

March 2016



## From the Desk of Fr. Mark Bosco, S.J.

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The critic Ellis Hanson once observed that the culture of Roman Catholicism is itself an elaborate paradox: "The Church is at once modern and yet medieval, ascetic and yet sumptuous, spiritual and yet sensual, chaste and yet erotic... suspicious of aestheticism and yet an elaborate work of art." Intellectuals and artists continually find a home in the Catholic faith precisely because of the way it affirms that faith is embodied-incarnated-in the production of culture. In the Catholic philosophical tradition, art forms - whether they be poetry, fiction, drama, memoir, music, or painting - are unique and particular expressions or "kinds" of knowledge, what we might even call a spiritual knowledge. To read a great novel, to listen to a great aria, offers us a felt knowledge that cannot be stated in or relegated to rational discourse. The Hank Center celebrates an array of artists who found in Catholicism a place to stand in the midst of their craft and create works that inspire, that offer the felt knowledge of a transcendent God. Join us for Mary Karr's Cardinal Newman Lecture as she weaves together a memoir of her conversion experience. And later in the month, join us as we explore the modernist (Francis Poulenc) and postmodernist (Arvo Pärt) composers whose faith inspired some of the most beautiful music of the last century.

All good things,  
Fr. Mark Bosco, SJ

UPCOMING EVENTS

PANEL DISCUSSION

Exploring Pope Francis' Theological Foundations: A Conversation with Carlos María Galli on 'Teología del Pueblo.'



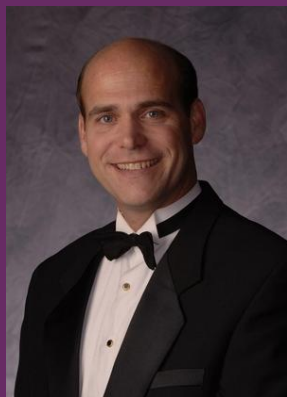
**Friday, April 8, 2016**

Loyola University Chicago will host

**Fr. CARLOS MARIA GALLI** for a panel discussion on the Pope's ecclesiological vision. Fr. Galli, a personal friend of Pope Francis and a priest of the Archdiocese of Buenos Aires, is Professor of Theology at the Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina

**CONTACT CCIH FOR MORE INFORMATION**

## CATHOLICISM AND THE ARTS SERIES



**Wednesday, March 16  
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**Faithful Musical Modernism**  
A lecture by composer and conductor

**PAUL FRENCH**

French has distinguished himself on the Chicago choral scene.

A composer of more than 200 instrumental and choral works, French was appointed Music Director of the William

## From Black-Belt Sinner to Sweet Baby Jesus

Cardinal Newman Lecture

by American Writer Mary Karr

**Wednesday, March 2  
3:30PM - 5:00PM**

**Information Commons, 4th Fl**  
Loyola University Chicago  
1032 W. Sheridan Rd.  
Chicago, IL 60660

The Hank Center's 2016 Cardinal Newman Lecture will be given by the renowned poet and memoirist Mary Karr, Peck Professor of Literature at Syracuse University and the author of such noted memoirs as *The Liars' Club* (1995), *Cherry* (2001), and *Lit* (2009), along with such noted collections of poetry as *The Devil's Tour* (1993), *Viper Rum* (1998), and *Sinners Welcome* (2006).

To honor this engagement with the Catholic tradition, Mary Karr's lecture - "From Black-Belt Sinner to Sweet Baby Jesus" - will recount the contours and textures of her movement toward a discovery of the Catholic faith. With the "relentless honesty, unflinchingly self-scrutiny, and irreverent, lacerating humor" that characterizes her work, Karr's Cardinal Newman Lecture is sure to entertain as well as inform about the sometimes rocky road that can lead us, if we are willing, to a renewed sense of faith.

**Event is free and open to the public.**



## Faithful Musical Modernisms: Poulenc, Vilette, Langlais, and Arvo Pärt

Catholicism and the Arts Series

**Thursday, 17 March 2016  
6:00PM - 7:30PM**

**Madonna della Strada Chapel**  
Loyola University Chicago  
1032 W. Sheridan Rd.  
Chicago, IL 60660

**Loyola University Chicago**  
Cuneo Hall, Room 417  
1032 W. Sheridan Rd  
Chicago, IL 60660

**CATHOLIC STUDIES  
FORUM**



**Thursday, April 7  
5:30 PM - 9:00 PM**

**BEING MILLENNIAL**

The Catholic Studies program is organizing its third annual, student-led Catholic Studies Minor Forum.

This year's forum is split into two parts and addresses the topic of the Millennial generation, who they are as a generation, what other generations are saying about them, and what perspective arises from being millennial and Catholic.

There will be thought-provoking dialogue, artistic performances, refreshments, and fellowship to follow after. Come join the conversation!"

**The Den at the  
Damen Student Center**  
Loyola University Chicago  
1032 W. Sheridan Rd  
Chicago, IL 60660

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Be it tragedy, conflict, ill health, or physical setback, the composers represented on the March 16th and 17th lecture and concert suffered mightily, and yet were impelled to compose powerful sacred works in testament to their faith. Francis Poulenc lived his early life with irreverent abandon, creating sparkling works for stage and recital, and yet the tragic death of a close friend in 1935 and the bleak atmosphere of pre-WWII France returned him to the Church. One week after a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Rocamadour and the icon of the Black Madonna, he had completed his *Litanies a la Vierge Noir* (Litanies to the Black Madonna), the first of a serious output of sacred compositions. For Arvo Pärt, the Soviet invasion of his native Estonia in 1944 was the catalyst to move him to the Orthodox Church and to devise a new method of composition. A sacred, highly structured art that is based on a purity of simple processes, purging the ego from the process of composition and ultimately pointing to God, Pärt says this of his work: "It is true that religion has a very important role in my composition, but how it really works, I am not able to describe." Both the lecture and concert will also feature works by Jean Langlois and Pierre Villette.

**The concert is free and open to the public.**



**International Conference on Campus Embraces the  
Contemporary Challenge of God**

**Thursday, April 14 - Friday, April 16**  
9:00AM - 6:00PM

**Loyola University Chicago**  
**Regents and Beane Hall, Lewis Tower**  
111 East Pearson Street  
Chicago, IL 60611

Loyola University's own Joan & Bill Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage presents an interdisciplinary conference titled "The Challenge of God: Continental Philosophy & the Catholic Intellectual Heritage." This conference will feature many of the best contemporary scholars in the fields of philosophy and theology, and is expected to accommodate more than one hundred international participants.

In the past decades, we have seen a number of significant continental thinkers engage with religious themes in ways both productive and insightful. The conference explores what continental philosophy can teach and has taught us about the Catholic intellectual heritage, and how Catholic teachings - especially those associated with the Ignatian tradition - can contribute to the further development of continental thought. This international and interdisciplinary conference presented by the Hank Center aims to address the interactions of these distinct aspects of wisdom from a variety of angles, hoping to produce a deeper and sustained engagement with both continental philosophical discourses and the Catholic intellectual heritage.

In addition to the paper and panel presentations from scholars in the fields of continental philosophy and the Catholic intellectual tradition, the conference features keynote addresses from Jean-Luc Marion (University of Chicago), Adriaan T. Peperzak (Loyola University Chicago), John D. Caputo (Syracuse University), Richard Kearney (Boston College), Robyn Horner (Australian Catholic University), and Thomas J.J. Altizer (Stony Brook University), with respondents including David Tracy, Adam Kotsko, Hugh Miller, Hille Haker, and John McCarthy.

Questions about the details of conference can be directed to the organizers at 773.508.3820 or [cpcih@luc.edu](mailto:cpcih@luc.edu).

**For more information, or to register for the conference, please visit: [LUC.edu/ccih](http://LUC.edu/ccih)**

## **Contacts**

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## **About the Center**

The Joan and Bill Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage exists to help faculty and students recognize and research Roman Catholic thought and its link to all academic disciplines in the university. It also seeks to convey that thought to other audiences inside and outside Loyola University Chicago.