

Michael Arthur Vacca
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Education

Holy Apostles College and Seminary Cromwell, Connecticut *June 2021 – complete in May 2023*
Master of Arts in Theology with NCBC Certification GPA 4.0

National Catholic Bioethics Center Philadelphia, Pennsylvania *September 2020 – May 2021*
National Catholic Bioethics Certification in Healthcare Ethics with Distinction

Avila Institute, Heart of Christ Ann Arbor, Michigan *September 2018 – June 2020*
Certification as a Spiritual Director

Catholic Distance University Charles Town, West Virginia *March 2018*
Certification in Catholic Healthcare Ethics

Ave Maria School of Law Naples, Florida *September 2007 – May 2010*
Juris Doctorate GPA 3.4 Career (Cum Laude)

Hillsdale College Hillsdale, Michigan *September 2003 – May 2007*
Bachelor in Arts Political Science and English GPA 3.571 Career (Cum Laude)

Licenses

State Bar of Michigan *since January 2011*
Member Number: P74633 Active and in Good Standing

Languages

English (Native)
Italian (Fluent)

Experience

Christ Medicus Foundation CURO Troy, Michigan

Directory of Ministry, Bioethics, and Member Experience *November 2014 – present*

- Provides educational, spiritual, and technical support to members to manage their own healthcare in the context of a Catholic healthcare community
- Serves as the chief bioethics consultant and expert for the Christ Medicus Foundation
- Provides bioethics consultations
- Provides individualized and formal spiritual direction on an on-going basis
- Advocates for healthcare policy that advances religious freedom and accords with the natural moral law
- Promotes Catholic healthcare and the culture of life through conferences, radio, and videos
- Developed and continues to contribute towards the R.I.S.E (Reflection, Intercessory Prayer, Spiritual Retreats, and Education/Enrichment) program to serve our members' spiritual, emotional, and mental health
- Collaborates with leaders to facilitate the enrollment of Catholic companies and religious orders

- Educates potential members about health sharing and help them discern healthcare options
- Wrote the public comment for the Christ Medicus Foundation on the 2022 Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Rule on Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act (published on the HHS website)

Chairman of Healthcare Civil Rights Task Force *September 2020 – present*

- Facilitates weekly meetings with leaders in healthcare who are at the front line fighting the culture of death
- Provides bioethics consultations
- Writes and edits press releases and other documents on Catholic healthcare
- Advises and assists to obtain exemptions from vaccine mandates

Editor of Catholic Journal on Religious Freedom and Health Care *September 2019 – present*

- Coordinates with Christ Medicus staff and guest writers to write on current topics in health care, religious freedom, and Catholic teaching
- Serves as the content editor to ensure consistency with Catholic teaching

Editor of The Italian Law Journal Castera, Italy *May 2018 – present*

Junior Editor

- Edits articles in English based on a translation from Italian on themes of legal theory, European law, and comparative and international law

International Catholic Jurists Forum (Formerly International Center on Law, Life, Faith, and Family)

Naples, Florida *2016 – present*

Director (Key Objectives)

- To flesh out the meaning and application of the Charter of the Rights of the Family
- defend human life from the moment of conception to natural death
- promote the natural family based on marriage between one man and one woman as the fundamental unity of society
- To safeguard the rights and duties of parents to provide moral and religious education to their child
- advance the protection of children, and vulnerable adults from sexual exploitation and abuse and prevent the same abuse in trust relationships
- develop an understanding of the rights and duties of the child, the elderly, and persons with disabilities within the context of the family
- advance a natural law foundation of human rights
- promote freedom of religion and conscience and combat the persecution and genocide of Christians
- study international and regional human rights protection systems and the human rights language advanced within them

DiscoverReady, Kelly Legal Services, and Hire Counsel Greater Metro Detroit, Michigan *January 2014 – April 2014*

Document Reviewer

- Redacted non-responsive and private information
- Reviewed, analyzed, and coded legal documents

Holy See: Pontifical Council for the Family Rome, Italy *October 2010-September 2012*

Legal Advisor and Advocate

- Specialized in written legal arguments in defense of the natural family and human life (abortion, assisted reproduction, in vitro fertilization, sex selection, natural marriage, conscientious objection, violence against women, parental rights, etc.)

- Specialized in written and formal discussions on human rights systems (United Nations, European Union, Council of Europe, Office for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Organization of American States, and the African Union)
- Collaborated with non-governmental organizations world-wide that seek to advance the culture of life

Ave Maria School of Law Naples, Florida *September 2008-May 2010*

Research Assistant for Professor Jane Adolphe

- Performed research and verified citations on publications on international legal issues associated with life, faith, family, canon law, abortion, and human rights
- Co-authored with Jane Adolphe *Memorandum regarding “enhanced cooperation” within the European Union*

Center for Family and Human Rights New York City, New York *March 2009*

Edmund Burke Fellowship

- Learned about the role the United Nations plays in developing new norms and policies in human rights and international law with a special emphasis on life and family matters
- Lobbied six countries in the Middle East on life and family issues

Alliance Defending Freedom Scottsdale, Arizona and Arlington, Virginia *Summer 2008*

Blackstone Legal Fellowship/Legal Intern for Divine Mercy University (formerly Institute for Psychological Sciences)

- Participated in legal seminars on legal philosophy, constitutional law, practicing with integrity and excellence within the legal profession, and career development and cultural engagement
- Drafted contracts, researched state licensing requirements for psychologists, and wrote legal memos

Service

Teams of our Lady Detroit A Sector Couple Metro Detroit, Michigan *December 2022-present*

Independent Spiritual Director Warren, Michigan *June 2020 – present*

RCIA Catechist St. Anne Catholic Church, Warren, Michigan *2022-present*

Mentor for Law Students Ave Maria School of Law Naples, Florida *2020 – present*

Mentor for College Students Hillsdale College Hillsdale, Michigan *2020 - present*

Treasurer of Casa Vitae (Pro-life Organization) Southfield, Michigan *2017 – present*

Volunteer Heart to Heart Hospice Greater Metro Detroit, Michigan *2017-2018*

Founding Board Member and Secretary Sidewalk Advocates for Life Allen, Texas *2013-2014*

President of St. Thomas More Society, Ave Maria School of Law Naples, Florida *Spring 2009 – Spring 2010*

Secretary Lex Vitae Society, Ave Maria School of Law Naples, Florida *Spring 2009 – Spring 2010*

Lead Sidewalk Counselor Lex Vitae Society, Ave Maria School of Law Naples, Florida *Fall 2008 – Spring 2010*

Scholarship Publications

Arizona Journal of International and Comparative Law

- “Education and Religious Freedom in the Toledo Guiding Principles: A Comparative Analysis Between the Holy See and the United States” *Volume 36 Issue 2 2019*
<http://arizonajournal.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Vacca-Education-and-Religious-Freedom-in-the-TOLEDO-GUIDING-PRINCIPLES-A-COMPARATIVE-ANALYSIS-BETWEEN-THE-HOLY-SEE-AND-THE-UNITED-STATES-.pdf>

Ave Maria International Law Journal

- “Talk About a Human Rights Violation: How Heterologous Assisted Reproduction Harms Children and Violates International Human Rights Law” *Volume 7: Issue 1 2018*
<http://avemarialaw-international-law-journal.avemarialaw.edu/home/issues>
- Co Authored “Best Practices: Laws Protecting Human Life and the Family Around the Globe” *Volume 2: Issue 2 2013*
<http://avemarialaw-international-law-journal.avemarialaw.edu/home/issues>

Baku State University Law Review

- “Natural Law as Guardian of the Human Person” *Volume 36 Issue 2 May 2018*
<http://lr.bsulawss.org/files/archive/volume4/issue2/4BSULawRev.2.2..pdf>

Catholic Journal on Religious Freedom and Healthcare

- “The Well-Formed Catholic Vote” October 2020
<https://christmedicus.org/fall-2020-catholic-journal/>
- “Protecting Human Life in its Final Stages: Preparing for the Beatific Vision” *March 2020*
https://christmedicus.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/CMFJournal_March2020_rd3-2.pdf
- “Understanding Human Rights through the lens of Human Nature” *September 2019*
<https://christmedicus.org/understanding-human-rights-through-the-lens-of-human-nature/>

Ethics and Medics: A Commentary of the National Catholic Bioethics Center on Health Care and the Life Sciences

- “Conscience and Religious Freedom Trump Public Health” *Volume 46:3 March 2021* https://www.ncbcenter.org/s/EM_March2021ad2-zgz2.pdf

- “The Authentic Meaning of Free Speech” *Volume 45:3 March 2020*
https://www.pdcnet.org/em/content/em_2020_0045_0003_0003_0004
- Co Authored “Why Family is Critical to the Care of the Sick” *Volume 45:8 August 2020* https://www.pdcnet.org/em/content/em_2020_0045_0008_0001_0003

Homiletic and Pastoral Review

- “Overcoming Polarization Within the Church: Reconnecting the Sacraments with the Moral Life” (April 28th 2022)
<https://www.hprweb.com/2022/04/overcoming-polarization-within-the-church/>

ILSA Journal of International and Comparative Law, Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad College of Law

- “A Light to the Nations: Why Hungary’s Constitutional Protection for Natural Marriage Between A Man and A Woman Accords with International and European Law” *Volume 26 2019 – 2020*
<https://heinonline.org/HOL/LandingPage?handle=hein.journals/ilsaic26&div=8&id=&page=>

Medicina e Morale

- “A Reexamination of Conscience Protections in Healthcare” *Volume 62 Issue 6 2013*
<https://medicinaemorale.it/index.php/mem/article/view/78>

The Linacre Quarterly

- “Common Difficult Questions About Providing Nutrition at End of Life: Bedside Application of Catholic Moral Teaching” *Volume 87 Issue 2 May 2020*
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7273638/>

The National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly

- Equivalence of the Moral Objects in Embryo Adoption and Heterologous IVF, Volume 22:3 (Autumn 2022)
[Equivalence of the Moral Objects in Embryo Adoption and Heterologous IVF - Michael Arthur Vacca - The National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly \(Philosophy Documentation Center\) \(pdcnet.org\)](https://www.nationalcatholicbioethics.org/2022/09/22/equivalence-of-the-moral-objects-in-embryo-adoption-and-heterologous-ivf-michael-arthur-vacca/)

Books Edited

- **St. Paul, the Natural Law, and Contemporary Legal Theory** (co-edited) *March 2012*
<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9780739168578/St.-Paul-the-Natural-Law-and-Contemporary-Legal-Theory>
- **Equality and Non-Discrimination: Catholic Roots, Current Challenges** (co-edited) *April 2019*
<https://wipfandstock.com/9781532637216/equality-and-non-discrimination/>

Non Scholarship Publications

National Catholic Register

- “A Catholic Prescription for a Healthy Doctor-Patient Relationship” *June 2021*
<https://www.ncregister.com/commentaries/a-catholic-prescription-for-a-healthy-doctor-patient-relationship>

The Angelus

- Co Authored “The Next Four Years: Promoting a culture of Life in Healthcare” (awarded 3rd place for Best Coverage for Election 2020) *October 2020*

<https://angelusnews.com/voices/promoting-a-culture-of-life-in-health-care/>

The Catholic Journal

- 22 articles featuring topics such as faith, culture, and politics *February 2018 – present*
<https://www.catholicjournal.us/author/michael-vacca/page/2/>

The Detroit Catholic

[Translating the indefensible: The moral imperative to defeat Proposal 3 - Detroit Catholic](#)

The Detroit News

- “COVID-19 Shows Private and Public Healthcare Complement Each Other” *July 2020*
<https://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2020/07/07/opinion-covid-19-response-requires-both-public-private-health-care/5389810002/>

Radio, Podcast, and Video

Archangel Radio Live Hour Mobile, Alabama

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=tmzIbnBn4MY> *October 31, 2017*

Augustine Institute Greenwood Village, Colorado (2021)

- Featured in “Eternal Rest: The Art of Dying Well” video series

Ave Maria Radio on Catholic Connection Ann Arbor, Michigan

- <https://ondemand.ewtn.com/free/Home/Play/CB20220907> *September 7, 2022, with Maria Arvonio*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/catholic-connection-02-01-2022-2/> *February 1, 2022*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/catholic-connection-07-08-2021-2/> *July 8, 2021*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/catholic-connection-04-27-2021-2/> *April 27, 2021*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/catholic-connection-11-25-2020-1/> *November 25, 2020*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/oldsite/audio-archive/catholic-connection-june-17-2020-hour-2/> *June 17, 2020*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/oldsite/audio-archive/catholic-connection-may-7-2020-hour-2/> *May 7, 2020*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/oldsite/audio-archive/catholic-connection-december-2-2019-hour-2/> *December 2, 2019*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/oldsite/audio-archive/catholic-connection-april-23-2019-hour-2/> *April 23, 2019*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/oldsite/audio-archive/catholic-connection-december-14-2018-hour-2/> *December 14, 2018*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/oldsite/audio-archive/catholic-connection-september-26-2018-hour-2/> *Sept. 26, 2018*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/oldsite/audio-archive/catholic-connection-october-27-2017-hour-2/> *October 27, 2017*
- <https://avemariaradio.net/oldsite/audio-archive/catholic-connection-june-30-2017-hour-2/> *June 30, 2017*

Catholic Spirit Radio Catholic Conversations Normal, Illinois

- <https://cmfcuro.com/2017/12/06/catholic-spirit-radio-illinois/> *December 12, 2017*

EWTN Morning Glory Washington D.C.

- <https://cmfcuro.com/2017/12/20/cmfcuro-on-morning-glory/> *December 15, 2017*

Holy Family Radio Living the Catholic Life Grand Rapids, Michigan

- <https://www.holyfamilyradio.net/audio-archives/lcl-03032014/> *March 3, 2014*

Human Life International Front Royal, Virginia

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OzZYy2n6t_A (March 9th 2023)

Jesus My Mercy Radio, Internet Radio

- [MY JESUS MERCY WI MARIA w Guest Michael Vacca 10272022.mp3](#)

National Catholic Bioethics Center Bioethics on Air Philadelphia, Pennsylvania *December 2020 – January 2021*

- <https://www.ncbcenter.org/bioethics-on-air-podcast-cms/episode-49-religious-liberty-during-covid-19-part-1>
- <https://www.ncbcenter.org/bioethics-on-air-podcast-cms/episode-50-religious-liberty-during-covid-19-part-2>

Proposition 3: Video of Opposition with Father John Kopson

[Proposal 3 - YouTube](#)

Relevant Radio The Drew Mariani Show Green Bay, Wisconsin

- <https://relevantradio.com/2017/11/drew-mariani-show-nov-15-hr-3/> *November 15, 2017*

Son Rise Morning Show Sacred Heart Radio, Cincinnati, OH

- <https://omny.fm/shows/son-rise-morning-show/son-rise-morning-show-2022-09-26?t=97m> *September 26th 2022*

Spirit FM Tampa Bay, Florida

- <https://cmfcuro.com/2017/11/14/new-interview-on-spirit-fm/> *November 14, 2017*

The Catholic Forum Wyoming, Michigan *September 2013*

- Episode 380 Natural Law: Participation with God <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=96f372BaK-U>
- Episode 381 The Borders of Human Dignity <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=V5jUTO-tRns>

Speaking Engagements

A Response to the Pontifical Academy for Life's Publication: Etica Teologica Della Vita: Scrittura, Tradizione, Sfide Pratiche (December 8th-10th 2022, Rome, Italy)

- <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWwG8qPyXx7fbPjF30fJ0AiCb0W8I5do6>
- The title of my talk was: "The Exclusion of Contraception by the Natural Moral Law, Why It Matters, and the Muddying of the Waters amongst Many Catholic Thinkers"

Aquinas, Law & Politics in Times of COVID (June 24th-25th 2022, Rome, Italy)

- <https://www.accesswire.com/707068/International-Meeting-of-Catholic-Scholars-and-Lawyers-on-COVID-19-Measures-Wraps-up-in-Rome-Aquinas-Law-Politics-in-Times-of-COVID-24-25-June-2022>
- The title of my talk was "The Errors in Apply Catholic Social Teaching to the COVID-19 Pandemic"

Cause of Hope Catholic Digital Healthcare Conference Christ Medicus Foundation and Catholic Medical Association Troy, Michigan *July 18, 2020*

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=U-9PhgT9xzU&list=PLeQ-9whiG4S3D8Jb8kXFt19yXAe3hXQL4&index=7>

A New Healthcare Normal? Catholic Digital Healthcare Conference Christ Medicus Foundation
Troy, Michigan *May 16, 2020*

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=PP1c3dGsIOU&list=PLeQ-9whiG4S2I8nJr22khkqY475OsyREO&index=2>

Holy Spirit Seminar Christ the King Catholic Church Ann Arbor, Michigan *February 2015*

Annual Activism and Training Conference Eastern Michigan University Students for Life Ypsilanti, Michigan
March 15, 2014

- http://commons.emich.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1346&context=emu_today

Sidewalk Advocacy Training Sidewalk Advocates for Life Ann Arbor, Michigan *June 18, 2014*

- http://pro-lifeactionnetworkblog.blogspot.com/2014_06_01_archive.html?m=0

References

Jane Adolphe

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Joseph Meaney

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