

MICHAEL DOMINIC TAYLOR, Ph.D.

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Education

- 2016 – 2019 **Ph.D. in Philosophy, *summa cum laude***
Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, Madrid, Spain
 Thesis: “Metaphysics of Gift: Reconceiving the Foundations of Bioethics”
- 2019 – 2021 **M.A. in Philosophy, *summa cum laude***
Pontifical University of John Paul II, Krakow, Poland
 Thesis: “Creation in the Thought of Ferdinand Ulrich: The *Reditio Completa* of Non-human Creatures through the Spoken Word”
- 2015 – 2016 **M.A. in Bioethics, *summa cum laude***
Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, Madrid, Spain
 Thesis: “Towards an Integral Ecological Ethic: The Renewal of Metaphysics in the Thought of Stratford Caldecott”
- 2013 – 2015 **B.A. in Philosophy, *magna cum laude***
Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy
- 2011 – 2012 Coursework in Philosophy
Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, Santiago, Chile
- 2003 – 2007 **B.A. in Biology and Environmental Studies, *magna cum laude***
Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, USA
 Honors Thesis: “The Spawning Ecology of Steelhead Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)”

Professional and Academic Appointments

- 9/2024 – present **Member of the Board**
The International Ratzinger Foundation, Madrid, Spain
- 8/2022 – present **Teaching Fellow & Dean of Students**
Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, Merrimack, New Hampshire, USA
 Professor of Philosophy, Humanities, & Ecology
- 8/2021 – 8/2022 **Visiting Fellow**
Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, Merrimack, New Hampshire, USA
 Professor of Philosophy, Humanities, & Ecology
- 10/2019 – 6/2021 **Assistant Professor of Philosophy**
Edith Stein Philosophy Institute, Diocesan Seminary, Granada, Spain
- 7/2019 – 6/2021 **Adjunct Professor**
San Dámaso Ecclesiastical University, Granada Extension, Granada, Spain

- 7/2017 – 2/2022 **Adjunct Professor**
Saint Joseph's College of Maine Online Theology, Standish, Maine, USA
- 9/2016 – 8/2021 **Executive Secretary**
International Laudato Si' Institute for the Care of Creation, Granada, Spain

Publications

Books:

- 2020 *The Foundations of Nature: Metaphysics of Gift for an Integral Ecological Ethic*. Eugene: Cascade Books - Veritas Series, 2020. (Recipient of the 2021 *Expanded Reason Award*, given by the Ratzinger Foundation and the Francisco de Vitoria University).
- 2017 *Towards an Integral Ecological Ethic: The Renewal of Metaphysics in the Thought of Stratford Caldecott*. Kindle Direct Publishing, 2017.

Book Chapters:

- Forthcoming “Descartes: Healing the Ruptures of Modernity.” In: *Joseph Ratzinger in Dialogue with Philosophical Traditions, vol. 2*, edited by T. Rowland, A. Sada, and R. Albino de Assunção. London: Bloomsbury Publishing, anticipated 2026.
- Forthcoming “The ‘Fruitful Reciprocity’ of Science and Faith: Ratzinger’s Engagement with the Philosophy of Science.” In: *Joseph Ratzinger in Dialogue with Philosophical Traditions, vol. 2*, edited by T. Rowland, A. Sada, and R. Albino de Assunção. London: Bloomsbury Publishing, anticipated 2026.
- 2026 “The Sword and the Pen: Miguel de Cervantes, the Chivalric Knight of Literature.” In: *Ignatius Press Critical Editions: Don Quixote, by Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra*, edited by J. Pearce. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, pp. 871–880.
- 2025 “Dante’s Transhumanism, the True Horizon of Human Hope.” In: *Ekologia Integralna i wyzwania antropocenu: Creatio Continua II [Integral ecology and the Challenges of the Anthropocene: Creatio continua II]*, edited by J. Brusilo and P. Tírpák. Krakow: The Scientific Publishing House of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, pp. 59–80.
- 2024 “The Whole Creation.” In: *Localism: Coming Home to Catholic Social Teaching*, edited by D. Ahlquist & M. W. Davis. Nashua, NH: Sophia Institute Press, 2024, pp. 207-217.
- 2024 “Creation and the Gift-Task of the Human Person in the Thought of Ferdinand Ulrich.” In: *The Gift of Creation: Theological Reflections on Ecology, Metaphysics, and Literature*, edited by M. Szalay. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2024, pp. 110-129.
- 2023 “Creation.” In: *The Cambridge Companion to Joseph Ratzinger*, edited by Fr. D. Cardo and Fr. U. M. Lang. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023, pp. 143-160.

“Ontological Wealth in the Metaphysics of Gift: Ferdinand Ulrich and the Economy of Desire. Or, Why only neo-liberal capitalists buy jeans with holes in them.” In: *Beyond Secular Faith: Philosophy, Economics, Politics, and Literature*, edited by M. Szalay. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2023, pp. 261–274.

2021 “Solidarity with Creation: Uncovering the Hidden Foundations.” In: *Solidarity in Public Life: Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Founding of Solidarność*, edited by W. Zuziak, B. Żmuda-Frydrychowska. Krakow: The Scientific Publishing House of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, 2021, pp. 173–194.

Academic Articles:

2025 “Truths Worth Dying For: The Authority of Creation in Education.” *Religions* (special issue: *Systematic Theology as a Catalyst for Renewal in Catholic Education*), 16.11 (2025), <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel16111411>.

“Creation as a ‘Monstrance of God’s Real Presence’: A Metaphysical Reflection on the Modern Cult of Potency and the Eucharist.” *Communio International Catholic Review*. 52.1 (2025) 118–144, <https://doi.org/10.1353/cmm.2025.a966347>.

“Ethics Beyond Being?: Human Dignity and the Ontology of the Good in Jozef Tischner and John Paul II.” *Religions* (special issue: *Systematic Theology and Social Ethics: On the Unity of Theory and Praxis*), 16.2 (2025), <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel16020210>.

2024 «“Para que todas las cosas subsistan”: Cómo habitar la tierra [“So that all things might subsist”: How to Inhabit the Earth]» *Relectiones* 11 (2024) 33–40, <https://doi.org/10.32466/eufv-rel.2024.11.849.33-40>.

“The Person, the Leviathan, and the Demise of the Hippocratic Oath.” *New Polity*. 5.3 (2024) 44–62.

“Solidarity with Creation and Human Rights: Discovering the Lost Foundation.” *Quien: Journal of Personalist Philosophy*. 19 (2024) 131–151, <https://revistaquien.org/index.php/aep/article/view/39/38>.

2023 “A Gift to the World: The Human Person’s Place in Creation According to the Thought of Ferdinand Ulrich.” *Saint Anselm Journal*. 19.1 (2023) 93–107, <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/917835>.

2022 ““Only If We Do Not Lose Creation’: *Communio* and the Battle for the Meaning of the World.” *Communio International Catholic Review*. 49.4 (2022) 738–750, <https://doi.org/10.1353/cmm.2022.a933332>.

““Riveted with Faith Unto Your Flesh’: Technology’s Flight from Actuality and the Word Made Flesh.” *Communio International Catholic Review*. 49.3 (2022) 527–563, <https://doi.org/10.1353/cmm.2022.a933320>

- 2021 “The Person, Fully Alive: Transhumanism and the Glory of God.” *Macrina Magazine*. April 17, 2021.
- “‘From the Outpouring of His Generous Heart’: The Christian Unification of Justice and Mercy in Dante and Shakespeare.” *Macrina Magazine*. February 13, 2021.
- 2020 “The Hidden Theological and Philosophical Presuppositions Motivating the Modern Cosmological Discussion: Why Both Sides are Wrong.” Review of *Cosmology Without God? The Problematic Theology Inherent in Modern Cosmology* by David Alcalde. *Philosophical Problems in Science*, no. 68 (2020): 297–299, <https://doi.org/10.59203/zfn.68.503>.
- 2019 “Reconceiving Bioethical Proceduralism: An Ontological Perspective.” *Cuadernos de Bioética* vol. 30, no. 99 (May 2019): 135–147, <https://doi.org/10.30444/CB.28>.
- Digital Media:*
- 2025 “Dr. Michael Taylor joins Larry Chapp to discuss ‘Creation as a Monstrance of God’s Real Presence,’” GaudiumetSpes22.com. Podcast, August 5, 2023. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=McuDPRrWTd4>
- 2024 “Who Was Pope Benedict XVI? Contributors to the Cambridge Companion to Joseph Ratzinger Explain.” The Benedictine Dialogues. *YouTube* video, June 11, 2024. https://youtu.be/3ez_P0QvGJg
- “Receiving the Gift of Creation w/ Dr. Michael Taylor,” The Catholic Theology Show by Ave Maria University. Podcast, June 25, 2024. <https://creators.spotify.com/pod/profile/bryant615/episodes/Receiving-the-Gift-of-Creation-w-Dr--Michael-Taylor-e33rch1/a-abvvaol>
- 2023 “Consider the lilies and CO2: On the technocratic ironies of *Laudate Deum*.” *The Catholic World Report*. October 8, 2023. <https://www.catholicworldreport.com/2023/10/08/consider-the-lilies-and-co2-on-the-technocratic-ironies-of-laudate-deum/>
- “Mars Hill Audio Journal, Volume 158,” with Ken Myers. Audio Journal, May 31, 2023. <https://mha-members.org/journals/mars-hill-audio-journal-volume-158/>
- “Larry Chapp interviews Dr. Michael Taylor on Catholic incarnationism and the Neo-gnosticism of modern technology,” GaudiumetSpes22.com. Podcast, March 3, 2023. <https://gaudiumetspes22.com/blog/larry-chapp-interviews-dr-michael-taylor-on-catholic-incarnationism-and-the-neo-gnosticism-of-modern-technology>
- 2020 Video presentation for REC: Reason in Christ (Chile). “Michael Taylor: ‘Seeking Wonder’ (‘Buscando lo maravilloso’)” *YouTube* video, May 17, 2020. <https://youtu.be/WU6SKcR5HPU>

“Listening to the message of nature in times of pandemic.” Catholic Ecology [blog]. May 13, 2020. <https://catholicceology.net/blog/listening-message-nature-times-pandemic>.

Selected Lectures and Presentations

- 2026 “The Pillars of Hercules and the Wisdom of the West.” 2026 Expanded Reason Conference, Francisco de Vitoria University, Madrid, Spain, June 2026.
- “Returning to Beauty, the Basis of Cult and Culture.” Symposium on Transforming Culture, Benedictine College, Atchison, KS, March 2026.
- 2025 “‘God the Father, Maker of Heaven and Earth’: A Provocation in Three Parts.” St. Patrick’s Theology Colloquium, St. Patrick’s Seminary, Menlo Park, CA, October 2025.
- “The Microcosm and the Mediator: the Creation and Vocation of Man.” 3rd International Bioethics Conference: “The splendor of truth in Science and Bioethics.” International Jérôme Lejeune Chair of Bioethics, Rome, June 2025. youtube.com/watch?v=vNXk4fPvJp4&t=105s.
- “‘Life’s a Miracle’: The Battle for the Meaning of Creation.” (Three-day Academic Retreat) Valor Education. La Jolla, California, June 2025.
- “The Theologoumenon of Time: Reflections on Przywara’s ‘Time, Space, and Eternity.’” Presentation at the conference: “Erich Przywara: Exemplar of Jesuit Ressourcement.” Center for Scriptural Exegesis, Philosophy, and Doctrine Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois, March 2025.
- 2024 “Ratzinger and the Gift of Existence: Why Science and Environmentalism Need the Catholic Doctrine of Creation.” III Conference of the Society of Catholic Scientists, Avila, Spain, September 2024.
- “‘So that all things might subsist’: Round Table discussion on “An Ecology Centered on the Person.” The Expanded Reason Conference: Integral Ecology: A Challenge for the Third Millenium, *Francisco de Vitoria University*, Madrid, Spain, July 2024
- “Truths Worth Dying For: Love, Authority, and Christian Education.” Symposium on Transforming Culture, Benedictine College, Atchison, KS, March 2024.
- Speaker for the “Paula Igenes Castagnet Faith & Science Lecture Series,” *Ave Maria University*, Ave Maria, FL, February, 2024.
- 2023 “‘The Moving Image of Eternity’: Stars, Seasons, & Divinity in Aristotle, Virgil, and Dante.” Lecture for the Pontifical University of Salamanca, Spain, October 2023.
- Four-day graduate seminar: “Fundamentos para una ética ecológica integral [Foundations for an Integral Ecological Ethic].” Universidad de Montevideo. Montevideo, Uruguay, July 2023.

“Creation and the Gift-Task of the Human Person in the Thought of Ferdinand Ulrich.” Presentation at the Metaphysics Conference: The God of Creation, *Saint Anselm College*, Manchester, NH, June 2023.

“Recovering the ‘Monstrance of God’s Real Presence’: the Actuality of Creation over the Secular Cult of Potency.” Presented at the Symposium on Transforming Culture, *Benedictine College*, Atchison, KS, March 2023.

“Environmental Solidarity and Human Rights” at *People and Planet: The Challenge Of Integral Ecology*, Villanueva University, Madrid, Spain, March 2023.

“‘Proclaim the Good News to the Whole Creation’: An Ontological Meditation on Christian Communities and the Land.” A lecture for the Trappist community at St. Joseph’s Abbey, Spencer, MA, February 2023.

2022

“Economy of Desire and Christian Community: Lessons from a Metaphysics of Gift.” A lecture sponsored by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute for the Milk Street Society. Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, Merrimack, NH, November 2022.

“Inhabiting the World: *Communio* and the Battle for Meaning of Creation.” Presentation at the *Catholicity as Gift and Task: The Fiftieth Anniversary of Communio* Conference. St. Bernard’s Seminary, Rochester, NY, October 2022.

Presentation at the 9th International Symposium Beyond Secular Faith: Diaspora, Community, Solidarity. Edith Stein Institute of Philosophy. Granada, Spain, June 2022.

Presentation at the 5th Annual Expanded Reason Conference: The Human Being and Contemporary Science, *Francisco de Vitoria University*, Madrid, Spain, May 2022.

“Defending the Dignity of the Created Order: How Aquinas’s Metaphysics of Gift Heals Eco-Ideologies.” The 45th Meeting of the American Maritain Association, *DeSales University*, Center Valley, PA, April 2022.

2-hour lecture on metaphysics, ethics, and integral ecology for the M.A. in Bioethics, *Francisco de Vitoria University*, Madrid, Spain, April 2022.

“‘Proclaim the Good News to the Whole Creation’: An Ontological Mediation on Christian Communities and the Land.” Presented at the Symposium on Transforming Culture, *Benedictine College*, Atchison, KS, March 2022.

“Receiving the Gift of Creation: The Church’s Mission to Fulfill the Order of the Cosmos.” Inaugural lecture, *Center for Eco-Stewardship, Benedictine College*, Atchison, KS, January 2022.

2021

“Rediscovering the Gift of Creation: the Truth about Environmentalism.” Advent Lecture Series for the Center for *The Center for the Restoration of Christian Culture*, Nashua, NH, December 2021.

“Creation and the Gift-Task of the Human Person in the Thought of Ferdinand Ulrich.” 8th Annual International Symposium: “The Gift of Creation –Theological Reflections on Ecology, Metaphysics, and Poetry,” Granada, Spain, June 2021.

“*Laudato Si*: Reflections After Five Years.” Plastic Bank, Earth Day International Webinar: “Hearing the Cry of the Earth,” April 2021.

“La búsqueda del sentido y el don de la Creación [The Search for Meaning and the Gift of Creation].” Rey Juan Carlos University, Madrid, Spain, March 2021.

“The Gift of Creation: Wonder, Love, and Man’s Mission to Bring Order to the Cosmos.” Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, Merrimack, NH, February 2021.

“Respecting Creation through a Metaphysics of Gift: Man’s Mission to Preserve the Order of the Cosmos.” 12th Conference in the series *Ethics and Public Life*. The Pontifical University John Paul II in Krakow, January 2021.

2020 “La Ecología Humana e Integral [Human and Integral Ecology]” Online conference presented for the University Anáhuac Querétaro, Mexico, November 2020.

“La Metafísica del Don y la Ecología Integral [Metaphysics of Gift and Integral Ecology]” Online conference presented for the Colegio Santa María de Chíncha, Chíncha, Peru, October 2020.

2019 “The Person, Fully Alive: Dante, Transhumanism and the Glory of God.” Paper presented at *Creatio Continua II*, Krakow, Poland, November 2019.

“La Metafísica del Don: Acoger el Don de la Creación [Metaphysics of Gift: Welcoming the Gift of Creation].” Address given for the inauguration of the academic year of the Diocesan Seminary, Granada, Spain, October 2019.

“Contractual versus Sacramental Logic in Contemporary Bioethical Debate.” 7th Annual International Symposium: “The Whole in the Fragment: Sacramental versus Contractual Logic,” Granada, Spain, June 2019.

2018 “Ontological Wealth in the Metaphysics of Gift: Ferdinand Ulrich and the Economy of Desire.” 6th Annual International Symposium: “Economy of Desire,” Granada, Spain, June 2018.

2017 “Metaphysics of Gift: A New Proposal for the Evaluation and Reconsideration of the Eco-ethical Debate from its Core.” Paper presented at the 1st Spanish Ecoethics Conference, Alcalá de Henares, Spain, October 2017.

“A New Trajectory for Modern Biopolitics from a Metaphysics of Gift.” 5th Annual International Symposium: “Politics as Theology,” Granada, Spain, July 2017.

Distinctions

2024 2nd Place Trophy. National Single-Handed Championship, Bullseye Class, Winter Harbor Yacht Club, July 25, 2024.

- 2021 Expanded Reason Award. Awarded by the Joseph Ratzinger Foundation (Vatican) and the Francisco de Vitoria University (Madrid), 5th Edition.
- 2007 Phi Beta Kappa National Academic Honors Society.
Donald and Harriet S. Macomber Prize in Biology (Bowdoin College).
Common Good Book Award (Bowdoin College).
Community Service Award in Environmental Studies (Bowdoin College).
- 2006 James Malcolm Moulton Prize in Biology (Bowdoin College).
Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship. *National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA)*, summer 2006, Little Port Walter, Alaska.
- 2002 Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America Troop 70, Newtown, Connecticut.

Languages

Spanish – fully proficient

Italian – advanced