2016 "The Lesser Light is Not Dimmed: On the Significance of Thomas Aquinas's Treatise on the Incarnation for the Relationship between Nature and Grace," *Angelicum* 93:4, 751-783.
- 2016 "A Luminous and Splendid Truth: On the Mystery of Predestination in Matthias Scheeben," *The Heythrop Journal* 57:5 [available online - awaiting print publication].

- 2016 "Catholic Ecclesiology and Hans Urs von Balthasar: The Unity-in-Difference of the Marian and Petrine Principles of the Church," *Princeton Theological Review* 19:1, 21-37.
- 2010 "Heaven Held Back: On the Reductions of Secularism and the Fulfillment Found in Trinitarian Love." *On the Wings of Truth: The Online Journal of the Salesian Center for Faith and Culture at DeSales University*. Published on-line: <http://web1.desales.edu/assets/salesian/PDF/HP2010-Kuhner.pdf>. [Senior Thesis for the Faith and Reason Honors Program; advised by Dr. Rodney Howsare]

Book Chapters

- 2019 "Catechesis at the Service of Encounter: The Christocentric Shape of Postconciliar Catechesis and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*." In *Speaking the Truth in Love: The Catechism and the New Evangelization*. Edited by Petroc Willey and Scott R. Sollom. Steubenville, OH: Emmaus Press, 2019. *Forthcoming*.

Book Reviews

- 2019 *Renewing the Mind: A Reader in the Philosophy of Catholic Education*. Edited by Ryan N. S. Topping (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2015), forthcoming in *Humanum Review: Issues in Family, Culture, & Science*.
- 2018 Lyra Pitstick: *Christ's Descent into Hell: John Paul II, Joseph Ratzinger, and Hans Urs von Balthasar on the Theology of Holy Saturday* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2016), *Journal of Jesuit Studies* 5:1, 186-189.
- 2017 Matthew Lewis Sutton, *Heaven Opens: The Trinitarian Mysticism of Adrienne von Speyr* (Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2014), *Nova et Vetera* 15:2, 692-696.
- 2016 Aidan Nichols, O.P., *Figuring Out the Church: Her Marks and Her Masters* (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2013), *Pro Ecclesia* 25 (Spring), 243-246.
- 2016 Spencer Cole, *Cicero and the Rise of Deification at Rome* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2013), *The Heythrop Journal* 57 (January), 221.
- 2016 Michael Koortbojian, *The Divinization of Caesar and Augustus: Precedents, Consequences, Implications* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2013), *The Heythrop Journal* 57 (January), 222.
- 2015 J. Budziszewski, *On the Meaning of Sex* (Wilmington, DE: ISI Books, 2014), published in *Humanum Review: Issues in Family, Culture, & Science* (Issue Three). Co-authored with Michelle Kuhner.

- 2014 *The Ethics of Organ Transplantation*, ed. Steven J. Jensen (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2011), published in *Humanum Review: Issues in Family, Culture, & Science* (Issue One). Co-authored with Michelle Kuhner.

Manuscripts in Progress

- “Reading *Veritatis Splendor* §78 with Servais Pinckaers, O.P.: Thomistic Action Theory and ‘The Perspective of the Acting Person,’” submitting to *Modern Theology*.
- “*The Sacrament of Love: Paul Evdokimov & Contraception*,” submitting to *Logos: A Journal of Catholic Thought and Culture*.
- Review of Michele M. Schumacher, *A Trinitarian Anthropology: Adrienne von Speyr and Hans Urs von Balthasar in Dialogue with Thomas Aquinas*, submitting to *The Heythrop Journal*.
- Review of Jennifer Newsome Martin, *Hans Urs von Balthasar and the Critical Appropriation of Russian Thought*, submitting to *The Heythrop Journal*.
- Review of Anne M. Carpenter, *Theo-Poetics: Hans Urs von Balthasar and the Risk of Art and Being*, submitting to *The Heythrop Journal*.
- Review of Angel Perez-Lopez, *Procreation and the Spousal Meaning of the Body: A Thomistic Argument Grounded in Vatican II*, submitting to *Nova et Vetera*.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 “The Guardian of the Gift: On the Role of Nature in Personal Love,” *7th Annual Symposium on Advancing the New Evangelization*, Gregorian Institute at Benedictine College, March 23-24.
- 2017 “Catechesis at the Service of Encounter: The Christocentricity of the Second Vatican Council and the Shape of Postconciliar Catechesis,” *Speaking the Truth in Love: Celebrating the Silver Jubilee of the Catechism*, Catechetical Institute at Franciscan University of Steubenville, October 13-15.
- 2017 “The ‘Theological Existence’ of St. Teresa of Calcutta: On the Significance of Her Life and Work for the Discipline of Theology,” *Mother Teresa and the Mystics: Toward a Renewal of Spiritual Theology*, The Aquinas Center, February 10-11.
- 2016 “A Luminous and Splendid Truth: On the Mystery of Predestination in Matthias Scheeben,” *Thomism and Predestination: A Theological Symposium*, The Aquinas Center and The Thomistic Institute, January 25-27.

- 2015 "The Joy that Burns and Consumes: Hans Urs von Balthasar on the Relationship Between Joy and Suffering in the Life of the Church," *4th Annual Symposium on Advancing the New Evangelization*, Benedictine College Institute for Missionary Activity, March 27-28.
- 2015 "Ignatius of Antioch's Letter to the Ephesians 19:1 and the Hidden Mysteries: A Trajectory of Interpretation from Origen to Thomas Aquinas," *Graduate Student Conference in Patristic Studies, Historical Theology, and History of Christianity in Late Antiquity*, Pappas Patristic Institute, March 5-7.
- 2014 "The 'Aspects of Christ' (Epinoiai Christou) in Origen's *Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans*," *Graduate Student Conference in Patristic Studies, Historical Theology, and History of Christianity in Late Antiquity*, Pappas Patristic Institute, March 6-8.
- 2013 "Ex Corde Ecclesiae and the Meaning of 'Proper Autonomy,'" *Graduate Student Seminar, Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU) Annual Meeting*, February 4. Co-presented with Sara Hulse.

MASTER'S THESES DIRECTED

- 2019 Mrs. Jennifer Lozy-Lester, MATS: "Deification and Relics: Compenetrated Theologies"
- 2018 Mr. Paul Kohlmeier, MATS: "Joshua and Violence: Context, Consequences, and Hermeneutical Considerations."

NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 "The Power of Presence," *St. Patrick's Parish Magazine* (Fall), 20-22.
- 2017 "Advent – the Season of the Secret," *St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry Newsletter* (December), vol. 8, no. 6.

NON-ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 "The Anthropology of the Gospel," Guest Lecturer for *Catholic Bioethics: A Matter of Life and Death* (St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry), September 11.
- 2019 "End of Life Issues," St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Clyde, NY, April 14.
- 2019 "Moral Theology and the Search for Joy," Church of the Holy Spirit, Webster, *Confirmation Retreat for Confirmandis and Sponsors*, February 24.
- 2018 "Mary as Figure, Archetype, and Eschatological Fulfillment of the Church: Towards a Marian Ecclesiology," Abbey of the Genesee, *Genesee Conferences*, Five Lecture Series, October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 9.

- 2018 “Hold Fast Hope: Mary and the Mystery of Mercy,” The Church of St. Jerome, *Confirmation Speaker Session for Parents and Confirmandis*, October 30
- 2018 “We Remember, We Celebrate: The Eucharist as the Perfection of Memory,” Saint Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Church, Ontario, *Saint Bernard’s On the Road Series: The Year of the Eucharist*, October 21
- 2018 “Teaching Religion and Theology in a Time of Increasing Disaffiliation from the Catholic Church: Challenges and Opportunities for Educators,” Diocese of Rochester Department of Catholic Schools, *Fall Conference Day*, October 5.
- 2018 “So Your Child is Making Their Confirmation. What is Confirmation Anyway?” St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Clyde, NY, September 9.
- 2018 “The Bread of Life: Foundations of a Eucharistic Spirituality,” Eight Session Series, St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Auburn, NY, May 9, 16, 23, 30.
- 2018 “We Remember, We Celebrate: The Eucharist as the Perfection of Memory,” Saint Paul Catholic Church, Webster, *Saint Bernard’s On the Road Series: The Year of the Eucharist*, April 11
- 2018 “We Remember, We Celebrate: The Eucharist as the Perfection of Memory,” Saint Pius X Catholic Church, Rochester, *Saint Bernard’s On the Road Series: The Year of the Eucharist*, March 21
- 2018 “The Weight of the Mass: Young People and the (Re-)Engagement of the Liturgy,” St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Auburn, NY, *Parents, Grandparents, and Teachers Dinner Gathering and Talk*, March 14.
- 2018 “What is Confirmation?” St. John of Rochester Catholic Church, Fairport, NY, *Confirmation Retreat for Confirmandis and Parents*, March 10.
- 2018 “We Remember, We Celebrate: The Eucharist as the Perfection of Memory,” Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Painted Post, *Saint Bernard’s On the Road Series: The Year of the Eucharist*, March 6
- 2018 “Catechesis and the Catechetical Documents,” St. Bernard’s School of Theology and Ministry, *Professional Development Day for Catechetical Leaders*, February 28.
- 2018 “We Remember, We Celebrate: the Eucharist as the Perfection of Memory,” St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Diocese of Rochester, *St. Bernard’s On the Road: Year of the Eucharist Series*, February 5.

- 2018 “We Remember, We Celebrate: The Eucharist as the Perfection of Memory,” Saint Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Mendon, *Saint Bernard’s On the Road Series: The Year of the Eucharist*, February 5
- 2018 “Encountering God in Prayer,” Immaculate Heart of Mary and Saint Joseph the Worker Linked Faith Communities, Diocese of Syracuse, *Confirmation Retreat*, February 3.
- 2018 “What Does it Mean to be a Faithful Catholic Man?” (keynote), The Parish of the Holy Family, Rochester, NY, *Father and Son Retreat*, January 27.
- 2018 “Moral Theology and the Search for Joy,” St. Marianne Cope Catholic Church, Henrietta, NY, *Confirmation Speaker Session for Confirmandis and Sponsors*, January 14.
- 2017 “Catholic Bioethics: A Witness to Love,” *Diocese of Rochester Diaconate Formation, Saturday Session*, December 2. Co-presented with Dr. Jean Baric-Parker and Jann Armantrout.
- 2017 “Sacred Scripture: Life, Love, and the Word of God,” St. John of Rochester Catholic Church, Fairport, NY, *Confirmation Speaker Session for Confirmandis, Sponsors, and Parents*, November 5.
- 2017 “Teachers of the Faith: Helping Our Children Become All They Were Created To Be,” St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, Victor, NY, *Day of Enrichment for Parents and Children*, October 7.
- 2017 “The Paradox of Missionary Discipleship” (keynote), *Fall Days: Annual Gathering of Catechetical Leaders*, Diocese of Rochester, September 14.
- 2017 “Renewing our Minds in Christ: Reflections on the Importance of Intellectual Formation” (keynote), *St. Stephen’s Diaconal Community Association Gathering*, Diocese of Rochester, September 9.
- 2017 “Beyond Left and Right: The Appalling Strangeness of Catholic Moral Teaching,” *Theology on Tap*, Diocese of Rochester, August 7.
- 2017 “Catechesis at the Service of Encounter,” *Gathering of the Ministerium*, Diocese of Rochester, April 18.
- 2012 “‘Taking Every Thought Captive to Christ’ – On the Importance of Renewing our Minds in Christ Jesus,” *Fraternal Dinner Address*, Knights of Columbus Council #13242 at George Washington University, September 20.

HONORS, AWARDS, ACHIEVEMENTS

- McGivney Scholarship at the John Paul II Institute (2011-2012 and 2012-2013).
- Recipient of the “Award for Excellence in Philosophical Studies,” presented annually by the Philosophy and Theology Department of DeSales University (2010).
- Papal Medal awarded by Archbishop Claudio Maria Celli (President of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications) for “best student essay” of the Heritage Essay Contest hosted by the Salesian Center for Faith and Culture at DeSales University (2009). Found online: “Communicating Love: Friendship in the Technological Age,” <http://www.desales.edu/assets/salesian/PDF/AnnualEssayKuhner2009.pdf>.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Reviewer/Referee for *Modern Theology*.
- Visiting Team Member, NAPCIS reaccreditation process for St. John Bosco School/Chesterton Academy of Rochester, Rochester, NY.
- Managing Editor for *Thomistica.net*, a website dedicated to the academic study of Thomas Aquinas (2016-2018).
- Conference Assistant for *Thomism and Predestination: A Theological Symposium*, sponsored by *The Aquinas Center* and *The Thomistic Institute* and held at Ave Maria University, January 25-27, 2016.
- Member of the Ad Hoc Committees on *Cultivating Excellence in Student Papers* and on *Best Pedagogical Practices* at Ave Maria University (Fall 2016).

LANGUAGES

- Reading proficiency in German, Latin, and Greek; beginner’s knowledge of Italian.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Catholic Theological Society of America
- Fellowship of Catholic Scholars

REFERENCES

- Dr. Stephen J. Loughlin, President and Associate Professor of Philosophy, Saint Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry, tel. 585-271-3657. E-mail: stephen.loughlin@stbernards.edu.
- Dr. Michael Maria Waldstein, Max Seckler Professor of Theology, Department of Theology, Ave Maria University, tel. 239-280-2594. E-mail: michael.waldstein@avemaria.edu.
- Dr. Thomas Scheck, Associate Professor of Theology, Department of Theology, Ave Maria University, tel. 239-280-1640. E-mail: thomas.scheck@avemaria.edu.
- Dr. Steven Long, Professor of Theology, Department of Theology, Ave Maria University, tel. 239-280-1664. E-mail: steven.long@avemaria.edu.
- Dr. Joseph Atkinson, Associate Professor of Sacred Scripture, Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family. E-mail: jatkinson@johnpaulii.edu.
- Dr. Rodney Howsare, Professor of Theology, Department of Philosophy and Theology, DeSales University, tel. 610-282-1100 ext. 1389. E-mail: rodney.howsare@desales.edu.