

MICHAEL DOMINIC TAYLOR, Ph.D.

Email: mtaylor@thomasmorecollege.edu

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
 Honors Thesis: “The Spawning Ecology of Steelhead Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)”

Professional and Academic Appointments

- 8/2022 – present **Teaching Fellow & Dean of Students**
Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, Merrimack, NH
 Professor of Philosophy, Humanities, & Ecology
- 8/2021 – 8/2022 **Visiting Fellow**
Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, Merrimack, NH
 Professor of Philosophy, Humanities, & Ecology
- 7/2017 – 2/2022 **Adjunct Professor**
Saint Joseph’s College of Maine Online Theology Program, Standish, Maine
- 9/2016 – 8/2021 **Executive Secretary**
International Laudato Si’ Institute for the Care of Creation, Granada, Spain
- 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*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 (Vatican) and the Francisco de Vitoria University (Madrid)].
- 2017 *Towards an Integral Ecological Ethic: The Renewal of Metaphysics in the Thought of Stratford Caldecott.* Kindle Direct Publishing, 2017.

Book Chapters:

- Submitted “‘Proclaim the Good News to the Whole Creation’: Human Community, Christian Covenant, and the Land” in: *Localism: Coming Home to Catholic Social Teaching*, edited by Michael W. Davis. Nashua, NH: Sophia Institute Press, anticipated 2024.
- Submitted “Dante’s Transhumanism, the True Horizon for Human Hope.” In: *Creatio continua II, Integral ecology and the challenges of the Anthropocene*, edited by Jerzy Brusilo. Krakow: The Scientific Publishing House of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, anticipated 2024.
- Submitted “Creation as Mission: 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 Mátyás Szalay. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, anticipated 2024.
- In progress “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 2025.
- 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.
- 2023 “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 Publications, 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* [“*Solidarność w życiu publicznym*”], 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. [<https://doi.org/10.15633/9788374389730.09>]

Print articles and book reviews:

- Submitted “Solidaridad con la Creación y los Derechos Humanos: Descubriendo el Fundamento Perdido.” *Quien: Revista de Filosofía Personalista*. Anticipated 2024.
- 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.
- 2023 “‘Only If We Do Not Lose Creation’: *Communio* and the Battle for the Meaning of the World.” *Communio International Catholic Review*. 49.4 (2022).
- 2022 “‘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.
- 2022 “Don Quixote, in the Light of ‘The Dark Night.’” *St. Austin Review* 22.2 (March/April 2022) 25–28.
- 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.
- 2019 “Reconceiving Bioethical Proceduralism: How Ontology Can Save Principlism From Itself.” *Cuadernos de Bioética* vol. 30, no. 99 (May 2019): 135–147.

Digital Publications:

- 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/>
- 2021 “The Person, Fully Alive: Transhumanism and the Glory of God.” *Macrina Magazine*. April 17, 2021. <https://macrinamagazine.com/issue-7-finitude/guest/2021/04/17/the-person-fully-alive-transhumanism-and-the-glory-of-god/>
- 2021 “‘From the Outpouring of His Generous Heart’: The Christian Unification of Justice and Mercy in Dante and Shakespeare.” *Macrina Magazine*. February 13, 2021. <https://macrinamagazine.com/issue-6-general/guest/2021/02/13/from-the-outpouring-of-his-generous-heart-the-christian-unification-of-justice-and-mercy-in-dante-and-shakespeare/>
- 2020 Video presentation for REC: Reason in Christ (Chile). “Michael Taylor: ‘Seeking Wonder’ (‘Buscando lo maravilloso’)” *YouTube* video, 11:23. May 17, 2020. <https://youtu.be/WU6SKcR5HPU>

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

Select Lectures and Presentations

- March 2024 “*Truths Worth Dying For: Love, Authority, and Christian Education*.” To be presented at the Symposium on Transforming Culture, *Benedictine College*, Atchison, KS.
- February 2024 Speaker for the “Paula Igenes Castagnet Faith & Science Lecture Series,” *Ave Maria University*, Ave Maria, FL.
- August 2023 Four-day graduate seminar: “Fundamentos para una ética ecológica integral [Foundation for an Integral Ecological Ethic]” *Universidad de Montevideo*, Montevideo, Uruguay.
- June 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*, Goffstown, NH.
- March 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 “Solidaridad ambiental y derechos humanos [Environmental Solidarity and Human Rights]” at *People and Planet: The Challenge Of Integral Ecology*, Villanueva University, Madrid, Spain.
- February 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.
- October 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.
- September 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.
- July 2022 Presentation at the 9th International Symposium Beyond Secular Faith: Diaspora, Community, Solidarity. Edith Stein Institute of Philosophy. Granada, Spain.
- May 2022 Presentation at the 5th Annual Expanded Reason Conference: The Human Being and Contemporary Science, *Francisco de Vitoria University*, Madrid, Spain.
- April 2022 “Defending the Dignity of the Created Order: How Aquinas’s Metaphysics of Gift Heals Eco-Ideologies.” Presented at the 45th Annual Meeting of the American Maritain

- Association: Thomism and Contemporary Ideologies, *DeSales University*, Center Valley, PA.
- March 2022 2-hour lecture on metaphysics, ethics, and integral ecology for the M.A. in Bioethics, *Francisco de Vitoria University*, Madrid, Spain.
- March 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.
- January 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.
- 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.
- 2021 “*Laudato Si*: Reflections After Five Years.” Plastic Bank, Earth Day International Webinar: “Hearing the Cry of the Earth,” April 2021.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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*: “Respect in public life.” Presentation for 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, Querétaro, Mexico, November 2020.
- 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.

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

Theses Directed

- 2019 Gable, Gerald P. “Ministering Creation: Catholic Moral Leadership in Ecological Stewardship.” Master’s Thesis, Saint Joseph’s College of Maine.
- 2019 Uskokovic, Elias. “Ockham on the Real Presence: An Examination of the Nominalist Heresy and its Impact on the Catholic Doctrine of the Eucharist.” Master’s Thesis, Saint Joseph’s College of Maine.
- 2022 Atienza, Frederick. “The Sacramental Logic of Water, Bread, Oil, and Wine.” Master’s Thesis, Saint Joseph’s College of Maine.

Distinctions

- 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.
- 2006 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