

A statue of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, standing on a column. She is wearing a blue robe and a white veil, and is holding a bouquet of flowers. The background is a clear blue sky.

International Catholic Jurists Forum

presents an international meeting of experts on:

*A Response to the Pontifical Academy for Life's
Publication:*

*Etica teologica della Vita. Scrittura, tradizione, sfide
pratiche*

8, 9, 10 December 2022

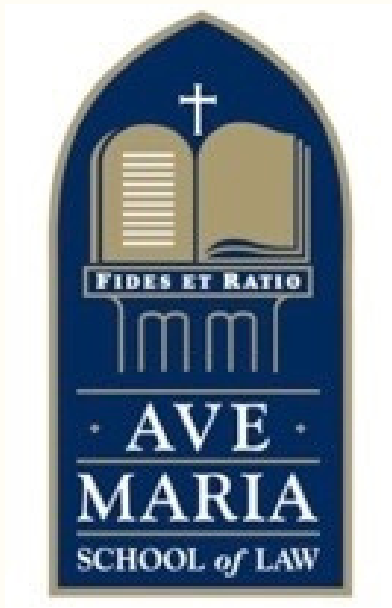
[live-streamed event]

HYPERLINKED

Rome, Italy

The column is dedicated to Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. It was inaugurated on 8 December 1857 and is located in Piazza Mignanelli beside the Spanish Steps in Rome, Italy.

Co-Sponsors



PERSON & IDENTITY

a project of the Ethics and Public Policy Center

Concept Note

The purpose of this conference is to respond, in a spirit of respect and fraternity, to some of the issues raised in the recent publication of the Pontifical Academy for Life entitled *Etica teologica della Vita. Scrittura, tradizione, sfide pratiche*. Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, in his presentation of *Etica teologica*, rightly notes that: “Today there is a deeply felt need to promote, safeguard and put into practice the service of theology, which is absolutely necessary for the Church and for the lives of all believers.”

It is hoped that the December 8–10, 2022 conference will provide a service to the Church and to Catholic scholars who are facing the same doctrinal, moral, and social issues examined in *Etica teologica*. On July 29, 2022, during his return flight from Canada to Rome, Pope Francis stated that: “the duty of theologians is research, theological reflection.” He also noted that theologians are called to discuss various “hypotheses” among themselves while recognizing that it is up to the Magisterium to decide if certain proposals go too far.

The December 8–10, 2022 conference seeks to respond to some of the important questions raised in *Etica teologica*, especially those connected with sexual morality, objective moral norms, and conscience. The conference seeks to pursue certain questions touched on in *Etica teologica* in more depth. Among these questions are the following:

1. What is meant by the “radical paradigm change” (radicale cambio di paradigm), mentioned by Archbishop Paglia in his Presentation and Pope Francis in his 2018 apostolic constitution, *Veritatis Gaudium* (no. 3)? Is this a change in educational orientation, in light of cultural changes—as Pope Francis indicates—or is it a change in moral methodology and doctrine?
2. What is the doctrinal status of the Church’s teaching against contraception? The foundational text (testo base) of *Etica teologica* (no. 172) refers to *Humanae Vitae*, 10–14. It rightly notes that the norm of HV, 10–14 “always refers to a good that precedes and exceeds it (La norma rimanda sempre a un bene che la precede e la eccede).

Continued

Does the good of the norm ever allow for the use of “artificial methods” of regulating birth? This raises the question of the irreformable status of the teaching of *Humanae Vitae*. In this regard, we need to consider what John Paul II said on June 5, 1987 to the participants in a study seminar on responsible procreation: "What is taught by the Church on contraception does not belong to material freely debatable among theologians. To teach otherwise amounts to leading the moral conscience of couples into error." (Quanto è insegnato dalla Chiesa sulla contraccezione non appartiene a materia liberamente disputabile fra teologi. Insegnare il contrario equivale a indurre nell'errore la coscienza morale degli sposi: https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/it/speeches/1987/june/documents/hf_jp-ii_spe_19870605_procreazione-responsabile.html).

3. How is Catholic sexual morality related to the question of intrinsic evil? In moral methodology, how are we to understand conscience and discernment in reference to actions which are considered intrinsically disordered?

4. How is Catholic teaching on contraception supported by Scripture, Christian anthropology, and the natural law? How is this teaching connected to the beauty of chastity, the dignity of the human person, and respect for nature?

5. How is Catholic moral theology related to contraception, the right to life, gender ideology, including homosexuality, transgenderism? Would a change in Catholic teaching on contraception signal possible changes on these other issues? What are the legal challenges faced by Catholics who wish to uphold Catholic teachings on marriage, sexuality, and the right to life of the unborn?

December 8th

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Note: bios are hyperlinked and the asterix* refers to persons participating on-line

	Mass
	Breakfast
9:00- 9:45	<p>Greetings</p> <p>I. THE ISSUE</p> <p>Panel 1: PAL's Publication and the "New Paradigm" in Moral Theology, its history, problems, and influences</p> <p>Mediator: Robert Fastiggi</p> <p>Keynote: Monsignor Livio Melina</p> <p>The "new paradigm" in Moral Theology: moving forward or turning backward?</p>
9:45- 10:15	<p>Monsignor Piotr Mazurkiewicz</p> <p>Boldness in Inversion: Reflections on the encyclical Veritatis Splendor</p>
10:30- 10:45	BREAK
10:45- 11:15	<p>Fulvio Di Blasi</p> <p>The Foundation of the Doctrine of Intrinsically Evil Acts</p>
11:15- 11:45	<p>Eduardo Echeverria*</p> <p>The Meaning of "Radical Paradigm Change" in light of the view of Doctrinal Development of St. Vincent of Lerins and Veritatis Splendor</p>

11:45- 12:00	BREAK
12:00- 1:00	DISCUSSION
1:00- 2:00	LUNCH
2:00- 2:45	<p>II. THE CATHOLIC FRAMEWORK</p> <p>Panel 2: The Doctrinal Dimension I</p> <p>Moderator: Fulvio Di Blasi</p> <p>Keynote: John Finnis The Infallibility of the Church's Teaching on Contraception</p>
2:45- 3:15	<p>Rev. Peter Ryan, SJ Catholic Teaching on Sexual Morality and the Infallibility of the Ordinary Magisterium</p>
3:15- 3:45	DISCUSSION
3:45- 4:00	BREAK
4:00- 4:45	<p>The Doctrinal Dimension (II)</p> <p>Keynote: Michael Waldstein* Humanae Vitae and the Unity of the Human Person</p>
4:45- 5:15	<p>Robert Fastiggi Catholic Sexual Morality and the Problem of Dissent</p>
5:15- 5:45	<p>DISCUSSION</p> <p>END</p>

December 9th

	Mass
	Breakfast
9:00- 9:45	<p>Greetings</p> <p>Panel 3: The Anthropological Dimension (I)</p> <p>Moderator: Michael Waldstein*</p> <p>Keynote: Deborah Savage*</p> <p>Man and Woman</p>
9:45- 10:15	<p>Paul Gondreau</p> <p>The Body Matters: Moral Implications of an Integrated versus Fragmented Anthropology</p>
10:15 - 10:45	<p>Angela Franks</p> <p>Disordered Desire and Contraception</p>
10:45- 11:15	<p>Pia Solenni</p> <p>The Anthropology of Humanae Vitae, its challenges, and need of support</p>
11:15-11:30	BREAK
11:30- 12:00	DISCUSSION
12:00- 12:45	<p>The Anthropological Dimension (II)</p> <p>Moderator: Robert Fastiggi</p> <p>Keynote: Fr. José Granados</p> <p>A Gnostic Flesh? The Language of the Body and Intrinsically Evil Acts</p>

12:45- 1:15	Aleksander Stepkowski* A Legal Critique of the Secular Notion of the Human Person
1:15- 2:15	LUNCH
2:15- 2:45	DISCUSSION
2:45- 3:30	Panel 4: Moral Methodological Dimension: Conscience and Discernment (I) Moderator: Fr. Jose Granados Keynote: Matthew Levering* Development of Conscience in the Twentieth Century
3:30- 4:00	Janet Smith* The New Paradigm of Morality and Conscience
4:00- 4:30	Rev. Peter Ryan, SJ Catholic Moral Teaching and Ignatian Discernment
4:30- 4:45	BREAK
4:45- 5:15	Adrian Reimers Conscience in the thought of Karol Wojtyła-Pope John Paul II
5:15- 5:45	Christopher Mooney Newman and Conscience
5:45- 6:15	Deacon James Keating* Teaching Seminarians about Moral Discernment
6:15- 6:45	DISCUSSION END

December 10th

	Mass
	Breakfast
	Greetings
	III. Case Studies
	Panel 5: The Beauty of Chastity. Cultural and Legal Pressures to Change Church teachings on Contraception
	Moderator: Angela Franks
9:00- 9:45	Keynote: Oana Gotia* The Beauty of Chastity (confirmed via technology)
9:45- 10:15	Mary Eberstadt* The Sexual Revolution: The Cause of Massive Social Harm and Destruction of churches
10:15- 10:45	Maria Fedoryka Personalist Arguments Why Contraception is Wrong
10:45- 11:15	Theresa Notare Natural family Planning vs. Contraception
11:15- 11:45	Michael Vacca* Natural Law Arguments Why Contraception is Wrong
11:45- 12:00	DISCUSSION
12:00- 1:00	LUNCH

<p>1:00- 1:30</p>	<p>Panel 6: The Right to Life. Cultural and Legal Pressures to Change Church Teachings on Abortion.</p> <p>Moderator Theresa Farnan</p> <p>Keynote: Helen Alvaré*</p> <p>The Right to Life: An Overview of the American Situation</p>
<p>1:30- 2:00</p>	<p>Gregor Puppink</p> <p>The Five Paths of Conscientious Objection in Medicine</p>
<p>2:00- 2:30</p>	<p>Guillaume d'Alançon</p> <p>The Accompaniment of Persons in the Truth of the Gospel</p>
<p>2:30- 3:00</p>	<p>Brian Scarnecchia</p> <p>A Response to the Analogy of Abortion to Child Soldiers</p>
<p>3:00- 3:15</p>	<p>DISCUSSION</p>
<p>3:15- 3:30</p>	<p>BREAK</p>
<p>3:30- 4:00</p>	<p>Panel 7: Gender Ideology. Cultural and Legal Pressures to change Church Teachings on Homosexuality</p> <p>Moderator: Maria Fedoryka</p> <p>Keynote: Abigail Favale</p> <p>Based on the book: The Genesis of Gender: A Christian Theory</p>

4:00- 4:30	Theresa Farnan “You do you:” Christian anthropology and the battle for the hearts, minds, and souls of Catholic youth and young adults
4:30- 5:30	Jane Adolphe International Pressures on the Church
5:00- 5:30	Rev. Paul Sullins* The children are not all right: social science evidence for how same-sex marriage, contraception and abortion harm children (just as the Church teaches)
5:30- 5:45	DISCUSSION
5:45- 6:00	BREAK
6:00- 6:45	GUEST: A Conversation with Robert George* END
7:00- 8:00	Vigil Mass

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Archbishop Paglia on Pope's teaching on 'Theological Ethics of Life'

Pontifical Academy for Life, Interview with Rev. Chiodi

Mastrofini Fabrizio, Communications and Social Media manager interviews Rev. Maurizio Chiodi, member of the same academy

Pope Francis on Discernment and Conscience

On August 31, 2022, Pope Francis launched a new catechesis series on discernment at the weekly General Audience

The nature and meaning of discernment is at the heart of the PAL publication.

General Audience of 12 October 2022

Catechesis on Discernment: 5. The elements of discernment. The desire

General Audience of 5 October 2022

Catechesis On Discernment: 4. The elements of discernment. Self-knowledge

General Audience of 28 September 2022

Catechesis On Discernment: 3. The elements of discernment. Familiarity with the Lord

General Audience of 21 September 2022

Catechesis: The Apostolic Journey in Kazakhstan

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Catechesis On Discernment: 2. An example: Ignatius of Loyola

General Audience of 31 August 2022

Catechesis On Discernment: 1. What does it mean to discern?

Pope Francis has also discussed "conscience" and its nature and meaning, another issue at the heart of the PAL publication

Video Message for the Third International Symposium on the Apostolic Exhortation Amoris Laetitia

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Restaurant Recommendations

Select Restaurants for Supper (near conference site)

Osteria dei Pontifici



Buona Forchetta



La Vittoria

