AMERICAN MARITAIN ASSOCIATION

"ST. THOMAS & THE PROBLEM OF EVIL"

Renaissance Greenway Plaza Hotel, Houston, TX.
October 22 – 24, 2009

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22nd
All Events at the Renaissance Hotel

7 – 9 pm – Conference Registration

6 pm – Opening Mass – Sam Rayburn Room
- **Main Celebrant: Rev. Chris Cullen, S.J. Fordham University**

6:45 pm – Welcome & Presidential Address – Century I Room
- **John G. Trapani, Jr., Walsh University**
  "The Teeth-Marks of Nothingness: Habit & the Innermost Hiding Place of Evil"

7:30 – 9:30 pm – Concurrent Sessions #1:

Session T-1.1 – Politics and the Problem of Evil – Sam Rayburn Room
Chair: Gavin Colvert, Assumption College
- **Jose Enrique Puente, Instituto Jacques Maritain De Cuba**

Political Evil and Providence
- **Jose Maria J. Yulo, Academy of Art University**

The Fall of the Greatest Good: Political Evil from Augustine to Machiavelli
- **Benjamin Smith, Aquinas College**

Politics, Happiness, and Friendship: Thomas Aquinas on the Common Good

Session T-1.2 – Ethical & Theologico/Political Problems – Camellia Room
Chair: John G. Trapani, Jr., Walsh University
- **Herbert Hartmann, Southern Catholic College**

Jerusalem and Athens Revisited
- **Nikolaj Zunic, St. Jerome's University**

The Measure of Morality
- **Richard Rolwing, Independent Scholar**

The Problem of Good

Session T-1.3 – Classical Treatments & Modern Twists – Camellia Room
Chair: James Hanink, Loyola Marymount University
- **Nicholas Case, Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York**

Exploring the Intersection of Aristotelian Causality and Thomas' Definition of God
- **Maria Picone, Rice University**

Three Paradoxes of Plotinus: Evil's Origin, Effects, and Characteristics
- **Sergey Trostyanskiy, Union Theological Seminary**

Origen of Alexandria and Frege: Scriptural Interpretations & Contemporary Semantics

9:30 pm – Reception: Sponsored by Walsh University – Greenway Foyer

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23rd **All Events at the Renaissance Hotel**
8 – 11 am & 1 -4 pm – Conference Registration

8 – 10 am – Concurrent Sessions #2:
Session F-2.1 – Evil and Great Literary Works – Century I Room
Chair: Patrick Corrigan, Assumption College
- **Mark Barker, Notre Dame Seminary**

Beyond Dante: The Eternal Lot of Human Souls
- **Mark Thomas, Assumption College**

A Comparison of Aristotelian and Buddhist Anger in Virtue
- **Dutton Kearney, Aquinas College**

Incarnating a Privation: Education and Evil in Dostoyevsky's The Devils

Session F-2.2 – St. Thomas on Evil – Sam Rayburn Room
Chair: Nikolaj Zunic, St. Jerome's University
- **Robert Barry, Providence College**

Thomas Aquinas on Knowing the Cause of Evil
- **Bryan Cross, St. Louis University**

Aquinas on the Original Harmonies, and the Problem of Evil
- **Tina Baceski, Rockhurst University**

Hume and Aquinas on the Problem of Evil

Session F-2.3 – Theological and Continental Approaches – Camellia Room
Chair: John Dunaway, Mercer University
- **Christopher Morrissey, Redeemer Pacific College**

The Origins of Evil: Satan, Mimetic Theory, and a Thomistic Doctrine of Relations
- **Christopher Fremaux, St. Mary's University**

The Problem of Evil & the Metaphysical Presence of Christ
- **James Baresel, Franciscan Institute, Saint Bonaventure University**

The Question of Evil and the Necessity of Natural Theology

Session F-2.4 – Virtue, Vice, and Obligation – Azalea Room
Chair: Gavin Colvert, Assumption College
- **Jonathan Sanford, Franciscan University of Steubenville**

What is Vice?
- **Kelly White, Assumption College**

The Virtue of Philosophy
- **Denis Scrandis, St. John's University, NY**

How Maritainian Choice of Evil Forms the Moral Object

Session F-2.5 – Society for Ecclesial Philosophy – Poinsettia Room
Chair: Giuseppe Butera, Providence College
- **Speaker: Rev. Christopher Cullen, S.J., Fordham University**

After Hope: An Interpretation of Spes Salvi
- **Respondent: Rev John Conley, S.J., Loyola University Maryland**

10:15 am – 12:15 pm – Plenary Session #1 – Century I Room
Chair: Gavin Colvert, Assumption College
- **Laura Garcia, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Boston College,**

Does Maritain's Proposal Solve the Problem of Evil?
- **Michael Torre, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of San Francisco**

God's Grace and Man's Sin: the Drama of Man before God

12:15 – 1:45 pm – Lunch *(On Your Own – List of Suggestions Provided)*

1:45 – 3:45 pm – Plenary Session #2 – Panel Discussion: Economics, Moral Evil, and Theological Anthropology: Distributivism, Capitalism, and Caritas in Veritate – Century I Room

Chair: Peter Pagan, Aquinas College

Panelists:

- **John Médaille, University of Dallas, Dallas, TX**
- **Robert Royal, President, Faith & Reason Institute, Washington, D.C.**
- **David L. Schindler, Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family**

4 – 6 pm – Concurrent Sessions #3:

Session F-3.1 – Maritain and Evil – Sam Rayburn Room

Chair: Rev. John Conley, S.J., Loyola University Maryland

- **Gary Culpepper, Providence College**

Maritain and "the Divine Mystery of Trinitarian Love Wounded by Our Refusal"

- **David Horkott, Palm Beach Atlantic University**

Nietzsche Contra Maritain

- **Francisco Plaza, Palm Beach Atlantic University**

Nihilism at the Core of the Totalitarian Revolt against Evil: Revisiting Maritain's Integral Humanism

Session F-3.2 – Modernity, Evil, & the Sanctity of Life – Century I Room

Chair: Patrick Corrigan, Assumption College

- **Caitlin Gilson, St. Mary's University, TX**

The Grand Refusal: The Annihilation of the Given

- **Daniel Arioli, Assumption College**

Rachels and the Sanctity of Life

- **James Jacobs, Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans**

Better Never to Have been Born: Existence and the Problem of Moral Evil

Session F-3.3 – Habit and Action: Thomas on Evil Choices, Character, and Intellectual Virtue – Camellia Room

Chair: Andrew Jaspers, S.J., Dominican House of Studies

- **Peter Koritansky, University of Prince Edward Island**

Aquinas, Church Teaching, and the Ethics of Torture

- **Giuseppe Butera, Providence College**

Thomas Aquinas on Reason's Control of the Passions in the Virtue of Fortitude

- **Heather Erb, Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania**

"A Leaping Spark:" Wonder, Marvels, and Miracles in Aquinas

Session F-3.4 – Evil: Semantics and Metaphysical Issues – Azalea Room

Chair: Richard Cain, Wheeling Jesuit University

- **Mark Roberts, Franciscan University of Steubenville**

Evil, True Propositions, and States of Affairs

- **Siobhan Nash-Marshall, Manhattanville College**

Properties and the Problem of Evil

- **Eric Manchester, Caldwell College**

Creation and the Probability (But Not Necessity) of Evil

Session F-3.5 – Evolution and Human Dignity: Differences in Kind vs. Differences in Degree, and the Problem of Evil – Poinsettia Room

Chair: Peter Pagan, Aquinas College

Panelists:

- **Brendan Sweetman, Rockhurst University**
- **Zuzanna Maslanka-Kieron, Catholic University of Lublin**
- **Gregory Kerr, DeSales University**

6 – 7:30 pm – Dinner *(On Your Own – List of Suggestions Provided)*
7:30 – 9:30 pm – Concurrent Sessions #4:
Session F-4.1 – Issues in Medical Ethics and Technology – Poinsettia Room
Chair: Patrick Corrigan, Assumption College

- **Catherine Green, Rockhurst University**

Nursing Intuition: A Valid Form of Knowledge

- **Alexis Krieger, Rockhurst University**

Psychiatric Patient Isolation: Dehumanizing and Evil, or Treatment

- **Robert Vigliotti, Rockhurst University**

The Anti-Humanism of Technological Humanism
Session F-4.2 – Maritain and Evil – Sam Rayburn Room
Chair: John G. Trapani, Jr., Walsh University

- **James Keating, Providence College**

How Not to Insult God With Metaphysics: the Priority of Revelation Over Philosophy in Maritain's God and the Permission of Evil

- **Jesse Russell, Louisiana State University**

Jacques Maritain and the Problem of Evil in the Spanish Civil War

- **Gregory Coulter, University of St. Thomas, MN**

Rev. Victor Brezik on Maritain: A Former Student's Recollections
Session F-4.3 – Job and the Problem of Suffering – Camellia Room
Chair: James Hanink, Loyola Marymount University

- **Rev. John Conley, S.J., Loyola University Maryland**

Job, Our Contemporary

- **Roger Nutt, Ave Maria University**

Providence and the Problem of the Affliction of the Just: Considerations from Aquinas' Literal Exposition of Job

- **Peter Pagan, Aquinas College**

Goodness, Privation, and the Limits of Theodicy: Darwin, Job, Abraham, and Aquinas
Session F-4.4 – Evil Choice, Double Effect, and Libertarian Freedom – Azalea Room
Chair: Gavin Colvert, Assumption College

- **Andrew Jaspers, S.J., Dominican House of Studies**

The Evil of Lying: A Case in Thomistic Realism against the New Natural Lawyer's Action Theory

- **John Morris, Rockhurst University**

Why Must We Not Do Evil? Avoiding vs. Allowing Evil and the Principle of Double Effect

- **W. Matthews Grant, University of St. Thomas, Minnesota**

Is a Thomistic Account of Divine Government Compatible with Libertarian Human Freedom?
Session F-4.5 – Communications and Semiotic Theory – Century I Room
Chair: Joe Fossati, Rockhurst University

- **John Deely, University of St. Thomas, TX**

Cyclopean Thomism

- **Stephen Sparks, University of St. Thomas, TX**

Semiotic Thomism: The Postmodern Upgrade in Thomistic Thought

- **Richard Cain, Wheeling Jesuit University**

The Ontological Status of Human Communication: An Argument for the Recovery of Metaphysical Realism in Contemporary Communication Theory
9:30 pm – Reception: Sponsored by Walsh University – Greenway Foyer

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH at the University of St. Thomas

8 AM – Bus Leaves Renaissance Hotel for University of St. Thomas

8:30 – 10:30 am – Concurrent Sessions #5:

Session S-5.1 – Evil and the Problem of Evil: Metaphysical Themes – Molloy Hall, Room 12

Chair: Rev. John Conley, S.J., Loyola University Maryland

- **Rev. Christopher Cullen, S.J., Fordham University *The Necessity of Physical Evil and Human Alienation from Nature in a Material Universe***
- **Frederico Tedesco, University of Verona *The Paradoxes of Evil as the New "Rationis Exodus in Deum"***
- **James Hanink, Loyola Marymount University *The Metaphysics of Freedom: Context, Truth, and Character***

Session S-5.2 – Maritain and Friends on Evil – Molloy Hall, Room 14

Chair: John G. Trapani, Jr., Walsh University

- **John F. Millard, Blessed John XXIII National Seminary, MA *Maritain on "Acting Without Reference to the Rule:" The Secularization of the Christian Image of Man and the Spread of Evil in Our Time***
- **Joe Fossati, Rockhurst University *Some Friends of Jacques Maritain on the Problem of Evil: Choice, History, and Providence***
- **Bernadette O'Connor, University of the Incarnate Word *Insufficient and Too Much Ado about the Human Capacity for Being and Nothing and Maritain's Dissymmetry Solution***

Session S-5.3 – Maritain and Contemporary Thinkers – Molloy Hall, Room 22

Chair: John Dunaway, Mercer University

- **Jeremy D. Wilkins, University of St. Thomas, TX *The Human Mind of Christ According to Maritain and Lonergan***
- **John Hittinger, University of St. Thomas, TX *Maritain and Solzhenitsyn on Evil in Man and History, Apropos the "Law of the Two-fold Contrasting Progress"***

Session S-5.4 – The Will and Evil Choices – Molloy Hall, Room 23

Chair: Gavin Colvert, Assumption College

- **Rev. William Joensen, Loras College *Malicious Acts and Persons: Gauging the Gravity of Evil***
- **Domenic D'Ettore, Center for Thomistic Studies, Univ. of St. Thomas, TX *Aquinas's Incontinent: A Reply to Bonnie Kent***
- **Steven Jensen, University of St. Thomas *Weakness, Malice, and Buridan's Ass***

10:45 – 11:45 am – Plenary Session #3 – Anderson Hall

Chair: John G. Trapani, Jr., Walsh University

- **Rev. Joseph Koterski, S.J., Associate Professor of Philosophy, Fordham University, *Transcendental "Bonum" and the Question of Evil***

12 – 1:30 pm – Lunch/Business Meeting – Anderson Hall

1:45 – 3:45 pm – Plenary Session #4 – Anderson Hall

Chair: John P. Hittinger, University of St. Thomas, TX

- **Mary Catherine Sommers, Ph.D., University of St. Thomas, TX *Topsy-Turvy: The Problem of Providence in Aquinas' Commentary on Job***
- **Steven Long, Ph.D., Professor of Theology, Ave Maria University *God, Freedom, and the Permission of Evil***

4 pm – Closing Mass – St. Basil Chapel

- **Main Celebrant: Rev. Jack Gallagher, CSB; Concelebrants: Rev. Joseph Pilsner, CSB and Rev. Anthony Giampietro, CSB**

5 pm – Reception: Sponsored by The Center for Thomistic Studies – Scanlon Room, Jerabeck

6:30 pm – Bus Leaves Univ. of St. Thomas for the Renaissance Hotel

7:30 pm – Maritain Association Awards Banquet – Greenway Ballroom