



Durham
University

Centre for Catholic Studies

Catholic Theology in the Public Academy

Centre for Catholic Studies

Annual Review 2021-22

June 2022



CENTRE *f*OR
CATHOLIC
STUDIES

Director's Report 2021-22

Prof. Paul D. Murray

Professor of Systematic Theology, and CCS Dean-Director



Last year, I started my annual report with words of appreciation for the creative way in which the CCS, under the leadership of Karen Kilby during my research leave, had moved into the virtual world with great alacrity in lockdown. Twelve months on, whilst continuing to appreciate the ways in which that move is making a permanent contribution to the expansion of CCS reach, I am delighted that we are now complementing that with the return of in-person exchange. Reflecting our origins, and being, and destiny in the communion of the Trinity, this is the spiritual DNA of the human person; and its service in the public academic context is core to the distinctive mission of the CCS.

The CCS Early Career Conference is gathering in Durham on 13th June. Similarly, the 3rd Catholicism, Literature, and the Arts Conference is a veritable cornucopia of good things (12th–14th July). Between these is the 5th International Receptive Ecumenism Conference, 'Transforming Ecumenism – "Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches" (Rev 2:7)', in Sigtuna, Sweden, 27th–30th June. The timing of the latter could not be better given that we have just finished *Receptive Ecumenism as Transformative Ecclesial Learning: Walking the Way to a Church Re-formed*, which has relevance for the current Catholic synodal pathway. I was delighted to be able to present a copy to Pope Francis when ARCIC III met with him in May.

Other happenings of joy this year have been: the establishment of the Lawrence of Brindisi Friary by the Capuchins in Tenter House, Durham; Billy Crozier's esteemed Leverhulme Post-doctoral Fellowship; the approval of the distance learning MA programme in Catholic Theology; and our entry into formal relationship with the northern dioceses on a programme of formation for permanent deacons.

Mindful of the seismic changes in Catholic institutional life, my development priority for the remaining years of my academic career is to seek to put the CCS on a secure, endowed footing across three fronts: our core operation; key posts; and post-graduate scholarships. The aim in the first regard is a £5m+ endowment. It is a cause of immense gratitude to be able to celebrate the news that a commitment of £1m by the Oaklea Sisters of Mercy has served to move us from c.£1.3m to £2.3m. The aim in the second regard is to secure a number of £2m endowments for permanent posts in the History of Catholicism, Franciscan Studies (£1.3m already pledged), and for a post in Theology and Ministry in honour of St John Henry Newman. Here I am again deeply appreciative of the recent commitment of £1.2m by the Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre to provide half of what is required to establish the History of Catholicism endowment and to grow the CCS Core Endowment.

I thank each and every one of you, for your prayers, for your active and creative partnership, and for your generous support as we seek to grasp this moment of opportunity.

May you each, and those in your hearts, be held in peace and all good,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul D. Murray'.

CCS staff and students with Sarah Mangan, Ireland's first Consul General to the North of England, during a visit to Durham in December 2021



Development & Finance

Tim Guinan, Senior Development Manager (CCS)

The CCS has always looked to plant for the long-term whilst also tending to the immediate needs of our students, staff and partners. Emerging from the challenges of the pandemic, this year has seen a step-change in fundraising activity as we seek to nurture and grow the flourishing partnerships that will secure the future vitality of the CCS – and all it represents – in perpetuity and in service to generations to come.

To that end, the **Oaklea Sisters of Mercy** have generously pledged £1m towards the CCS Core endowment which now stands at just over £2.3m – almost halfway to the minimum £5m target required to fund the CCS Directorate and small Administrative Team that underpins all other CCS activity. This is a huge boost, giving confidence to others considering similarly significant pledges, and reaffirming the partnership that helped establish the Bede Chair and launch the CCS.

The **Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre** have also recently committed £1.2m total towards a £2.2m endowment to establish a permanent post in the History of Catholicism in honour of their foundress, Susan Hawley, with an in-built contribution also towards the CCS Core. The programme is currently led by Dr James Kelly, holder of the Sweeting Fellowship which continues to be funded by **Sir Christian Sweeting**. We are actively engaged in discussions to secure the remaining £1m to fulfil the endowment. The **Little Company of Mary** have also funded a £170k three-year postdoctoral fellowship to research their Global Leadership from 1877–1937, which will bolster the ever-growing History of Catholicism programme whilst also making an additional 10% contribution to CCS core administration.

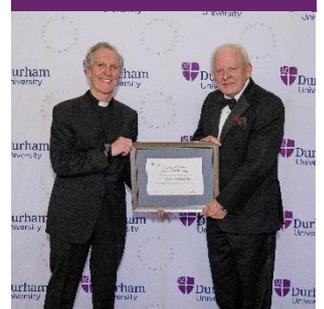
Scholarships sustain the lifeblood of the CCS, helping form the next generation of theologians who will shape the future. We aim to endow our scholarship funds and are continually grateful to partners such as the **Religious of Christian Education**, the **Institute of Our Lady of Mercy**, **Mater Ecclesiae**, the **OFM Capuchins (GB)**, the **Congregation of Jesus**, and others for their ongoing support of the most deserving students. We recently launched the Durham Rutilio Grande Bursary in partnership with the **Jesuits in Britain**, and the **Faithful Companions of Jesus** are also in process of confirming a substantial FCJ Bicentenary Scholarship Fund.

Long-term supporters, **Porticus**, have funded Chris Lamb's PhD scholarship and a series of Podcasts on 'The Church's Radical Reform' in the build-up to the 2023 Synod. Porticus have also extended funding for Dr John O'Brien's project, 'Transformative Renewal in the Church', for a further year. And in a potentially significant development, the **Northern Diaconal Formation Partnership** (NDFP Ltd.) have agreed a formal training partnership with the University for an initial period of two years.

We thank all of our many partners for their generous support and shared vision for the stable future of the CCS; it is testament to the growth of these diverse relationships that the CCS continues to flourish.



The CCS seeks to nurture and grow the flourishing partnerships that will secure its future vitality in perpetuity and in service to generations to come.



Report from the Bede Chair of Catholic Theology

Prof. Karen Kilby



An important part of the Bede Chair role is outreach to the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. This year it was fascinating to be part of the Diocesan “Core Group” during the Synod process. I also made a small contribution to a Diocesan publication (Encountering the Son), contributed to a Minsteracres review, began to take part in discussions around Catechesis, and spoke to clergy at an Ongoing Formation event.

Outreach beyond the Diocese has included a talk to a Prison Chaplains’ Conference, the 2022 Cambridge Hulsean sermon, and a session on the Trinity for the Annual Initial Formation course of UK Carmels. I have continued as a Trustee of CAFOD and Chair of its Strategy and Performance Committee, and as a member of its Theology Reference Group. In addition I have worked with Linda Jones of CAFOD to supervise the first CAFOD-DURHAM Research Fellow.

I have taken a lead on designing our new Distance Learning MA in Catholic Theology, and guiding it through our University’s rigorous and rather complex approvals process, and I am now developing two modules for it. It is exciting to have the opportunity to make the study of Catholic theology at this level available to people in different parts of the world and in different life-situations. If it is successful we hope it may be followed by other Distance Learning MA offerings by the CCS or the wider Department of Theology and Religion.

This has been a year of lots of conferences for me, with papers given (by Zoom) in June to the US based College Theology Society, in December to a conference at a Pontifical University in Rome, in March to a conference of theological ethicists in Oxford, and with two further papers coming up in New York and Oxford. Writing so many new academic papers is giving me a chance to push my thinking forward, and in effect to produce the first drafts of a number of chapters of a future book, whose current title is ‘Suffering and the Nature of Theology’.

I had a chance to ponder the experience of writing these papers, as well as to plan the book, at the first of a series of writing retreats for theologians I am running with Clare Carlisle of King’s College London. Clare and I won a £157,500 Templeton grant for a 24-month project to explore the nature of the writing process for theologians.

Four of my PhD students submitted their dissertations this year—three have passed and the fourth awaits his viva. I continue to supervise 6 others, and anticipate 2-4 new students beginning in October.

THE NEW MA in CATHOLIC THEOLOGY by DISTANCE LEARNING

This exciting new venture led by the CCS will begin in October 2022. The programme is designed so that participants can work through material at their own pace, studying equally well in any time zone and in many different life situations, alongside work, ministry, family or caring obligations.

For full details please visit the website:
<https://www.durham.ac.uk/study/courses/v8k807/>

The CCS is looking to raise scholarship funding specially to enable students from the Global South to participate in this distance learning programme. If you would like to support students in this way, please contact Tim Guinan.



Research: Constructive Catholic Theology

Boundary Breaking

The Boundary Breaking project aims to assess whether ecclesial-cultural factors have contributed to the clerical sexual abuse of children and the subsequent mishandling of such cases within the Catholic Church in England and Wales.



The team has completed its data gathering in the main, having undertaken a range of interviews with survivors, clergy, religious, safeguarding staff, and lay parishioners. We have been able to access some discrete groups too, including parishes where a fairly recently ordained priest was convicted for contemporary sexual offences; a parish where the parish priest was convicted for historical sexual offences; a group of survivors of abuse perpetrated by members of one particular religious order; a community-based support group for survivors, lay members, and clergy/religious; a facilitated support group for priests; a group with young Catholics (i.e. under 35) who have worked in Catholic settings. We are also setting up a national survey (England and Wales) on the understanding of the issues amongst ordinary Mass-going Catholics.

It's an enormous achievement, but we are cautioned by the challenges of the next stage as we turn to the analysis of the data. We hope to produce an initial report for March 2023, the findings of which will be subject to feedback from participants at a closed symposium. We plan to publish the final report in June 2023.

THE BOUNDARY BREAKING TEAM

Principal Investigator, Dr Marcus Pound, Associate Professor of Catholic Theology.

Co-Investigator, Prof. Paul D. Murray, Professor of Systematic Theology.

Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Dr Catherine Sexton who has a professional background in international development, working both in senior management within CAFOD and VSO. Catherine's PhD explored theologies of ministry among elderly women religious sisters in the UK; her most recent role was Director of a three-year research project in collaboration with the CCS and the Margaret Beaufort Institute on the future sustainability of the apostolic form of religious life for women in East and Central Africa.

Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Dr Pat Jones who completed a PhD studying Catholic homelessness charities in relation to Catholic social teaching. Pat previously worked in senior management in CAFOD and Depaul International, and as Director of a prisoners' charity. Her initial post-doctoral work focused on listening to the voices of women whose lives are affected by prostitution.

Research Assistant, Mr Adrian Brooks who is in the final stages of completing a PhD at Durham University on contemporary Catholic ecclesiology.

Project Coordinator, Ms Yvonne Williams who brings a wealth of skills in both administration and oversight, having previously co-ordinated research projects in the Catholic context.

Research: Constructive Catholic Theology

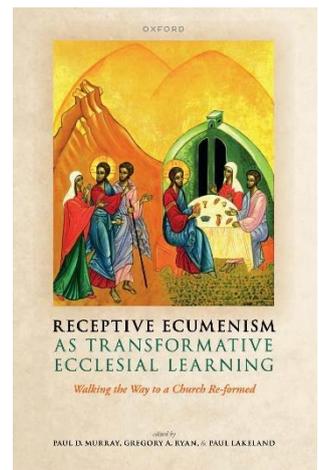
Receptive Ecumenism

Dr Gregory Ryan, Assistant Professor (Research)

The post-doctoral project on the long-term viability and dissemination of Receptive Ecumenism comes to an end this year. This has involved a wide range of activities including essays, conference presentations, and public talks as well as a monograph, *Hermeneutics of Doctrine in a Learning Church*, and a major new edited volume for Oxford University Press.

In June 2021 the CCS hosted a successful online conference, *Heeding the Spirit: New Horizons in Receptive Ecumenism*, with participants from across the globe to introduce Receptive Ecumenism to new audiences, and to prepare the ground for the 5th International Conference on Receptive Ecumenism, which will be held in Sigtuna, Sweden, 27th–30th June 2022.

In addition to presenting at Sigtuna, Paul Murray and Greg Ryan, together with Paul Lakeland (Fairfield University, USA) will be launching *Receptive Ecumenism as Transformative Ecclesial Learning: Walking the Way to a Church Re-Formed* there. This OUP volume is the principal output of the post-doctoral project and includes 38 essays from a wide range of traditions and contributors. Some are newly commissioned, including a chapter by Dr Gabrielle Thomas (CCS Post-doctoral Fellow 2017-19) whilst others are revised from papers given at the 2nd and 3rd International conferences.



During the recent meeting of the Anglican – Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC)



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in Rome, Paul Murray presented a copy of *Receptive Ecumenism as Transformative Ecclesial Learning* to Pope Francis. The Commission makes use of the method of Receptive Ecumenism, where each one learns to heal their own ecclesial wounds by the gifts offered by ecumenical companions and this collaborative collection *Receptive Ecumenism as Transformative Ecclesial Learning: Walking the Way to a Church Re-formed* serves the synodal pathway Pope Francis has opened.



Dr Antonia Pizzey (Australian Catholic University) has been awarded a one-month research fellowship at the [Durham Residential Research Library](#) and will be working on material in the Receptive Ecumenism archive. We look forward to welcoming her to Durham in October.

The CCS in a Synodal Church

Although much of the work of the CCS can be seen as contributing to “the most ambitious Catholic renewal project for 60 years”, we have also engaged directly with developments in synodality, including:

- A collaboration with *The Tablet* for a series of **podcasts** on synodality by Christopher Lamb.
- Ecumenical aspects of synodality, investigated through **Receptive Ecumenism**.
- Studying the *Root & Branch* “Inclusive Synod”, as well as other sites of innovation in lay ministry and participation in **Transformative Renewal in the Church**.
- Engaging a range of issues related to accountability, governance, and culture through research for **Boundary Breaking**.
- A synodality stream at the 2021 online **Lived Catholicism** conference.
- Talks on synodality for dioceses and organisations, including *Catholic People’s Week* and the *Newman Association*.
- CCS Catholic Theology Research Seminars and other academic presentations.
- CCS staff have also contributed in a personal capacity to diocesan processes.



BREAKING NEWS

HE Cardinal Mario Grech and Sr Nathalie Becquart have accepted an invitation to deliver the 2023 Bishop Kevin Dunn Memorial Lecture. This will be associated with a symposium for scholars, church leaders, and synodal practitioners provisionally entitled, ‘Learning on the Way: Receptive Ecumenism and the Catholic Synodal Pathway’ (21st–23rd June 2023).

Transformative Renewal in the Church

Rev Dr John O’Brien, Associate Professor (Research)

Research during 2021-22 concentrated on three agreed sites in Britain:

- (i) Lay Ministry Formation in Hallam Diocese;
- (ii) initiatives of the Island Mission Group (IMG) on Anglesey, promoting lay ministry and consensus-based decision making;
- (iii) ‘Root & Branch’, a Women-led nation-wide Church reform group.



A detailed questionnaire was sent out and the replies collated. A follow-up questionnaire was sent out whose replies are awaited. In May 2022, when these replies are collated, the PI will visit Hallam to interview those who have completed or are participating in the Programme.

The PI participated by Zoom in all meetings of Anglesey IMG, published an interview with the female full-time lay Pastoral Associate, and visited Anglesey for 5 days in November 2021 where he conducted 20 interviews and attended 2 lay-led Sunday services.

The PI attended by Zoom nearly all meetings of Root & Branch and participated as an observer at the Root & Branch ‘Synod’ at Bristol, by Zoom 5th–8th September, and live in Bristol 10th–12th September 2021. He continues as a participant observer at Root & Branch events.

Several articles relevant to the research topics have been published. A first draft of the proposed Graphic Novel on church renewal has been produced but searches for a publisher continue.

In 2022-23 the focus of the research will move to Ireland. The three sites to be studied will be:

- (i) church renewal in Kerry Diocese with special reference to lay ministry training;
- (ii) the reception of *Laudato Si* at parish level;
- (iii) the challenge of sustaining dialogue between the Association of Catholic Priests and the Bishops.

Research: Catholic Social Thought & Practice

Prof. Anna Rowlands, St Hilda Chair in CSTP

This year has been a very busy one for work in Catholic Social Thought and Practice! In my role as the St Hilda Chair, I have been back to teaching my usual undergraduate courses as well as preparing for our exciting Distance Learning MA. I have continued to do some teaching in Parliament in the first term of the year and have been busy with a range of outreach and publications. Some highlights are mentioned below.



As I write this report, a new special edition of the **Journal for Catholic Social Thought** has just been published. This special edition focuses on women theologians and scholars responding to *Fratelli Tutti*, issued two years ago by Pope Francis. It is the first all-women volume and aims to address one of the perceived issues with the encyclical itself – the lack of women’s voices! Prof. Meg Clark and I edited the volume and contributed an article and are especially delighted by the global diversity of the scholars included – Africa, Asia, Latin American, Central and Eastern Europe, Northern Europe, North America - and the attempt made to address the footnoting of the work of other women scholars.

Separately, I have continued to run reflection days on *Fratelli Tutti* for numerous organisations including the Caritas Directors in Europe and for CSAN in the UK, and to run two online reflection and discussion days for academics studying the document and practitioners engaging from a praxis perspective. The resources from these days have been used to create a new collection of accessible resources on *Fratelli Tutti*.

AHRC/ESRC Refugee Hosts Project (www.refugeehosts.org)

Our Refugee Hosts Project is coming into its final dissemination phase.

We have made a series of videos on our findings about the role of faith in refugee displacement and refugee hosting, and I have taken part in a number of events to discuss our research. Please do visit the website to see the many **resources** we have worked on, and they are sadly all the more relevant given the new wave of refugees from Ukraine.



Anna continues as a Director of the Notre Dame London Gateway, and as Chair of Trustees for Women at the Well.

Here in the North East she is also serving on the research board for the William Leech Foundation, and the Scott Holland Trust.

Within the University Anna has taken part in internal discussions and processes for working on a response to the conflict in Ukraine.

Media

Anna has continued to do a range of media work, including **Thought for the Day** for Radio 4, LBC radio interviews, a series of **blogs on Pope Francis’ CST** for American Catholic Bishops’ Conference media (CNS), and a range of podcast interviews for different agencies including an extended podcast interview for St Paul’s Cathedral.



Anna and Karen at the St Paul's book launch

Sr Pat Robb CJ receiving her copy of *Towards a Politics of Communion*, which is dedicated to her. Sr Pat died peacefully in York on 21 May 2022.



Monograph

I was also delighted to (finally) finish and publish my monograph *Towards a Politics of Communion: Catholic Social Teaching in Dark Times* (Bloomsbury, 2021). I was very grateful to St Paul's Cathedral for hosting a UK launch, and also the British Embassy in Rome for hosting a Rome launch. I have given a range of talks based on the book, both locally and much further afield. St Cuthbert's Parish in Durham, and Holy Name, Jesmond have been the most local venues and the Catholic University in Puebla, Mexico the furthest away!

One of the necessary tasks in the field of Catholic social thought involves listening to the voices rarely heard in either ecclesial or theological spaces.

A newly published report entitled *Invisible: Prostitution and the Lives of Women* is a significant entry point into a reality which exists around us in our towns and cities, yet which is often hidden from sight. The report, based on empirical research commissioned by **women@thewell**, is written by **Dr Pat Jones**, CCS Post-Doctoral Research Associate. The report listens to the voices of women whose lives are affected by prostitution and explores how the women interpreted their lives and how they understood their own freedom and what had held them captive.

The report can be downloaded from tinyurl.com/invisible-plw



Other St Hilda Chair activity this year

I spent a very enjoyable 24 hours with the **Jesuit social outreach team** in Dublin in March and was honoured to give the first of a new annual lecture series on faith in public life that the Jesuits will now run in Dublin.

I was also honoured to be invited to give **Westminster Abbey's Gore Lecture**, focused on the theme of Trust in Public Life. I was also invited to give the **PACT annual lecture** on prison reform and CST, focusing on the principle of human dignity as a criteria for justice.

I have also been delighted to continue my work with the **Vatican's Dicastery for Integral Human Development** on their current project work (more details when they are public!) and to form new partnerships with the John Cabot University, Rome campus and Notre Dame University for projects on the role of religion in global politics.



Research: History of Catholicism

Dr James Kelly, Sweeting Fellow in the History of Catholicism

THE HISTORY OF CATHOLICISM TEAM



Dr James Kelly



Dr Sarah Barthélemy



Dr Cormac Begadon



Dr Brian Casey



Dr Liam Temple

New posts

Dr Sarah Barthélemy joined the CCS at the start of the academic year as the three-year **Catherine de Francheville Fellow**. Exploring the activities of the Congregation of La Retraite from c.1650 to c.1820, she is focussing in particular on their role as providers of spiritual retreats to women.

Interviews for the three-year **Little Company of Mary Fellowship** are being held in June. The Fellow will work on the early decades of the Congregation's development, particularly the women who oversaw its rapid global growth.

This year saw the extension of Brian Casey's fixed-term position as the **FMDM Fellow**.



Brian with FMDM Sisters and staff at Rieti Convent, Lusaka, Zambia after an archival trip in Zimbabwe and Zambia, May 2022

Publications

The first book of the 'Catholicisms, c.1450–c.1800' series, published by Durham University IMEMS Press and of which James Kelly is a founding co-editor, was published. With its roots in the 3rd Early Modern British and Irish Catholicism conference and the Monks in Motion project, ***British and Irish Religious Orders in Europe, 1560–1800: Conventuals, Mendicants and Monastics in Motion***, was edited by Cormac Begadon and James Kelly.

James Kelly's monograph, ***English Convents in Catholic Europe, c.1600–1800***, was shortlisted for the annual book awards of the Ecclesiastical History Society and the Reformation Research Consortium. He is co-general editor with CCS Honorary Professor John McCafferty (University College Dublin), of the five-volume ***Oxford History of British and Irish Catholicism***, which has just been sent to the Press, with the pair acting as co-editors of the first volume. Liam Temple is co-editor of the second volume, and Cormac Begadon has contributed a chapter to the third volume. The fifth volume is edited by another CCS Honorary Fellow, Alana Harris.

Lectures

The **Ushaw Lectures** returned to in-person meetings as the academic year progressed, and are now hybrid events. The final fully online lectures were Shannen Dee Williams (Villanova, USA) and Katie Bugyis (Notre Dame, USA); in the new hybrid format, speakers have included Giles Gasper (Durham), Tonya Moutray (Russell Sage College, USA and RRL Visiting Fellow), Archbishop of Southwark John Wilson, and Julia Stapleton (Durham).

The **Annual London Catholic Studies Lecture**, hosted jointly by the CCS and the University of Notre Dame's London Global Gateway, was delivered by Frank Cottrell-Boyce in December.

Members of the History of Catholicism team have given a number of academic papers and public lectures both domestically and internationally, including Cormac Begadon delivering the **Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre's Foundation Day Lecture** in October 2021. He also contributed a podcast on the canonesses' migration back to England to the 'Journeys to Durham' exhibition created by Palace Green Library, which won best 'Education' category in the Shorthand Awards.

Durham's Special Collections and New Research Funding

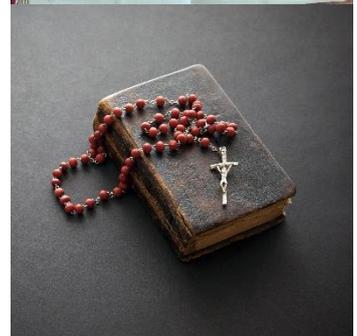
The CCS continues to work closely with Durham's Special Collections team, with this year seeing the arrival in Durham of the archives of the Ursuline Sisters of Brentwood. Jonathan Bush, a member of the Special Collections team, has recently secured funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council and Research Libraries UK for a project entitled 'Protecting dispersed collections: a framework for managing the at-risk heritage assets of Catholic religious orders'. He will be mentored by James Kelly.

International Scholars of the History of Women Religious Association (ISHWRA)

The CCS is the host for the new research network, **ISHWRA**. The research network's specific focus is to promote and facilitate enquiry into the history of Catholic female religious through a global perspective. It hosts a monthly research seminar and a biennial workshop on a specific theme, with all seminars hosted virtually to allow for global participation. The network's launch workshop was hosted virtually by the CCS in September and examined the experience of women religious during the French Revolution, with a collection of essays on the topic already planned.

ISHWRA's convening committee includes the CCS' Cormac Begadon and Sarah Barthélemy, plus James Kelly is amongst its advisory committee.

Planning for the re-scheduled 4th Early Modern British and Irish Catholicism Conference, '**Popery, Politics and Prayer**' is underway for 11th–13th July 2023. The conference will be co-hosted by the University of Notre Dame and held at Ushaw College Durham.



Research: Catholicism, Literature & the Arts

We are very pleased that the **3rd International Catholicism, Literature and the Arts conference** will take place 12th–14th July 2022 at the University of Notre Dame's London Global Gateway, our close partners in this endeavour. The theme of this conference is '**The Poetics of Liturgy and Place**', featuring a keynote from Rowan Williams, a talk and live-sculpting by the renowned Canadian sculptor, Timothy Schmalz, and a guided visit to the National Gallery of selected paintings on the theme of 'Liturgy and Place'. Our other speakers include Robin Jensen and Lucas Christensen, Romana Huk, Paul Hills, and Valentin Gerlier, with a poetry reading from Hilary Davies. Farm Street Church will also host an evening performance of Olivier Messiaen's 'Quartet for the End of Time' followed by a wine reception.

The conference will explore the Catholic tradition's contribution to 'place-making' through the arts. Some of the questions explored by speakers and short papers are: How do the arts create, shape, or contest Catholic global, regional, and local identities? How might the liturgy shape our understanding of 'place' and, in turn, how might our perception and creation of 'place' inform or reform the liturgy? What difference do the material surroundings in which we encounter religious artworks make to our reception of them? And how has art in the Catholic tradition attended to the 'displaced', the homeless, refugees, and to the 'more-than-human' world?

The CCS is very grateful to **Dr Elizabeth Powell** who accepted a part-time extension to her three year contract as the La Retraite Fellow in Theology and Spirituality, to provide the academic lead on this conference, which was delayed from July 2021 due to the pandemic.

One of the **strategic priorities** for the CCS is to secure funding to enable a series of two to three year postdoctoral fellowships, similar to the La Retraite Fellow, to work in areas of Catholicism, Literature and the Arts, including **literature, music and drama**. As well as enabling the CCS to continue the successful biennial conferences in this programme area, it would enable the work in the area to be expanded and enriched, and to lay the ground for training future academic leaders in this exciting field.

Tim Guinan, CCS Senior Development Manager would be interested to talk to anyone interested in developing this area of the CCS's work.



Image: Tim Patrick, *The Palace*, Oil on Linen, 160x270cm. Used with permission

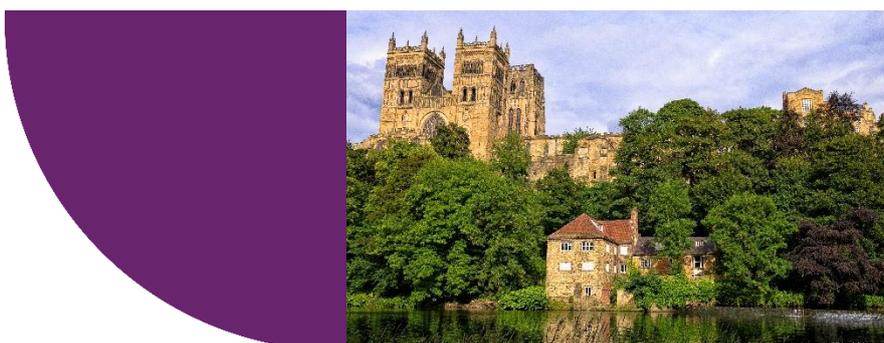


Image courtesy of Durham University

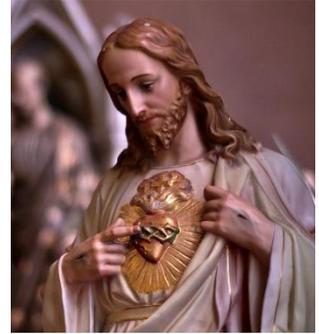
Research: Lived Catholicism

“**Lived Catholicism**” is an emerging term being used to describe the variety of ways in which Catholicism is lived around the world and through history, building on the work of scholars across the disciplines and developed by Avril Baigent in her doctoral work at the Centre for Catholic Studies. It has a ground-up focus, seeking to engage with the many ways in which ordinary people craft, improvise, negotiate and subvert their Catholicity.

The Second Lived Catholicism Conference

In November 2021 under the direction of Avril Baigent (Durham doctoral student), Dr Marcus Pound, and Dr Pat Jones, in partnership with the Department of Catholic Studies at Duquesne University, the CCS organised a second fully online conference in Lived Catholicism, ***Paradox and Prophecy: Why the Study of Lived Catholicism Matters***.

The conference keynote speakers included historian and theologian Massimo Faggioli, sociologist Michele Dillon, theologian Clare Watkins, and anthropologist Valentina Napolitano. Short paper streams covered topics as diverse as the abuse crisis, the role of women and gender, education and healthcare, cultural engagements, and paradox and belonging. The Pop-up Podium slot continued to shed light on the sheer diversity of Catholicism. The closing plenary session reflected the joy of the conference: scholars from across the disciplines, gathered around a common concern to study Catholicism, and enriched by the many stories, methods, and epistemological challenges shared.



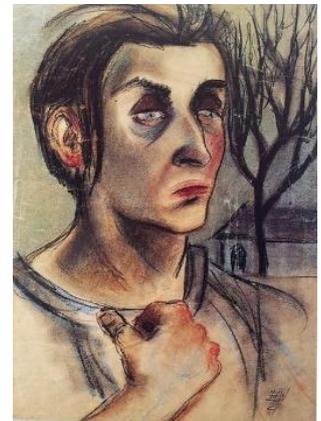
Nine of the sessions are available as videos via livedcatholicism.org/lived-catholicism-2021

A collection of papers from the first Lived Catholicism Conference will be available later this year as a special edition of the journal *Ecclesial Practices*.

Lived Theology, Trauma and Reconciliation

Dr Victoria Biggs, La Retraite Fellow in Lived Theology, Trauma and Reconciliation

The pandemic kept me from carrying out the ethnographic research I had hoped to conduct in shrines adjacent to sites of genocide. Nurtured by lively discussion with students taking my module on post-Holocaust theology in an age of decolonisation, a different project was born. I am finishing a book provisionally titled *Unruly Bodies, Defiant Minds: The Challenge of Disability to Post-Holocaust Thought*, which explores Jewish and Christian theological responses to the Holocaust in light of disabled people's experiences of Nazi persecution. The killing of disabled people, known as Aktion-T4, is often treated as a precursor to the Holocaust. However, my research has led me to recognise that disablism is a driving force in all modern genocides, and the book makes a case for a liberatory theology of disability as essential to justice and eventually reconciliation.



Painting by Elfriede Lohse-Wächtler. A portrait of a fellow psychiatric patient, painted whilst Elfriede was in an asylum prior to her murder. (Picture: Creative Commons Licence.)

Research: Franciscan Studies

Update on Progress with the St Clare Chair

Plans for the St Clare Professorship in Franciscan Studies have received a welcome boost with visits of various Franciscan leaders and the reconfirmation of pledges totalling £1.3m from the OFMs (both GB and IRE respectively), OFM Capuchins (GB), and the Conventual Franciscan Federation (US, GB, IRE and AUS). This followed the success of the inaugural Franciscan Studies Summer School, delivered online to a global audience with three modules over two weeks in May 2021. We also welcomed the Capuchins (GB) to Tenter House in the centre of Durham.

Despite a setback due to COVID, we have since received a significant new pledge of £100,000 from the Capuchin Franciscans Australia, with further donations from the Capuchin Friars of St Augustine Province, Pittsburgh PA. With encouragement from Fr James McCurry, leader of the Conventual Franciscan Federation, we are preparing a video presentation with multiple endorsements to share with religious and tertiary Franciscan congregations across the US. The video is intended to extol the many virtues of the CCS as a permanent home for Franciscan Studies in the English-speaking world. We are hopeful of closing the gap to the initial £2.2m target required to endow the first post in what promises to be a burgeoning and accessible programme in Franciscan studies.

NEW Franciscan MA module

2021-22 has witnessed the launch of a new Franciscan MA module, '**Trinity, Incarnation, and Creation: High Medieval Franciscan Theology**', which introduces students to the theology of key Franciscan figures such as Alexander of Hales, Robert Grosseteste, Bonaventure, and Duns Scotus. The module was taken by 11 students - a very high number for an MA course. An online version of the module is to be launched in 2023-24 as part of the CCS's Distance Learning MA in Catholic Theology.

The Science of the Saints: St Bonaventure's *Quaestiones De Colore*

A three-year Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship by Dr William (Billy) Crozier, who recently completed his PhD with the CCS

The aim of the project is to produce an edition, translation, and commentary on a previously unknown work by St. Bonaventure - the *Quaestiones de Colore*. Representing the only known "scientific" work by Bonaventure, the text is written in his own hand and dates from Bonaventure's time as a student. Thus far a draft edition and translation of the text have been produced, as well as a translation of Bonaventure's 10,000-word discussion of the nature of light in his *Sentences Commentary*.

This project will strengthen the CCS's developing programme in Franciscan Studies and offer the opportunity for Durham to be at the heart of the editing and dissemination of a previously unknown work attributable to St Bonaventure. The CCS are delighted that Billy's expertise has been recognised by this prestigious fellowship scheme and will enjoy working with him for another three years.



Students

CCS student members bring life and vitality to the CCS community. Many of the seminars and meetings this year have been fully hybrid, enabling students to be fully involved and engaged either in person or on online.

New for this year, staff and students have been meeting twice per term for **Research Conversations**. Each meeting has been fully hybrid with a member of staff and a student sharing a bit about their research followed by a time of enriching open discussion.



As part of the partnership between the CCS and the University of Notre Dame (ND), **ND's Kennedy Scholars** visited Durham in December, one of normally two annual visits for tours of the Durham Research Libraries and Collections of Palace Green, the Cathedral, and Ushaw College. During their visit CCS students share in a lunch with the Kennedy Scholars followed by a meeting where CCS students and staff are invited to discuss presentations given by the Kennedy Scholars on their research.

This year the annual **Early Career Conference** in Catholic Theology and Catholic Studies will be held in person in Durham on 13th June. In light of the success of the online meeting in 2021 during the pandemic, the CCS have decided to hold this conference fully online in alternate years to allow wider participation from across the world.

Scholarships

Through generous donations from the **Institute of Our Lady of Mercy**, the **Congregation of Jesus**, the **Religious of Christian Education**, **Mater Ecclesiae**, the **Newman Association**, and a number of individual donors, the CCS has been able to support 13 students with scholarship and bursary awards totalling **£78,470** in 2021-22.

The majority of these awards offer help towards tuition fees, with the exception of three full-time **Louis Lafosse PhD Scholarships**. The Lafosse scholars are each in receipt of full home rate tuition fees, and a maintenance allowance at the UK Research Council's national rate, all funded by significant annual donations from the Religious of Christian Education.

Two new fully funded Louis Lafosse scholarships have already been awarded for 2022-23. In partnership with the **Faithful Companions of Jesus** we hope to be able to offer other fully funded scholarships when applications are considered at the June CCS Scholarships' Committee.

CCS students and staff are grateful to all who have donated funds to enable the award of CCS scholarships, and also to the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle for continuing to support a number of CCS students with funding through their Lay Training Fund.

CCS student Charlotte Bray with Sisters of the Religious of Christian Education, funders of the Louis Lafosse PhD Scholarships



What difference does the CCS make to our students?



Amanda Murjan: I'm in the second year of a PhD generously funded by a Louis Lafosse scholarship, without which my return to study as a mature student would have been impossible. My research

involves a critical reconstruction of John Paul II's theology of self-giving using psychology, alongside other traditions of Catholic thought. It is my greatest joy and privilege to be a member of the CCS. The consistent support given during the pandemic in the rapid turn to online access and tremendous pastoral care given during intense months of home-schooling, was an unfailing source of hope. From the highest levels the CCS is rooted in a genuine wisdom and humility, where the growth of its students feels inseparable from the growth of the department as a whole. It is fearlessly creative and receptive. Always inspiring and transformative. For me, it is academia at its best and I am profoundly grateful to be here.

Gael Pardoën: The CCS' financial support has been a precious help and a constant reminder of the ecclesial purpose of my research—serving the people of God. It is in this context, understanding



theology as the therapeutic discipline of the ecclesia, that I decided to spend a few years reading, thinking, writing, rethinking, and writing again about belonging. I ought to mention Karen Kilby who has accompanied me as the focus of my project evolved. Her work has brought humility, as well pastoral sensitivity and practicality to my own approach to belonging. The CCS is a place where I have met people whose friendship has nourished my own research and taught me a lot about creativity, free-thinking, and the virtue of laughing. In what have been incredibly challenging years, the CCS has contributed to the quality of my life at every level, human, intellectual, and spiritual.



Peter Hannah: I am deeply grateful for the Catherine McAuley Scholarship this year, and to the CCS for its coordination of support for research into areas that affect the life of the Church. Thank you all for your generosity! I'm also indeed thankful to all in the CCS who have laboured this year to bring us thought-provoking lectures and discussions as a way of walking together with God in friendship and mutual support.

Kyrrillos EIMacari: I am immensely grateful and indebted to the Religious of Christian Education for their generosity in the Louis Lafosse Scholarship. My experience with the CCS has been enriching and insightful: the diverse community within and the manifold areas of research conducted in relation to the CCS; the ongoing seminars and conferences are an eye opener for me regarding academic developments in different theological disciplines and also enlightening in terms of understanding the contemporary challenges facing the church; the continuous hospitality and support of the members of the CCS community are overwhelming and humbling; the ecumenical disposition of the CCS is a beacon of hope for unity for the church.

The CCS has been able to support 65 postgraduate students since 2009/10 thanks to the generous support of a number of religious congregations, partner organisations, and individuals. The CCS currently awards named bursaries and scholarships on an annual spend-down basis, and we will continue to do this. In order to complement this and to provide greater stability, we would like to raise a **£2m endowment** in order to guarantee in perpetuity a minimum level of annual scholarship and bursary funding so that we can continue to attract the best students from around the world.

Alumni News



Congratulations to 6 CCS student members completing PhD programmes in 2021-22:

- 🎓 Andrew Gottshall
- 🎓 Scholastica Jacob
- 🎓 Fr Liam Kelly, OFM
- 🎓 Kjetil Kringlebotten
- 🎓 Hannah Lucas
- 🎓 Gary Wade

Myka Lahaie, CCS student 2015-18, recently accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Theology and Franciscan Studies at **St. Bonaventure University** (New York). Myka's doctoral research received support from the Newman Association and the Congregation of Jesus, and her thesis was entitled "Love, 'Gift,' and the Fragmentary Self: A Theological Engagement with Jean-Luc Marion and Søren Kierkegaard."

In recent correspondence with the CCS, Myka says, "The CCS was, of course, instrumental in my getting this job. I'm most grateful for how you all continued to offer support through opportunities to gain further experience, recommendations, and more. Involvement with the CCS so enriched my time at Durham."



Outreach 2021-22

The CCS organises many events each year to encourage interested members of the public, its many partners, and academics from other institutions to share in its research and research interests.

In addition to these, the Bede Chair and St Hilda Chair both have 20% of their time dedicated to outreach commitment as part of their portfolio, with many other CCS staff also involved in outreach activities, all sharing their research within the academy, church, and society.

Some examples of CCS outreach events this year:

In partnership with St Cuthbert's Catholic Church Durham and Holy Name Catholic Church Jesmond, the CCS has arranged a **Series of Termly Talks**, given by CCS staff. The series was delayed due to the pandemic and started in March 2022 with 'Towards a Politics of Communion: the Common Good in Challenging Times' by Prof. Anna Rowlands. In June, Dr Elizabeth Powell will speak on "'Seeing in 'Ordinary Time': A Meditation with David Jones's Pencil and Watercolour, Flora in *Calix-Light*'.

Dr Liam Temple, CCS postdoctoral fellow, has been working with staff in the Department and across the University to sharpen our focus on key schools and colleges with which to build relationship. Recently Liam spoke to students, parents, and staff at a **careers evening** at Carmel RC College Darlington on the CCS and studying Theology and Religion. In June he will be presenting the same topics to students at Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form, also in Darlington. Talks are also lined up at Durham VIth Form.

Karen Kilby, Bede Professor, continued the monthly **Durham Theology Book Club** on Zoom until January 2022. The group is now paused until the end of Karen's study leave.

Partnerships

The Centre for Catholic Studies is pleased to be working in partnership with:

Arts and Humanities Research Council

British Teilhard Network

CAFOD

Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre

Capuchin Franciscans of Great Britain

Capuchin Franciscans of Australia

Capuchin Friars, St Augustine Province, US

Catholic Historical Society of Ireland

Catholic Theological Association of GB

Charles Plater Trust

Community of St Francis

Conference of Religious in England & Wales

Congregation of Jesus

Congregation of La Retraite (Britain & Ireland)

Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph of Peace

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

Conventual Franciscan Federation (US)

Durham University Catholic Chaplaincy

English Benedictine Congregation

Fairfield University, Connecticut

Faithful Companions of Jesus

Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood

Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Littlehampton

Franciscan Sisters of Mill Hill

Institute of Our Lady of Mercy

Irish Capuchin Province

Jesuits in Britain

Little Company of Mary

Mater Ecclesiae

National Board of Catholic Women

Newman Association

Northern Diaconal Formation Partnership

Order of Friars Minor in GB Order of Friars Minor (Irish Province)

Porticus

RC Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

Religious of Christian Education

Sisters of Mercy (Oaklea)

Sisters of the Holy Cross

Sisters of the Poor Child Jesus

Society of the Sacred Heart

St Cuthbert's Society of Ushaw

The Society of St Francis

The Tablet and The Pastoral Review

Trustees of Ushaw College

University of Notre Dame, Indiana

& many Generous Individuals of Vision.

To discuss **partnership opportunities**, many of which attract generous matched-funding from the University and other benefactors, please contact Tim Guinan, Senior Development Manager for the CCS, for a conversation.

A big **THANK YOU** to all our partners **for your support!**





Durham
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Centre for Catholic Studies

Catholic Theology in the Public Academy

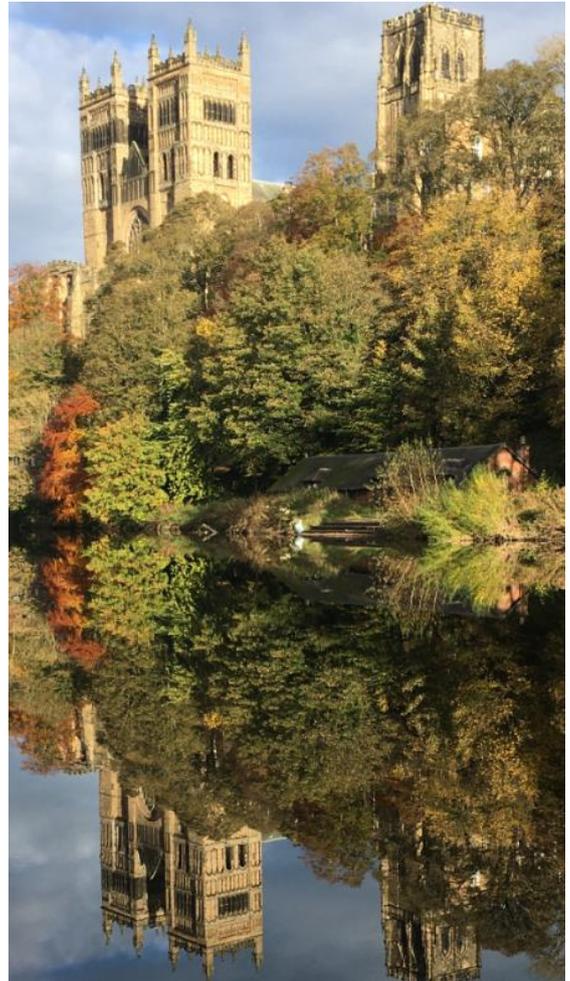
A Prayer for the Work of the Centre for Catholic Studies

Lord,

If this be not your will, frustrate it,
frustrate it fully and frustrate it quickly,
and move our heart's desire closer
to the heart of your desire for us.

But if it be of your will,
then continue to open for us the
generosity of heart, mind, and
means that are needed,
and may this generosity begin with us.

Amen.



Durham Cathedral on the River Wear
Photo by Elizabeth Powell ©

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