Lecturers of the 2020/2021 "JP2 lectures" series at Angelicum

Monthly lectures, "JP2 Lectures," from scholars around the world are offered by the new St. John Paul II Institute of Culture at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas – the Angelicum in Rome, the Roman alma Mater of fr. Karol Wojtyła.

The world-renowned lineup of speakers include:

His Eminence Gianfranco Ravasi - born in 1942. Appointed as cardinal at the consistory in 2010. Currently he is one of the most eminent Vatican officials presiding: The Pontifical Council for Culture, the Pontifical Commission for Sacred Archaeology and the Pontifical Commission for the Cultural Heritage of the Church. Close collaborator of Benedict XVI and Francis I.

Prof. John M. Finnis - born in 1940 in South Australia. Jurist, philosopher and scholar, taught Law in the University of Oxford 1965-2010 and is Professor of Law and Legal Philosophy emeritus there and also in the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, where he was a chaired Professor 1995-2020. Author of Natural Law and Natural Rights (1980; 2011) elaborating a new approach to classical natural law theory; Fundamentals of Ethics (1983); Moral Absolutes (1991); Aquinas: Moral, Political and Legal Theory (1995); and in five volumes Collected Essays of John Finnis (2011). He was a member of the International Theological Commission of the Holy See 1986-91, the Pontifical Council of Justice and Peace (1990-95), and the Pontifical Academy Pro Vita (2001-2016).

Archbishop Rowan Williams - born in Swansea, Wales in 1950, Anglican bishop, scholar, theologian and poet. Master of Magdalene College Cambridge and honorary professor at the Department of Modern Christian Thought at the University of Cambridge. He graduated in Theology from Christ's College Cambridge and received his PhD in Philosophy in 1975 at Wadham College Oxford. He was Archbishop of Wales from 2000-2002 and Archbishop of Canterbury from 2002-2012. Appointed life peer in the House of Lords in 2013, he served as Baron Williams of Oystermouth from 2013 until his retirement on August 31, 2020.

Prof. Marek A. Cichocki - born in Warsaw in 1966. Professor of the College of Europe in Natolin, co-founder of "Political Theology" and editor-in-chief of "New Europe, Natolin Review". He received his doctorate and habilitation in philosophy at the Polish Academy of Sciences in 2013. In 2000-2003 he was program director of the Center for International Relations in Warsaw. He was also an advisor to the late President of Poland Lech Kaczyński. Author of well-known and awarded books: "Kidnapping Europe". (2004) and "North and South, essays on Polish culture and history" (2018).

Prof. John Cavadini - Professor of Theology at Notre Dame University and Director of McGrath Institute for Church Life. He received his doctorate in theology in 1988 from Yale University. In November 2009 he was appointed by Pope Benedict XVI for a five-year term in the International Theological Commission. Member of the Notre Dame Department since 1990. Cavadini is a researcher of patristic theology and early medieval times. He is also involved in the theology of St. Augustine and the history of biblical and patristic exegesis.

Prof. François Daguet OP - theologian, lecturer and award-winning author and researcher of ecclesiology and political doctrine of the Church. He received his doctorate in theology from the University of Freiburg and studied at the prestigious ENA in Paris. He is currently a professor at the Catholic Institute of Toulouse and the Studium des Dominicains de Toulouse and presides over the Saint Thomas Aquinas Institute. Author of the famous "Du politique chez Thomas d'Aquin" (2015), for which he received the Prix Biguet award.

Prof. Chantal Delsol - philosopher, writer and professor of political philosophy. As a graduate of Philosophy and Art History at the University of Lyon, she received her PhD (es lettres) in philosophy at

the Sorbonne under Julien Freund in 1982. In 1992 she became professor at the University of Marne-le-Vallée. Member of the French Academy. Winner of many awards, including the Academy of Ethical and Political Sciences Award (1993,2002) Mousquetaire Award (1996) and the French Academy Award (2001).

Prof. Rémi Brague - professor of history of philosophy at the Sorbonne and the University of Louis and Maximilian in Munich. He is a renowned scholar of the history of Arabic and Oriental philosophy and philosophy of religion. In 2012 he received the Ratzinger Prize. He received an honorary doctorate from the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Cracow (2018).

Prof. Renato Cristin - Italian philosopher, professor of philosophy at the University of Trieste. From 2003 to 2006 he was director of the Institute of Italian Culture in Berlin. His research is focused on: Leibnitz's philosophy, philosophy of culture, phenomenology and hermeneutics. He has published books: Europa al plurale. Philosophy e politica per l'unità europea (1997), La rinascita dell'Europa. Husserl e il destino dell'Occidente (2001), Technologien und Lebenswelten (edited by: G. Abel, W. Hogrebe, A. Przyłębski; 2006), Apologia dell'ego. Per una phenomenologia dell'identità (2011), I padroni del caos (2018).

Prof. Dariusz Gawin - born in Warsaw in 1964. Historian of ideas, publicist. Deputy Director of the Warsaw Rising Museum, head of the Starzyński Institute. Head of the Department of Civil Society at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Author of, among others, the book "Poland: Eternal Romance" for which he received the Andrzej Kijowski Award.