Quaerentes Veritatem

The Truth Seekers

Dr. Mary Lemmons
University of St. Thomas, Department of Philosophy

John Paul II on Women: Reflections on Mulieris Dignitatem

Prepare to discuss the reading available on the Quaerentes Veritatem Web site
http://courseweb.stthomas.edu/rmlemmons/qv.htm

Thursday, September 18, 2008
McNeely Hall Great Room (MCH 100)
Noon - 1:15 pm

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For more information contact Dr. Lemmons, Philosophy Department (rmlemmons@stthomas.edu)
The UST Philosophy Club

Presents:

Legitimate Campaign Methods
or Simply Mudslinging?

Election and Campaign Ethics

Tuesday, September 30th, 2008
12:00pm - 1:00pm
JRC 201

With the 2008 Elections nearly upon us numerous ethical questions will confront candidates on the campaign trail. How far is too far in negative campaigning and attack ads? What, if any, personal issues should remain off limits? Should we hold public officials responsible for ethical breaches in campaigning? We plan to address these questions and more. All students are welcome to come and discuss (or simply listen) and all opinions will be treated with respect. And as always FREE PIZZA AND POP!
Colloquium

Dr. Mary Lemmons
University of St. Thomas, Department of Philosophy

The Need for Thomistic Personalism
According to Karol Wojtyla
(John Paul II)

Wojtyla argues that Thomism needs personalism
and personalism needs Thomism. Why?

Tuesday, October 7, 2008  12:00 noon – 1:00 pm
JRC Auditorium  (JRC 126)
The Body and the Imago Dei: A primer on the “Theology of the Body”

Prepare to discuss the reading available on the Quaerentes Veritatem Web site
http://courseweb.stthomas.edu/rmlemmons/qv.htm

Tuesday, October 14, 2008
Owens Science Center Auditorium (OWS 150)
Noon - 1:15 pm

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Why is Eating People Wrong?

Just why is cannibalism wrong? I suspect that for the vast majority of people the intuition that cannibalism is wrong is practically as strong as the intuitions against rape or murder; yet on reflection it is surprisingly difficult to give clear grounds for saying why cannibalism per se is wrong.

I take up the question of cannibalism as a particularly interesting test case for our moral theories. I will ultimately argue that we need some way of recognizing the objective moral value of non-personal objects if we are to make sense of the idea that something like cannibalism is wrong.
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Dr. Janet Smith

Scholar in Residence, St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity and Father Michael J. McGivney Chair of Life Ethics, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit

Contraception

A Couple’s Best Friend or Foe?

Thursday, November 13, 2008

McNeely Hall Great Room (MCH 100)

Noon – 1:15 pm

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The UST Philosophy Club

Presents:

Is the Free Market a Fair Market?
The Ethics of Economics

Tuesday, November 25, 2008
12:00pm - 1:00pm
JRC 201

The recent global financial crisis has raised serious questions regarding the ethics of free market capitalism. Does the free market reward and promote greedy behavior? Should the government more strictly oversee or even regulate corporations and businesses? Are capitalism and social responsibility mutually exclusive? The Philosophy Club plans to discuss these questions and more! All are welcome to attend to discuss (or just listen) and as always free pizza and pop!
Dr. van Ingen presents a discussion of Immanuel Kant’s account of human dignity, which has a central place at the core of his philosophy of morality. Included will be attention to the question, “What about uncle Gus?”, with his shrinking portfolio and the fact that he can claim no copy of the *Critique of Practical Reason* in his home library.
The UST Philosophy Club

Presents:

Should Same-Sex Marriages Be Legal?

Thursday, February 26, 2009
12:00pm – 1:00pm
JRC 126

Recent court decisions and state constitutional amendments have reinvigorated the debate over same-sex marriage in the United States. Come and discuss the ethics of legalizing same-sex marriage with the Philosophy club. All students are welcome to come and discuss (or simply listen) and all opinions will be treated with respect. And as always free pizza and pop!

UST Philosophy Club
Get into it.
Colloquium

Dr. Timothy Pawl
University of St. Thomas, Department of Philosophy

Prayer to an Immutable God

Christians traditionally believe that God answers prayers; that is, that God responds, at least sometimes, to the petitions of his followers. Indeed, the Christian canon provides copious examples of this in both the New and Old Testaments. However, traditional Christianity also has it that God is immutable, that is, unable to change in any way. There seems to be a tension in these two beliefs. If God answers a prayer, then he responds to the prayer of a person. And responding to something appears to involve change. If I respond to your petitions that I raise your grade, I'm changing something — at the very least I'm changing my mind about what your grade should be. But if God doesn't change, and change seems integral to response, in what way can it be said that God responds to prayers? In this talk I provide a resolution to the aforementioned tension.

Thursday, March 12, 2009 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm
JRC Auditorium (JRC 126)
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Dr. Steve Heaney
Department of Philosophy, University of St. Thomas

Thursday, March 19, 2009
JRC Auditorium (JRC 126) Noon – 1:15 pm

Background Reading: Instruction on Respect for Human Life (link can be found at http://courseweb.stthomas.edu/rmlemmons/qv.htm)

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For more information contact Dr. Lemmons, Philosophy Department (rmlemmons@stthomas.edu)
The UST Philosophy Club
Presents:

Should The Government Regulate Morality?

Room: JRC 201
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2009
Time: 12:00-1:00pm

Join the UST Philosophy Club as we discuss the morality of regulating morality. What authority, if any, does the state have to legislate morality? Should public opinion dictate private action? How far can law go in governing personal ethical matters? We plan to discuss these questions and more!

All students are welcome to come and discuss (or simply listen) and all opinions will be treated with respect. And as always, free pizza and pop

Questions? Contact Ann Hale at or 2-5350 amhale@stthomas.edu
The Nature of Faith: Abraham & Isaac

Thursday, April 2, 2009  12:00-1:00 pm
OEC Auditorium
Colloquium

The Problem of Evil: Aquinas’s Theodicy

Dr. Eleonore Stump

Eleonore Stump, the Robert J. Henle Professor of Philosophy at Saint Louis University, will be giving a lecture on Thomas Aquinas’s approach to the problem of evil. (This is the problem of why a perfectly good and all-powerful God would allow suffering, pain, and evil in the world.) Professor Stump is a world-renowned medieval philosopher and philosopher of religion, and is the past president of the American Philosophical Association (Central Division), the American Catholic Philosophical Association, and the Society of Christian Philosophers.

Thursday, April 2, 2009  ♦  3:30-5:30 pm
3M Auditorium - Owens Science Hall 150 (OWS 150)
Quaerentes Veritatem

The Truth Seekers

Fr. Michael Keating

Catholic Studies Department, University of St. Thomas

Thursday, April 9, 2009

McNeely Hall Great Room (MHC 100)

Noon – 1:15 pm

Why Suffering?

Background Reading: Mother Teresa’s In the Shadow of Our Lady or Come Be My Light or Mother Teresa’s Secret Fire or Salvific Doloris (link available at http://courseweb.stthomas.edu/rmlemmons/qv.htm)

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Colloquium

Emergence and Resurrection

Dr. Timothy O’Connor
Professor of Philosophy, Indiana University-Bloomington

Dr. Jonathan Jacobs
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Saint Louis University

Wednesday, April 22, 2009  ♦  3:15 pm  ♦  JRC 201
Many people nowadays consider it a bad thing to be a committed religious traditionalist of any sort. They think any such belief has to be intellectually indefensible and perhaps morally reprehensible, on a par with racism. But is that really so? I don’t think so, and I’ll tell you why. And that’s when the fun really begins, when we reason about these things together.

April 23, 2009  12:00-1:00 pm  JRC 126
How do we define a just conflict? What factors should be taken into account before we engage in a conflict? The UST Philosophy Club and UST STAND welcome you to discuss these questions. Application of Just War Theory will be discussed with special focus on the current conflict in the Darfur region of Sudan. All opinions are welcome and will be treated with respect.

As always, Free Pizza and Pop!

More Information: Ann M. Hale, 2-5350, amhale@stthomas.edu
Quaerentes Veritatem
The Truth Seekers

Dr. Deborah Savage
Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity

The Spirituality of Work

Thursday, April 30, 2009
JRC Auditorium (JRC 126)
Noon – 1:15 pm

Background Reading: Laborem Exercens (link available at http://courseweb.stthomas.edu/rmlemmons/qv.htm)

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Second Prize Winner

Robert Crane

The Foundation of the Critique of Judgment

Tuesday

May 5, 2009
12:00 noon-1:00 pm

JRC Auditorium (JRC 126)

Third Prize Winner

Steven J. Winkelman

An Aristotelian Defense of Self

Congratulations to First Prize Winner Joseph Kuharski, who is unable to present on the scheduled day.
Prior to graduation, Philosophy Majors must present a paper at a public symposium.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

9:55 am—ELIAS GIESKE
Are Free Will and a Good God Compatible?

10:20 am—MATT DUBAY
Is God Good?

10:45 am—JARED JOHNSON
Is it More Rational for the Moralist to Believe in God than Not?

11:10 am—JOAH ELLIS
Is it Possible for God to Act in the World?

1:30 pm—JOHN LOVITSCH
Can God Exist and Be the Creator of the World?

1:55 pm—SCOTT NOLAN
Petitionary Prayer: Why Bother?

2:20 pm—GABE GUBASH
Without God, What’s So Special About You Anyway?

2:45 pm—DAVID MOWRY
Does Responsiveness Belong to Divine Perfection?

3:25 pm—MELISSA HACKENMUELLER
Can God Make Something Morally Good or Bad?

3:50 pm—JOHN NOTERMANN
Must God Exist If Overriding Reasons Always Favor Doing What is Morally Required?

4:15 pm—KEVIN M. GEARNS
Whether God’s Existence Can be Proved from Consciousness?

4:40 pm—CHUCK SCHWARTZ
Can He Forgive Us Our Trespasses?

Philosophy Major
Paper Presentations

Day 1
Tuesday, May 5, 2009
O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library
Leather Room (LIB 108)
9:55 am—JOHN DREES
Does Morality Prove the Existence of God?

10:20 am—JEFF WALD
Does Intrinsic Personal Worth and an Objective Moral Order Come from a Personal God?

10:45 am—MICHAEL KEARNEY
Are Sin and Evil Necessary for a Really Good World?
As Presented by Kevin Diller

11:10 am—KUOL DUT
Why Does God Allow Vast Amount of Evil in the World?

11:35 am—ZACHARY FROELICH
Whether God is Inside or Outside Time: Implications of Open Theism

12:00 pm—JUSTIN MCCARTY
According to Existentialists, Are Universal Values/Natural Law Possible Without God?

12:25 pm—NICK NELSON
Is it More Reasonable, or Is it Less Reasonable to Believe in a Personal Cause of the Universe?

12:50 pm—DANIEL GIFFORD
Is Skeptical Theism Compatible with Christian Philosophy?

1:30 pm—SPENCER HOWE
Newman’s Sixth Way: Does the Reality of Human Conscience Provide a Grounds for Asserting God’s Existence?

1:55 pm—CONOR KENNELLY
Is Design a Real Alternative to Chance?

2:20 pm—MIKE PALOWICZ
Knowing the Unknowable: Is the Idea of God Innate?

2:45 pm—BRYAN KETTERER
Is God Subject to the Stone Paradox?

3:25 pm—SCOTT JABLONSKI
Why I am Not Bertrand Russell

3:50 pm—RYAN PURCELL
Can a Loving God be Hidden?

4:15 pm—JAMES STILES
Do Humans Have Free Will?

4:40 pm—ADAM STOREY
Is Being God a Risky Business?
Prior to graduation, Philosophy Majors must present a paper at a public symposium. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

9:55 am — MICHAEL BLISSENBACH
Can Human Desire Prove the Existence of God? An Examination of C.S. Lewis’ Argument from Desire

10:20 am — PATRICK GOTHMAN
Is the Experience of Beauty a Proof of God’s Existence?

10:45 am — WILL THOMPSON
Does the Greater Good Justify the Amount of Evil Present in the World and the Existence of God?

11:10 am — JOE ZABINSKI
According to Swinburne, is God Necessarily a Trinity?

11:35 am — BENJAMIN STENLUND
Whether God Can Be Free?

12:00 pm — MARIE COULTER
Does Evil Count Decisively Against the Existence of God?

12:25 pm — RICKY KOTRBA
Would the Possibility of Moral Evil be Required if God is to Give Free Will to Creatures?

12:50 pm — BEN POHL
Does the Universe Have a Cause?

1:30 pm — JAMES E. PETERSON
Does the Hiddenness of God Completely Justify Atheism?

1:55 pm — KEVIN MANTHEY
Is Prayer to an Immutable God Efficacious?

2:20 pm — JOHN NORMAN
Can We Trust C.S. Lewis’ Argument from Desire?

2:45 pm — JACOB GREINER
Is God the First Cause?

3:25 pm — PHILIP KOSLOSKI
Was the World Caused by an Intelligent Designer?

3:50 pm — LOUIS LAPEYRE
Whether There are Answers to Evil When His Judgment Cometh

4:15 pm — SEAN BARKER
Is God Omnipotent?

4:40 pm — KYLE SELNOW
Is God’s Omnipotence Limited by God’s Own Power?

Philosophy Major Paper Presentations

Day 3 Tuesday, May 12, 2009

McNeely Hall Great Room (MCH 100)
Prior to graduation, Philosophy Majors must present a paper at a public symposium. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

10:20 am—JOSEPH GRUNDTNER

10:45 am—MICHAEL GARRY
Do Our Desires Evince the Existence of God?

11:10 am—ADAM NEWCOMB-WEILAND
Imperatives for Positing a Consistent Ontology of Universals and Particulars

11:35 am—ROB CRANE
TBD

12:00 pm—JACOB RUCKDASHEL
Does Lewis Resolve the Problem of Pain?

12:25 pm—TRYGGVE ROGNNESS
TBD

12:50 pm—STEVE WINKELMAN
Duties to the Deceased in Kant

1:30 pm—TIM LAWRENCE
Does the Existence of Particular Horrendous Evils Count Against the Existence of God?

1:55 pm—BRIAN PARK
Does the Free-Will Defense Explain the Existence of Natural Evil?

2:20 pm—LUKE MARQUARD
How Can We Say God is Good and Wise and Just?: Questions in Divine Simplicity

2:45 pm—ADAM WESTPHAL
According to William James, Is Religious Experience Necessary?

3:25 pm—PAUL ERICKSON
Is Human Free Will Incompatible with the Christian God?

3:50 pm—BILLY DODGE
Is God Eternal or Everlasting?

4:15 pm—WILLIAM SLATTERY
Is Anselm’s Argument Successful?

4:40 pm—TOM TOUSIGNANT
Is the Existence of Free Will Insufficient Reason for God to Allow Evil?

Philosophy Major Paper Presentations

Thursday, May 14, 2009
O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library
Leather Room (LIB 108)