

Anthony F. LoPresti

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EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- Ph.D.** Theological Ethics, Boston College and Weston Jesuit School of Theology, 1999
Dissertation Title: *Spirituality Meets Ethics: Francis de Sales and Love for God*
Dissertation Committee: Lisa Sowle Cahill, Michael Himes, Edward Vacek (chair)
- M.A.** Theology, Boston College, 1997
- B.S.** Mathematics, Georgetown University, 1984

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Chair, Department of Religious & Theological Studies** 7/10 – present
Associate Professor, Salve Regina University 9/07 – present
A tenured faculty position at an institution sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy. Currently teaching the core Portal and Capstone courses, Christian Marriage and Family, a Pell honors course on race, the VIA Program's Destructive Interpretations of the Good Life, and a range of specialized electives. Actively involved in curriculum development, educational technology, assessment, and numerous academic committees.
- Assistant Professor, Salve Regina University** 8/03 – 8/07
- Assistant Professor, Sacred Heart School of Theology** 8/99 – 6/03
A full-time faculty position at an institution primarily, though not exclusively, dedicated to the preparation of men of mature years for Roman Catholic priesthood. In addition to teaching a full load of courses, I was also responsible for mentoring fourth-year students in their capstone papers, and M.A. students in their theses. Additionally, I was a member of the Committee on the Assessment of Program Effectiveness and the Technology Advisory Committee.
- Part-Time Faculty, Boston College** 8/98 - 5/99
Taught *Introduction to Christian Theology*, a two-semester undergraduate course that surveys the major themes of Christian theological thought and practice.
- Marketing Representative, IBM Corporation** 10/84 - 4/92
Was employed for nearly seven years as an IBM Marketing Representative, where my responsibilities included running seminars and mass marketing programs (1985-86); managing a large educational territory (1986-90); covering major, multi-million dollar accounts (1991-92). Though they were not academic in nature, I also gave many highly polished business presentations to customers and IBM personnel, using flip charts, overhead projectors, and presentation software.

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

“Bridging Ethics and Spirituality in St. Francis de Sales”

A presentation at an international conference on Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church, held in Trento, Italy, and attended by over 700 ethicists from 71 countries. July, 2010.

“Adoption and Catholic Family Ethics”

A presentation at the first Conference on Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church, held in Padua, Italy, and attended by over 400 ethicists from 63 countries. July, 2006.

“The Marks of a Catholic University”

A Faculty Colloquium presentation to celebrate ten years of achievement at Salve Regina University under the presidential leadership of Sr. Therese Antone. April, 2005.

“Sex and Christianity”

A chapter for an interdisciplinary undergraduate text titled *Sex and Religion*, ed. Christel J. Manning (Religious Studies, Sacred Heart University) and Phil Zuckerman (Sociology, Pitzer College). Published in January, 2005 by Thomson Wadsworth.

“Beyond the Family Feuds: The Future of Roman Catholic Moral Theology”

The lead article for a special 10th anniversary issue of the *Josephinum Journal of Theology* on the future of Catholic moral theology, viewed from the perspective of a “new generation of moral theologians.” Published in the Summer/Fall 2003 issue.

“Places in Time: The Multi-Dimensional World of Francis de Sales”

A plenary address for the 20th Annual Conference on the Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal, delivered August 1, 2003 in St. Louis. The presentation described how Salesian spirituality has been influenced by Francis and Jane’s geographic, social, and cultural location.

“Re-Discovering a Love for God”

Published in the Summer 2000 issue of the *Josephinum Journal of Theology*.

GRANTS and AWARDS

- **Davis Fellow** **2009-10**
With a stipend funded by the Davis Foundation, this fellowship allowed me to substantially revise two courses both in content and pedagogy and serve as a teaching resource for other faculty on campus.
- **Presidential Faculty Award** **Fall 2005**
A one-course teaching reduction granted to facilitate my efforts to spread awareness on campus and beyond of the African AIDS pandemic.
- **Collaborative Project Grant** **Fall 2005**
Developed in conjunction with Dr. Sally Goma of the English Department, this three-thousand dollar grant proposal was submitted and approved in support of our plan to teach a new course, “Ethics and Origins of Race.” The grant funded preparatory education and part of a speaker’s fee for a public lecture on racism and white privilege.
- **Atwood Lecture Committee Award** **Fall 2005**
A grant of approximately one-thousand six-hundred dollars to partially fund a public lecture of the nationally known anti-racism activist Tim Wise, who spoke at SRU on November 9, 2005.
- **Collaborative Project Grant** **Spring 2005**
A three-thousand dollar grant approved to partially offset expenses associated with a faculty trip to Nairobi, Kenya, to explore ways in which Salve Regina could develop a mutually beneficial

relationship with the Nyumbani Orphanage and their related program. I was the principal author of the grant proposal that was submitted on behalf of 13 faculty members from nine departments, and I traveled to Nairobi in May, 2005.

- **Doctoral Student Fellowship** **1993-98**
An aggregate competitively awarded fellowship of \$50,000, in addition to full tuition remission during my years as a Ph.D. student at Boston College.

COURSES TAUGHT

At Salve Regina University:

- **GST 150 The Portal Course: Seeking Wisdom: From Wonder to Justice**
A first-year core course introducing students to a Catholic liberal arts education. Students wrestle with some of the “big questions” of life through engagement with classic and contemporary texts, accompanied by a concentrated writing process.
- **GST 450 The Capstone Course: Living Wisdom**
A senior-year integrative core course designed to assist students reflect, philosophically and spiritually, on questions of personal development and worldview in light of his or her Salve experience.
- **PEL 299 Ethics and Origins of Race**
An honors seminar examining race and racism from an interdisciplinary perspective. Teaching this course also involved bringing a guest speaker to campus for a well-received public presentation.
- **RST 200 Foundations of Religious Thought**
A course designed to help students live creatively in the contemporary world by considering the role of faith, religion and theology in a society that is religiously and culturally diverse.
- **RTS 336 Christian Marriage and Family Life**
A biblical, historical, and contemporary reflection on Christian marriage and families, with further study of parenting, sexual morality, assisted reproduction, and divorce/remarriage.
- **RTS 338 Christian Ethics and Human Sexuality**
A course in sexual ethics that is designed to help students articulate a Christian vision of human sexuality that can be successfully integrated into a contemporary Christian spirituality.
- **RST 399 The Diabolical and the Divine**
A critical examination of contemporary Christian understandings of God against the backdrop of natural and human evil.
- **RTS 450 Christian Ethics and Biomedical Issues**
A course which analyzes and evaluates issues in biomedical ethics (relating to conception, end-of-life, medical research, etc.) through engagement and dialogue with pertinent secular and religious texts.
- **VIA 220 Destructive Interpretations of the Good Life**
An inquiry into ways in which the classical notion of “The Good Life” has been, and continues to be, corrupted by mistaken notions of happiness and virtue.

At other institutions:

- **Justice & Peace**
An introduction to modern Catholic social teaching and its bearing on issues such as war & peace, affluence & poverty, racism, sexism, crime & punishment, globalization, hunger, and the environment.
- **Human Sexuality**
A survey of the biblical, traditional, and contemporary theological literature as it pertains to topics in marriage and human sexuality.

- **Human Life**
A class in bio-medical ethics covering abortion, assisted fertility techniques, neonatal care, genetics, stem cell research, end-of-life care, and physician-assisted suicide.
- **Introduction to Christian Theology**
An undergraduate course (which I taught at Boston College) exploring the major themes and practices of the Christian religious tradition.
- **Sacraments in General and of Initiation**
An exploration into the nature of sacraments and sacramentality, with special attention to baptism, confirmation and eucharist.
- **How Scripture and Ethics Interact (team taught with a scripture colleague)**
A course in biblical hermeneutics together with an exploration of contemporary topics (wealth & poverty, women in ministry, pacifism/just war, homosexuality, divorce & remarriage).
- **Introduction to Christian Spirituality**
An inquiry into the nature and theology of spirituality, with an overview of modern spiritual practices and movements.
- **Major Figures in Christian Spirituality**
An historical exploration into the Benedictine, Franciscan, Carmelite and Salesian spiritual traditions, with a modern day comparison to Mohandas Gandhi.
- **Spirituality: Applications and Implications**
An in-depth examination of Salesian spirituality, with emphasis on its implications for prayer, discernment, models of God, providence, spiritual direction and a life of virtue.
- **Theological Anthropology**
A course on the nature of human existence as considered from a Judeo-Christian perspective. Topics include creation, sin, grace, redemption, as well as modern questions of gender and cultural diversity.

Continuing Education Offerings

- “Introduction to Bioethics” (March, 2001)
- “Discerning and Following God’s Will” (October, 2002)

PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

- **“Sexual Variations”** **4/11**
A case-based presentation and follow-up discussion on sexual practices which are typically not discussed in standard Christian treatments of sexual ethics. Offered to a weekly, seminar-style workshop focused on contemporary issues in theology.
- **“Friendship”** **10/10**
A talk to 300+ college students gathered in the wake of an outbreak of bullying and harassment based on sexual orientation. Presented at Salve Regina University.
- **“St. Augustine and the Moral Life”** **7/08**
An all-day seminar at the Smithsonian Institute structured around four separate presentations: “St. Augustine: His Life and Times;” “The Restless Heart: Augustine on the Human Condition;” “From Self to Others: An Augustinian View of Human Community;” and “The Good Life in Augustinian Perspective.”
- **“The Spiritual Lives of Children”** **9/06**
A presentation exploring the various ways in which children are alive in the Spirit, and how parents

can appreciate and nurture their children's spirituality Presented at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Sharon, MA.

- **“Fruitful Parenting: Cultivating Children in the Faith”** 10/05
In the face of studies which show that Catholic teens are, at best, only marginally literate or involved in their religion, this presentation asks “What can we reasonably expect of the Christian community when it comes to the stewardship of children in the faith?” Presented at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Sharon, MA.
- **“Facing the Future: Is Global Ethics Possible?”** 6/05
Participant on a panel discussion following a keynote address by Dr. Peter H. Liotta
- **“A Different Kind of King: New Ideas for a New Liturgical Year”** 11/04
A creative interpretation of God's power and sovereignty that takes its cue from Christ crucified as the defining mark of divine love in the encounter with evil and suffering. Presented at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Sharon, MA.
- **“Loving the Terrorist: The Incredible Challenge of the Golden Rule”** 2/04
A contemporary interpretation of the gospel injunction to “Do to others as you would have others do to you”—including loving one's enemies. Presented at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Sharon, MA. .
- **“Human Sexuality and the Sacrament of Marriage”** 10/03
A history of Catholic Christian teaching on marriage & sexuality, juxtaposed with a consideration of contemporary challenges that teaching faces. Presented at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Sharon, MA.
- **“Responding to Violence: Just War in Catholic Social Thought”** 5/02
A workshop for Directors of Religious Education, teachers and catechists at a continuing education forum titled “Seeds for Growth,” co-sponsored by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and Alverno College.
- **“Baptism: Its History and Contemporary Understanding”** 3/02
An overview in sacramental theology given as part of a Lenten series for adult faith formation.
- **“Sexual Ethics and Roman Catholicism”** 10/00
A presentation at the Milwaukee Archdiocesan Cathedral for those inquiring into the Catholic faith, as well as Catholics on the Christian initiation team.
- **“End of Life Ethics: The Case of Conjoined Twins”** 9/00
A workshop for the Sacred Heart School of Theology alumni which focused on the presuppositions and moral principles involved in determining a morally acceptable course of action in the case of conjoined twins--when the survival of one is linked to the death of the other.
- **“A Most Profound Obedience of Love”** 4/99
A scholarly presentation on Francis de Sales and Effective Love for God, given to doctoral students and faculty from Harvard, Yale and Boston College.
- **“The Prodigal Son and the Search for Happiness”** 4/98
A talk for teens in an inner city parish of Boston, St. Mary of the Angels.
- **“Re-Discovering a Love for God”** 4/97
A paper delivered at the 1997 University of Chicago Student Ethics Conference.
- **“Books of the Bible”** 10/96 - 5/98
Monthly presentations in a parish-based adult education program, focusing on a different book of the Bible each month.
- **“Sexual Ethics for Young Adults”** 10/94, 9/95
Gave two lectures to large (35+) groups of Catholic adults, ages 21-39 at St. Ignatius Parish, Chestnut Hill, MA: “Sexual Pleasure in Christian Understanding,” and “Sex and the Young Adult.”

UNIVERSITY SERVICE (all current memberships)

- **Faculty Manual Commission**
- **Portal and Capstone Faculty Committees**
- **VIA Committee**
- **Numerous ad hoc committees**

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND MEMBERSHIPS

- **Catholic Theological Society of America**
- **Society of Christian Ethics**