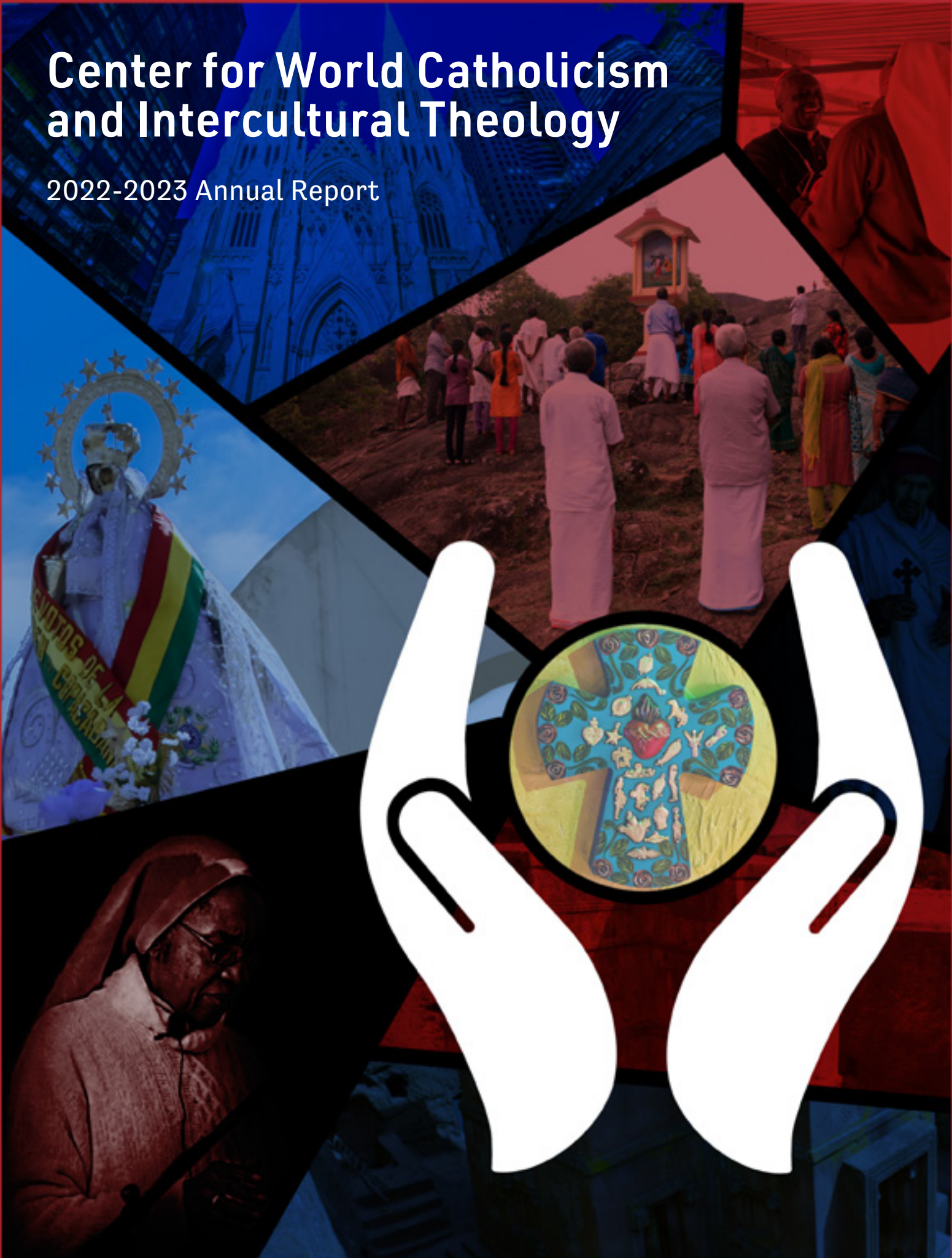


# Center for World Catholicism and Intercultural Theology

2022-2023 Annual Report



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# About Us

## Who We Are

Housed at DePaul University in the Department of Catholic Studies, the Center for World Catholicism and Intercultural Tehology (CWCIT) focuses on the global nature of Catholic Christianity especially but not exclusively in the global South—Africa, Asia, and Latin America. 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.

## 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.



Keynote speaker: Tomaž Mavrič, CM, at World Catholicism Week 2023

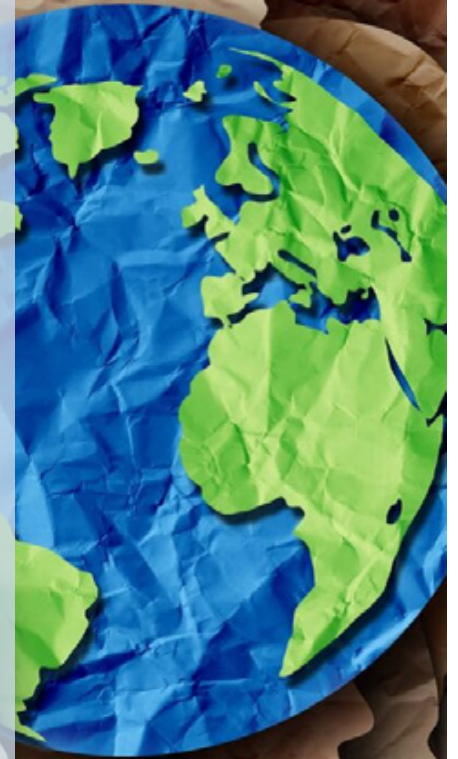


We founded the Catholic Studies department –and its associated CWCIT–to be **at the forefront** of the discussion about the **globalization** and the **Catholic Church’s future as a truly worldwide Church.**

We consider your department and its center as **gifts to the larger Church** housed here at DePaul. I have been gratified and proud of your convening of the **world’s great minds** on a series of important Church conversations over these past years.

The Church in the modern age needs **a strong intellectual center, but one that goes beyond its Eurocentric tendencies** and invites great minds from the entire world–and especially its southern hemisphere–to weigh in and **shape our Church’s thinking and directions.** You embody that commitment...”

– Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, CM (DePaul’s 11th president)  
on the 20th anniversary of the Catholic Studies Department,  
April 25, 2017



## Our Staff



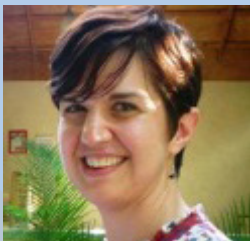
**William T. Cavanaugh**  
*Director, CWCIT*  
*Professor, Catholic Studies*



**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**  
*Communications & Editorial Manager*



**Marlon B. Aguilar**  
*Budget & Operations Manager*



**Elliot Ellis**  
*Student Assistant*  
*Graphic Design & AV Editing*

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

*“Walking Together for a Vital Church in Africa and in the World”*

July 18-22

Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA)  
Nairobi

Organized by the Pan-African Catholic Theology and Pastoral Network (PACTPAN—an outgrowth of CWCIT’s African Catholicism network begun in 2017—and cosponsored by CWCIT, this event gathered over 100 pastoral leaders and interdisciplinary scholars from more than 20 African countries and five continents. It was PACTPAN’s second congress; the first was held in December

As the *National Catholic Reporter* reported in an August 11, 2022 article, the event included “sessions on domestic violence, war, economic and ecological crises, child sexual abuse, human trafficking and more—all against the backdrop of the Vatican’s revamped global synodal process.”



# Lectures

This year, we hosted the following events, which we also livestreamed, in partnership with DePaul's Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies Program (PAX); the Center for Religion, Culture, and Community (CRCC); and the Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity (OIDE)



## Becoming an Uprising: Active Nonviolence and Christian Peacebuilding November 2

A panel discussion featuring the following scholars:

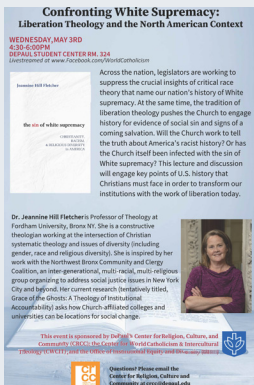
- **Gerald Schlabach**, author of *A Pilgrim People: Becoming a Catholic Peace Church*
- **David C. Cramer**, co-author of *A Field Guide to Christian Nonviolence: Key Thinkers, Activists, and Movements for the Gospel of Peace*
- **Janna Hunter-Bowman**, author of *Witnessing Peace: Becoming Agents under Duress in Colombia*



## Divine Cosmos, Sacred Earth: Hindu and Christian Approaches to Ecology February 15

**Daniel P. Scheid**

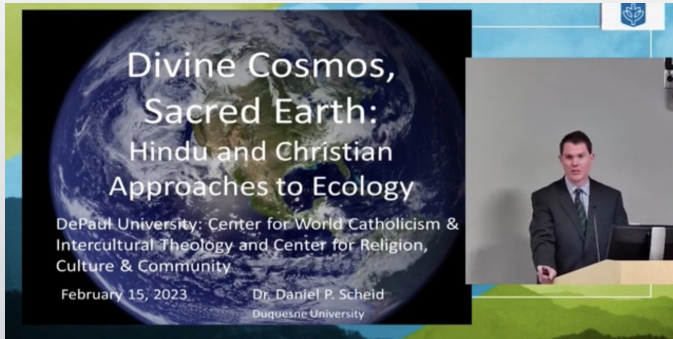
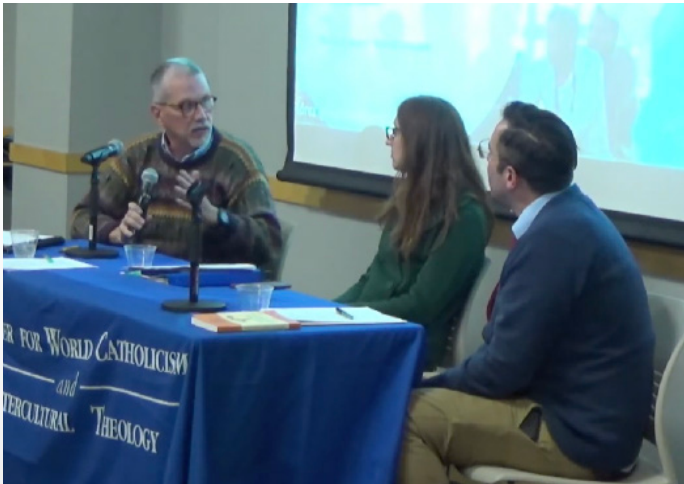
Associate professor of theology and director of Undergraduate Studies at Duquesne University (Pittsburgh, PA), as well as the author of *The Cosmic Common Good: Religious Grounds for Ecological Ethics* (Oxford University Press, 2016)



## Confronting White Supremacy: Liberation Theology and the North American Context May 13

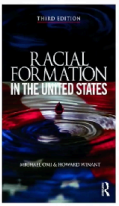

**Jeannine Hill Fletcher**

Professor of theology at Fordham University (Bronx, NY) and the author of *The Sin of White Supremacy: Christianity, Racism, and Religious Diversity* (Orbis Books, 2017), which won her the 2018 Catholic Press Association book award in the category of "Faithful Citizenship"



**Three Steps in the US Racial Project**

- (1) categories of 'the races' were created with inherent characteristics
- (2) people were sorted into them
- (3) material benefits granted or withheld on the basis of one's race




# World Catholicism Week 2023

April 13-15



## Becoming a Church of the Poor: The Vincentian Charism and Reform

For the first time since 2019, our speakers gathered in person, and we held our **first hybrid conference** to address the question: How can the Vincentian charism contribute to the reform process Pope Francis has begun and help make the Church more open to God and to the poor?

They came together in Chicago from the Philippines, Chile, Haiti, Brazil, Indonesia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, Argentina, the U.S., and Europe to discuss the following topics:

- Historical perspectives on reform in the lives of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Louise de Marillac, Blessed Frederic Ozanam, and Vincentian communities worldwide
  - The changing concept of "the poor" and the theme of marginality
- The internal reform of the Church, including the roles of laity and women
- Becoming an outward-facing Church dedicated to transforming the world



Sr. Lorraine Toko, DC, serving the elderly poor as part of a Projets Rosalie initiative in Midjivin, Cameroon

## We were honored to have the following keynote presentations:

### Becoming a Church of the Poor



**Tomaž Mavrič, CM**  
Superior general, Congregation of the Mission and the Daughters of Charity  
(Rome, Italy)

### Repair My House: Empowering the Church of the Poor through the Eyes of St. Vincent



**Daniel F. Pilario, CM**  
Associate professor, St. Vincent School of Theology, Adamson University  
Director of Research, Adamson University  
(Quezon City, Philippines)

### Education and Integral Human Development: Challenges and Opportunities



**Quentin Wodon**  
Director, International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa  
UNESCO  
(Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)



Speakers, moderators, and staff at World Catholicism Week 2023

## Statistically Speaking...

297 registrants representing 27 countries

9.1 average rating by both in-person and Zoom attendees



Attendee feedback included the following comments:

“Inspiring, hopeful,  
and uplifting”

“Gave me a deeper awareness of what the  
Catholic Church is currently striving for”

“Very relevant topics and honest, powerful,  
resourceful, and vulnerable discussions.”

“Excellent debate about the concept  
of POOR and POVERTY”

“Open[ed] our vision to the FAMVIN work  
in so many parts of the world”

# Collaborations

## External



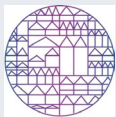
America Media, A Jesuit Ministry



Cascade Books



*Chicago Catholic* newspaper



*Commonweal* magazine



Orbis Books



Pan-African Catholic Theology  
and Pastoral Network (PACTPAN)



Projets Rosalie



*U.S. Catholic* magazine

## Cross-Campus at DePaul

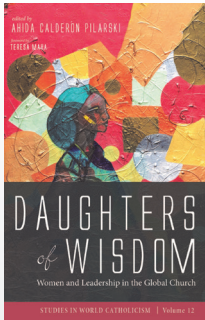
- Catholic Campus Ministry
- Center for Religion, Culture, and Community
- Department of Catholic Studies
- Division of Mission and Ministry
- Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity
- Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies
- Vincentian Studies Institute

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# Publications

## Published in June 2023



***Daughters of Wisdom: Women & Leadership in the Global Church***  
Vol. 12, Studies in World Catholicism

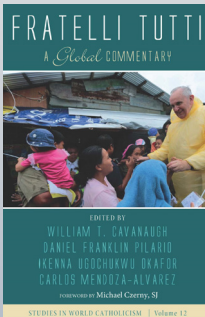


Edited by Ahida Calderón Pillarski (Saint Anselm College, NH), this volume brings together lay and religious voices from India, Nigeria, Mexico, Venezuela, Peru, the U.S., the Philippines, and Singapore.

*"...offers a paradigm for every conversation about women and the church in the third millennium, drawing from tradition, the academy, and the apostolate. Readers learn [how] women integrate faith, family, and communal life in prophetic ways in spaces within the church and the world."*

**–Susan M. Timony (The Catholic University of America)**

## Forthcoming in October 2023



***Fratelli Tutti: A Global Commentary***  
Vol. 13, Studies in World Catholicism



Edited by William T. Cavanaugh, Daniel Franklin Pilario, Ikenna Ugochukwu Okafor, and Carlos Mendoza-Álvarez, this interdisciplinary volume gathers commentaries from 32 international scholars on each of the 8 chapters in Pope Francis's latest encyclical.

*"This is the first commentary on Pope Francis's encyclical on fraternity and social friendship, but it is hard to imagine it ever being surpassed. Such is the breadth and depth of this extraordinary work that stands as a genuinely worthy companion to an encyclical that powerfully calls us to recognize ourselves as children of the same God."*

**–James Keenan, SJ (Boston College)**

## Expected in 2024

***Put Away Your Sword: Gospel Nonviolence in a Violent World***

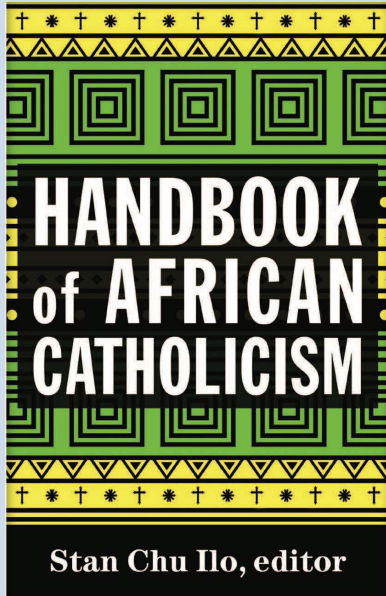
Edited by Michael L. Budde

Volume 14, Studies in World Catholicism



This book's contributors are Christian scholars and practitioners from across the Majority World (including El Salvador, Brazil, Kenya, and the Philippines) who are a mix of proponents of Christian pacifism and just war theory, advocates for varieties of "just peacemaking" frameworks, and people pursuing slow, modest steps toward reconciling enemies without the use of overarching theoretical frameworks.

## Handbook of African Catholicism Receives Award



In June, the *Handbook of African Catholicism* (Orbis Books, 2022) won **2nd place** in the "Reference/Academic Studies" category at the national Catholic Media Association's 2023 Awards:

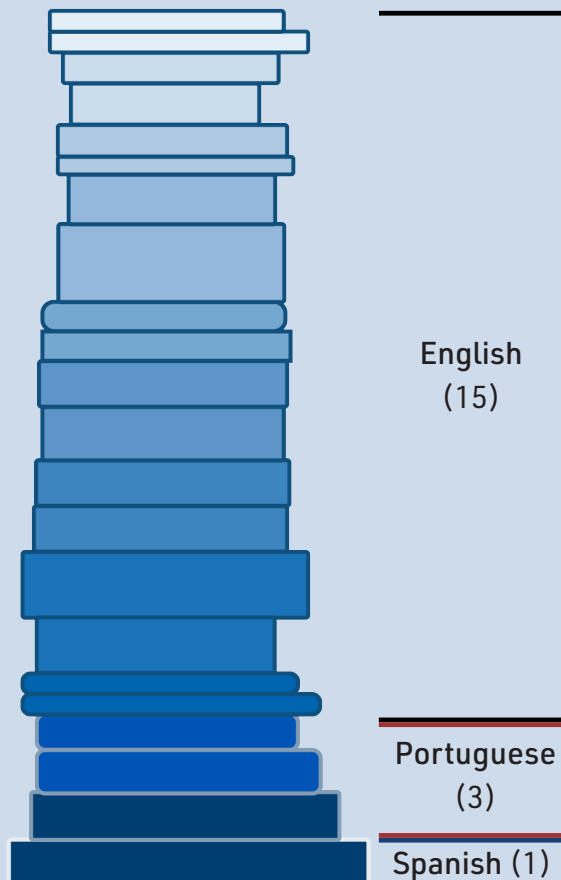
"Diligently researched and covering a broad scope of interests. Lucid and accessible by not oversimplified or polemical. A much-needed resource."



## Snapshot of CWCIT Publications

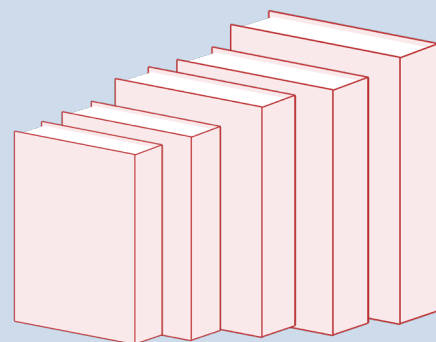
### 22 Multi-Contributor Books

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### 5 Special-Issue Academic Journals

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## Research Fellows



**Petrus Lakonawa** (Summer 2022)

PhD candidate, St. Vincent School of Theology  
(Manila, Philippines)

**Research Project:** "The Metaphor of *Rechem* (Womb), the Root Metaphor of Mother (*Shekinah*, Lady Wisdom, *Hokmah*, *Sophia*), and the Concept of *Rachamim* (Mercy & Compassion) in the Relational with God"



**Ludovic Lado, SJ** (Winter/Spring 2023)

Director, Centre d'Etude et de Formation pour le Développement (CEFOD—Center for Studies & Training for Development)  
(N'Djamena, Chad)

**Research Project:** "Towards an Anthropology of African Catholicism"



**Léonard Katchekpele** (Spring/Summer 2023)

Assistant Pastor, Holy Trinity Parish (*Frankenthal, Germany*)  
Visiting Professor, Catholic University of West Africa  
(Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire)





**Research Project:** "Masking and Un-Masking Original Violence: William Cavanaugh and the Possibilities of Ecclesiology after René Girard"



## YouTube

YouTube.com/@CWCIT

- 3,273 views
- 9 new videos
- 22 new subscribers











-  United States
-  Kenya
-  Tanzania
-  Australia



## Vimeo

Vimeo.com/CWCIT

- 530 views
- 9 new videos
- 31 countries

- |    |   |                |     |   |                   |
|----|---|----------------|-----|---|-------------------|
| 1. |  | India          | 6.  |  | Australia         |
| 2. |  | United States  | 7.  |  | Germany           |
| 3. |  | Italy          | 8.  |  | Japan             |
| 4. |  | United Kingdom | 9.  |  | France            |
| 5. |  | Russia         | 10. |  | Republic of Korea |





## Facebook

Facebook.com/WorldCatholicism

- 104 new followers
- 9,442 followers

### Top 10 Countries

- |    |  |               |     |  |             |
|----|--|---------------|-----|--|-------------|
| 1. |  | Philippines   | 6.  |  | India       |
| 2. |  | United States | 7.  |  | Uganda      |
| 3. |  | Ethiopia      | 8.  |  | Nigeria     |
| 4. |  | Kenya         | 9.  |  | South Sudan |
| 5. |  | Vietnam       | 10. |  | Thailand    |



## SoundCloud

SoundCloud.com/WorldCatholicism

- 714 plays across 36 countries

- |  |                |  |           |
|--|----------------|--|-----------|
|  | United States  |  | Burundi   |
|  | Germany        |  | Denmark   |
|  | United Kingdom |  | Mexico    |
|  | Canada         |  | Romania   |
|  | Taiwan         |  | Australia |

### This Year's Top 3 Episodes

- ▶ **297 plays:** "Jodi Mikalachki on Fraternity, Peace, and the 40 Young Martyrs of Buta Seminary, Burundi"
- ▶ **53 plays:** "Jakob Egeris Thorsen on Being Maya & Christian in Santiago Atitlán, Guatemala"
- ▶ **47 plays:** "Award-Winning Journalist, David Cayley, on the Revolutionary Priest & Cultural Critic, Ivan Illich"

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SOCIAL SCIENCES

*Center for World Catholicism  
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[SoundCloud.com/WorldCatholicism](https://SoundCloud.com/WorldCatholicism)



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[YouTube.com/@CWCIT](https://YouTube.com/@CWCIT)

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