

Center for  
World Catholicism &  
Intercultural Theology



**2019**

**2020**

**Annual Report**



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# About Us

## Who We Are

A leading center of research and reflection on the Church in the global South (Asia, Africa, and Latin America), the Center for World Catholicism & Intercultural Theology (CWCIT) seeks to be at the forefront of the discussion about the relationship between globalization and the Catholic Church's future as a truly worldwide Church.

Housed at DePaul University in the Department of Catholic Studies, CWCIT focuses on the global nature of Catholic Christianity, especially but not exclusively in the global South, and seeks to create channels of collaboration and friendship among scholars from the North and South.

## Our Mission

CWCIT was founded at DePaul University in 2008 to produce research that will serve the Church and the academy. To fulfill this mission, we have paid special attention to the World Church that has emerged since the Second Vatican Council and its growth in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

While our focus has been on the present global communion of faith, we also attend to historical, theological, and cultural questions that will contribute to a fuller understanding of Catholicism and the dialogue of cultures today.



December 2015—Enugu, Nigeria: CWCIT's Bill Cavanaugh and Stan Chu Ilo (center) at CWCIT's first conference in Africa

# What We Do

Host visiting scholars each year from the global South

Publish the book series, Studies in World Catholicism, through Wipf & Stock Publishers

WIPF  
and  
STOCK  
PUBLISHERS

Host the podcast series, Near & Far

Host an annual international conference, World Catholicism Week, each spring

WORLD  
CATHOLICISM  
WEEK

Present other events (lectures, roundtables, etc.) throughout the academic year

Offer an extensive, free video library online with recordings of our past lectures and conferences

Collaborate with institutions in the global South such as



Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro

PUC  
RIO



St. Vincent School of Theology (Quezon City, Philippines)



Ateneo de Manila University (Quezon City, Philippines)



Pontifical Xavieran University (Bogotá)



Hekima Institute of Peace Studies & International Relations (Nairobi)





## CWCIT Staff



William T. Cavanaugh  
Director, CWCIT  
Professor, Catholic Studies



Michael L. Budde  
Senior Research Professor, CWCIT  
Professor, Catholic Studies &  
Political Science



Stan Chu Ilo  
Research Professor, CWCIT  
Associate Professor,  
Catholic Studies



Karen M. Kraft  
Department Assistant  
Communication & Editorial



Marlon B. Aguilar  
Administrative Assistant  
Budget & Operations



Elijah Gray  
Student Assistant



Gracie Saucedo-Rivera  
Student Assistant

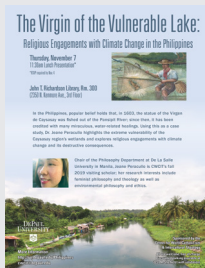


# Year in Review

## 2019–20 Events

Each academic year, CWCIT offers numerous lectures and other events for DePaul students, faculty, staff, and the broader community, including our annual conference, World Catholicism Week, which brings international scholars together each spring around a different topic of particular relevance to the global Church.

This past year, COVID-19 forced us to cut short our Vincentian lecture series on poverty and to cancel our winter/spring research fellow's public lecture. It also forced us to reschedule—for April 2021—our World Catholicism Week conference, “Rise Up and Walk: Catholicism and Health Care across the Globe.” However, we're grateful to have hosted or cosponsored 7 events between September and mid-March—our fall research fellow's public presentation, a conference in Enugu, Nigeria, and 5 of the 7 lectures in our series—and in late April, we cosponsored our first online event. Here is a quick snapshot of those events and speakers:

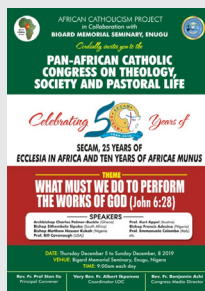


### The Virgin of the Vulnerable Lake: Religious Engagements with Climate Change in the Philippines

November 7

#### Jeane Peracullo

Chair & associate professor of philosophy at De La Salle University in Manila and founding member of the Asian Association of Women Philosophers



### Pan-African Catholic Congress on Theology, Society, and Pastoral Life

December 5-8 in Enugu, Nigeria

An outgrowth of CWCIT's African Catholicism Project, convened by Stan Chu Ilo and held in collaboration with Bigard Memorial Seminary in Enugu and SECAM, the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar



### Fashion Revolution (Reimagined!)

April 24

#### Elizabeth L. Cline

Author of *Overdressed* and *The Conscious Closet* and an expert on consumer culture, fast fashion, sustainability, and labor rights



## 2019-20 Lecture Series Poverty—Vincenzian Responses around the World

St. Vincent de Paul said, "Go to the poor: you will find God."  
This charism is lived out across the globe in the work done by the  
hundreds of groups—both lay and religious—that comprise the  
International Vincenzian Family.

Organized in collaboration with Matthieu Brejon de Lavergnée, DePaul's inaugural Dennis H. Holtschneider, CM, Endowed Chair in Vincenzian Studies, this series brought to campus 2 lay and 3 religious members of the International Vincenzian Family.



### **Vinny Goes to the UN: What Must Be Done for the World's Poor?**

October 15

#### **Fr. Guillermo Campuzano, CM**

Former Vincenzian representative at the United Nations and chair of the UN's NGO Working Group to End Homelessness

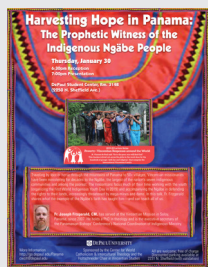


### **A Voice of the Vincenzian Laity: The Haiti Initiative and the FamVin Homeless Alliance**

October 24

#### **Yasmine Cajuste**

Project development manager for the international FamVin Homeless Alliance and past education coordinator for the Vincenzian Family Haiti Initiative



### **Harvesting Hope in Panama: The Prophetic Witness of the Indigenous Ngäbe People**

January 30

#### **Fr. Joe Fitzgerald, CM**

Missionary since 2007 to the Ngäbe people of Panama and organizer of the first-ever World Indigenous Youth Day, held in 2019 in Panama

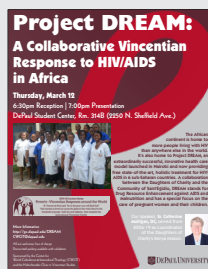


### **Systemic Change, Vincenzian Style: The Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

February 27

#### **Renato Lima de Oliveira**

International President General of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP) and an active lay Vincenzian for 33 years



### **Project DREAM: A Collaborative Vincenzian Response to HIV/AIDS in Africa**

March 12

#### **Sr. Catherine Mulligan, DC**

Nurse, midwife, hospital administrator, and regional coordinator for 13 years of the Daughters of Charity's mission in Kenya

## 2019–20 Collaborations

### External Collaborations



Chicago Fair Trade



St. Clement Catholic Church (Chicago)



University of Notre Dame Press



Fashion Revolution



Society of St. Vincent DePaul (SSVP),  
U.S. and International Offices



Bigard Memorial Seminary (Enugu, Nigeria)



Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM)

### Cross-Campus Collaborations at DePaul



DePaul Fair Trade Committee

Catholic Campus Ministry

Department of Catholic Studies

Department of Health Sciences

Division of Mission & Ministry

Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider Chair  
in Vincentian Studies

Department of Environmental  
Science & Studies



# The Year in Pictures

## Campus Speakers & Events

Yasmine Cajuste,  
project development  
manager for FamVIn  
Homeless Alliance



Fr. Joe Fitzgerald (left) being interviewed  
by Bill Cavanaugh (right) for the CWCIT  
podcast, Near & Far



Sr. Catherine Mulligan, DC, speaking about the  
sub-Saharan HIV/AIDS initiative, Project DREAM



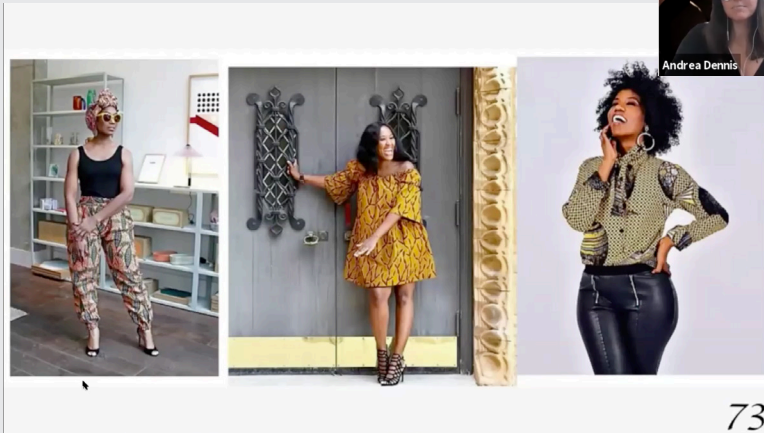
Fr. Guillermo Campuzano, CM, former  
Vincenian representative at the U.N.  
(Xavier Ortega/The DePaulia)



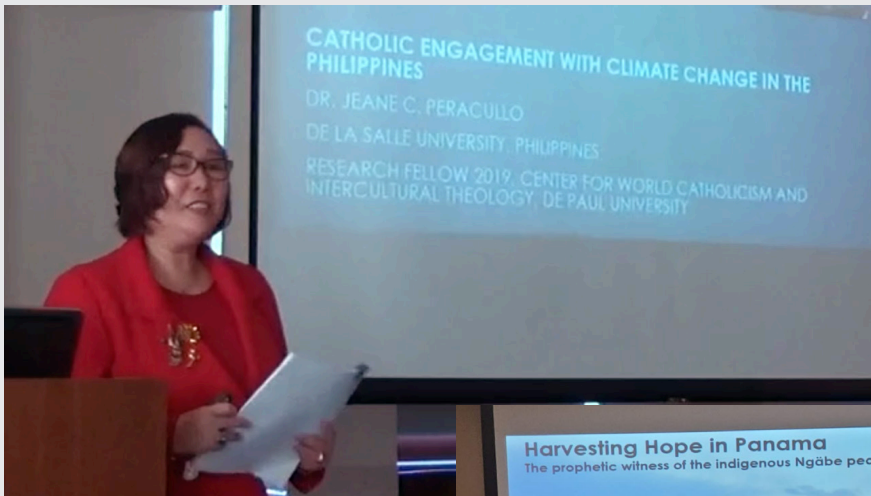


Renato Lima de Oliveira (right) taking questions from the audience during his presentation

Sustainable fashion show during this cosponsored online event, Fashion Revolution (Reimagined!)



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CWCIT's fall 2019 visiting scholar, Jeane Peracullo, presenting her research



Fr. Joe Fitzgerald speaking about his experience working with Panama's indigenous Ngäbe people



# Pan-African Catholic Congress on Theology, Society, and Pastoral Life

December 2019–Enugu, Nigeria



CWCIT's Stan Chu Ilo (left) and his mother with DePaul Catholic Studies chair, Emanuele Colombo (right)



CWCIT's Bill Cavanaugh (center) in a congress session at Bigard Memorial Seminary



Left to right: Stan Chu Ilo; Christopher White, national correspondent for the *National Catholic Reporter*; Susan Nedza, MD, president of the Olancho Aid Foundation; Igwe Ralph Ekpeh, Eze ("ruler" or "king" in the Igbo language) of Enugwu-Ukwu na Umunri, Nigeria, and his wife, Lolo; and Bill Cavanaugh

# The Bigger Picture



67 events hosted since 2012 with speakers representing 48 countries

Hosting speakers from across the globe for an average of 8-10 events a year, including our annual World Catholicism Week conference, you could say that CWCIT brings the world to DePaul. But occasionally, we take CWCIT and DePaul out to the world, holding events overseas. We are proud to have held or co-hosted the following six international conferences to date:



**2012 Manila—“International Theological Conversations,”** cosponsored with St. Vincent School of Theology (SVST), De La Salle University, Loyola School of Theology, and Dakateo (Catholic Theological Society of the Philippines)



**2013 Rio de Janeiro—“Faith, Justice, and Peace: The Witness of Dorothy Day,”** co-sponsored with the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio)



**2014 Manila—“Theology, Conflict, and Peacebuilding,”** cosponsored with St. Vincent School of Theology and Dakateo



**2015 Enugu, Nigeria—“International Colloquium on the Future of Catholicism in Africa 50 Years After Vatican II,”** cosponsored with Spiritan International School of Theology (SIST) and Peaceland College of Education



**2017 Nairobi—“International Palaver on The Handbook of African Catholicism,”** cosponsored with Hekima Institute of Peace Studies & International Relations to convene for the first time the contributors to this new CWCIT publication project



**2019 Enugu, Nigeria—“Pan-African Catholic Congress on Theology, Society, and Pastoral Life,”** cosponsored with Bigard Memorial Seminary (Enugu) and the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa & Madagascar (SECAM)



# Research Fellows



## Jeane Peracullo (Fall 2019)

De La Salle University  
Manila, Philippines

Chair & Associate Professor of Philosophy

CWCIT Research Project—Titled “The Virgin of the Vulnerable Lake: Religious Engagements with Climate Change in the Philippines,” this project explores religious engagements with climate change vis-a-vis the extreme vulnerability of bodies of water in the Philippines’ Caysasay region.



## Ruben Mendoza (Winter/Spring 2020)

Ateneo de Manila University  
Manila, Philippines

Immediate Past Chair of Philosophy

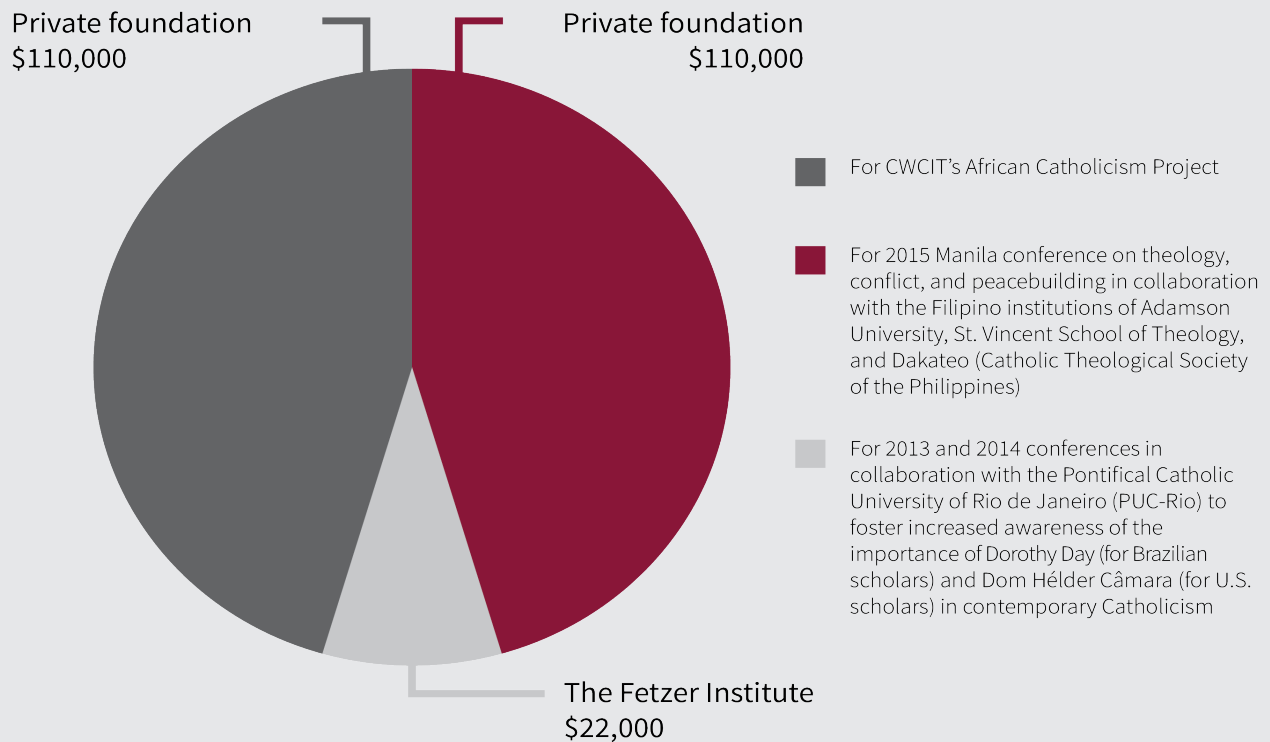
CWCIT Research Project—Titled “Navigating Religious Identity in the Currents of Mission: The Case of the Apostolic Vicariate of Jolo,” this project highlights the southern Filipino town of Jolo, where Christians account for only 5% of the population among Muslims.

26 Total Visiting Scholars | 15 Total Countries Represented



# Grant-Funded Projects

Funding Received to Date = \$242,000



## 2019-20 Milestone for CWCIT's African Catholicism Project

Over the years, some generous private grants have enabled us to “think big” and expand our reach in ways that would not otherwise have been possible. Our most far-reaching endeavor to date is the African Catholicism Project, an international collaboration spearheaded by Stan Chu Ilo. Launched in 2015, its overarching goal is to expand the production and distribution of scholarly and pastoral materials for African Catholic universities and African-based Catholic scholars, often sadly under-resourced.

To that end, the project's most ambitious undertaking is the *Handbook of African Catholicism*, a forthcoming reference work with over 40 contributors who engage





Altar mural in Nairobi at Daughters of St. Paul chapel  
(Photo by Francis Salinel)

some of the most pressing and pertinent issues in diverse fields of African Catholicism studies. The 2019-20 academic year saw a significant milestone in the *Handbook's* development—we submitted its final manuscript to University of Notre Dame Press, where it is currently under consideration for contract and publication. Serving as a road map for scholars, the *Handbook* offers the best and most up-to-date research in Africa on five broad areas in the trajectory of African scholarship over the past 60 years:

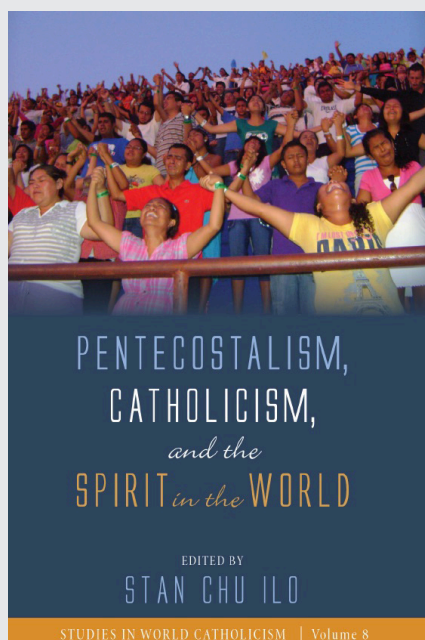
- history and mission of African Catholicism
- formation, education, and communication
- church and society in Africa
- morality/spirituality, health, and healing
- Catholic intellectual traditions in the areas of theological and philosophical studies in Africa



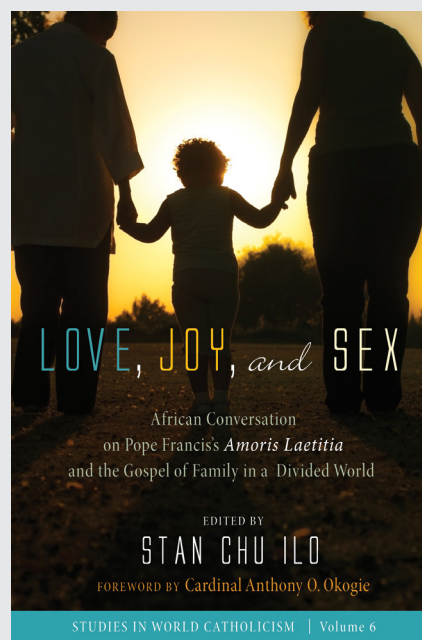
Contributors to *Handbook of African Catholicism* at 2017 Nairobi conference on the book (Photo by Jude Ilo)

## CWCIT Publications

This past year saw the release of two more volumes (featured below) in CWCIT's Studies in World Catholicism series, published through Cascade Books, a division of Wipf and Stock Publishers:



October 2019



August 2019

The series offers scholarly, pastoral, and general readers alike the best of interdisciplinary research about and from the multi-faceted worlds of Catholicism. Ranging from theology and social ethics to history, culture, and science and dealing with both large-gauge theoretical questions and the particularities of specific communities and contexts.

Books in this series present the best and most important thinking on matters related to Catholicism as a worldwide movement. The series presents both individual scholars whose work engages matters of concern to the church, as well as group projects—often the result of CWCIT's World Catholicism Week conferences—that bring scholars from around the world into a conversation about common concerns and aspirations.

# CWCIT Online

## Social Media



### Vimeo

Vimeo.com/CWCIT

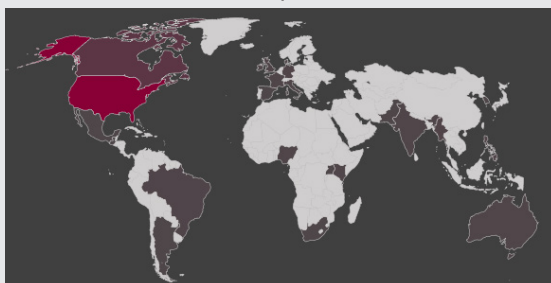
210 videos

63,000 total impressions

Top 10 countries:

1. United States
2. Philippines
3. Canada
4. United Kingdom
5. Italy
6. Brazil
7. Germany
8. Nigeria
9. Kenya
10. Australia

Vimeo Impressions



### YouTube

CWCIT at DePaul

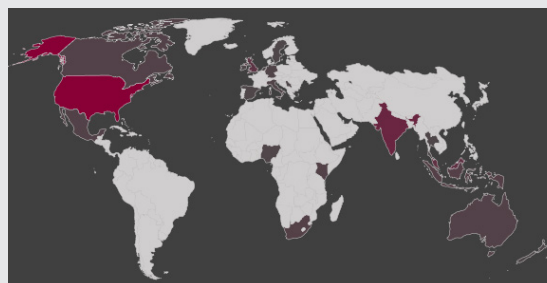
45 videos | 49 subscribers

8,904 total views

Top 10 countries:

1. United States
2. India
3. Philippines
4. Malaysia
5. United Kingdom
6. Singapore
7. Indonesia
8. South Africa
9. Kenya
10. Australia

YouTube Views



### Facebook

Facebook.com/WorldCatholicism

8,902 likes distributed across 25 countries

8,894 followers distributed across 45 countries



### Near and Far Podcast

SoundCloud.com/WorldCatholicism

11 total episodes with 2,510 plays across 41 countries

**Most Popular Podcast (664 plays):** “Putting *Laudato Si’* into Action in Uganda,” an interview with Fr. Emmanuel Katongole, professor at the University of Notre Dame and co-founder of the Bethany Land Institute in Uganda.



# Looking Forward

## CWCIT's Place in DePaul's 2024 Strategic Plan



In 2018, DePaul embarked on a new six-year strategic plan, “Grounded in Mission: The Plan for DePaul 2024,” which outlined the university’s six strategic priorities for moving forward. Along with the Department of Catholic Studies, Catholic Campus Ministry, the Vincentian Service & Formation Team, and the Vincentian Studies Institute, CWCIT is one of the DePaul units that has a specifically Catholic focus, and as such, we have an especially critical role in putting into practice the very first of these priorities:

**“Deepen our commitment to DePaul’s Catholic, Vincentian, and urban mission.”**

Among the “calls to action” spelled out within this first priority are the following:

- Develop and implement curricular and co-curricular programs to promote undergraduate and graduate student engagement with all aspects of the university’s mission, identity, and values, including service, faith development, interreligious dialogue, and advocacy for systemic change and social justice.
- Strengthen and deepen faculty and staff understanding of our Catholic, Vincentian identity.
- Ensure DePaul remains the premier international center for the study of Vincentian history and spirituality.
- Continue to develop curricular engagement with the Catholic intellectual tradition and Vincentian studies.
- Provide thought leadership in addressing pressing issues of social and environmental justice, including global efforts to eradicate street homelessness.

Since CWCIT was founded, these calls to action have been integral to our mission and day-to-day work. We responded to them during the 2019-20 year through the programming, publications, and choice of research fellows you have seen featured in this report. And during the upcoming academic year, we will put them into practice once again.



## The 2020–21 Plan

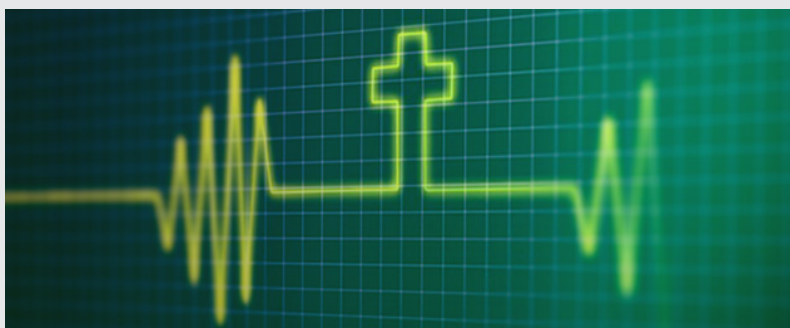
Given the fluidity of the COVID-19 pandemic and the uncertainty of travel in the coming months, we are prepared for the possibility that we may need to adjust these plans.

### Events



This year's flagship event is our World Catholicism Week 2021 conference, "Rise Up and Walk: Catholicism and Health Care across the Globe," taking place April 16-18 at the Lincoln Park campus. Postponed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this conference could not be more timely.

The Catholic Church is perhaps the largest provider of health care in the world. From sophisticated Catholic hospital systems to small rural clinics, the Church continues the legacy of healing begun by Jesus. Today, however, the gap between technologically advanced medicine and the needs of the desperately poor continues to widen.



This conference will address some of the most pressing issues facing Catholic health care providers around the globe and brings together 17 speakers from Uganda, India, Ecuador, South Korea, the U.S., Canada, Brazil, Mexico, and Zambia. Panels will discuss

- Catholic health care services and strategies
- biblical and theological narratives of health and healing
- the relationship between Western and non-Western traditions of medicine
- healing trauma and invisible wounds
- Catholic partnerships between the global South and global North

Our two keynote speakers are



**Barbra Mann Wall, PhD, RN, FAAN**

Thomas A. Saunders III Professor of Nursing, University of Virginia (Charlottesville, VA)  
Author, *Into Africa: A Transnational History of Catholic Missions and Social Change*



**David Cayley**

Award-winning journalist and former host of CBC Radio One's "Ideas" (Toronto)  
Author, *Ideas on the Nature of Science*



In addition to this annual conference, we are hosting the following scholars throughout the winter and spring to address topics related to the World Catholicism Week theme:



**Daniel P. Castillo**, assistant professor of theology at Loyola University Maryland, on the health of the earth and salvation, especially given the dual meaning of the Latin word *salus* as both health and salvation



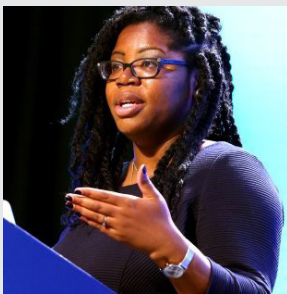
**Daniel Reff**, author of *Plagues, Priests, and Demons*, on the Church and pandemics in historical perspective, in the context of his previous work on disease and Catholic missionary work



**Jacquineau Azetsop, SJ**, editor of *HIV & AIDS in Africa: Christian Reflection, Public Health, Social Transformation*, on the Church and the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa, especially in relation to the current coronavirus pandemic



**Nuala Kenny, SC, MD**, author of *Healing the Church* and *Still Unhealed*, on health and healing in the Catholic Church as it deals with the clergy sexual abuse crisis



Outside of these lectures, we are also collaborating with the local St. Vincent de Paul Parish and the Department of Catholic Studies to host **Shannen Dee Williams**, Albert LePage Assistant Professor of History at Villanova University, to address the issue of racism and the Church.



Head of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church, Cardinal Mar George Alencherry—shown here, front and center, with his right hand raised—was one of CWCIT's 2011 guest speakers.

## Research Fellows

We are proud to have awarded CWCIT fellowships to the following scholars for this coming year:



**Jean-Luc Enyegue, SJ**—director, Jesuit Historical Institute of Africa (JHIA), Hekima University College, in Nairobi



**Jodi Mikalachki**—associate professor of English, University of Burundi, in Bujumbura, Burundi

## Publications

During the year ahead, we anticipate continued progress on the following publication projects, each in different phases of production:

- *The Handbook of African Catholicism*
- *Gathered in My Name: Ecumenism in the World Church*, forthcoming in our Studies in World Catholicism series
- *Daughters of Wisdom: Women and Leadership in the Global Church*, Studies in World Catholicism series



*Sculpture inside the Dasaki tis Achnas Memorial Church dedicated to refugees in Achnas, Cyprus*

CENTER FOR WORLD CATHOLICISM  
*and*  
INTERCULTURAL THEOLOGY

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[WorldCatholicism](https://www.facebook.com/WorldCatholicism)



[CWCIT at DePaul](https://www.youtube.com/CWCIT)



[@CWCIT\\_DePaul](https://twitter.com/CWCIT_DePaul)



[Near and Far](https://www.nearandfar.org)



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