

Faith & Science - Friends, not Foes! How Can "Religious" Look in a Science Classroom? Mariette P. Baxendale, Ph.D. Science Department Chair Biology & Forensic Science Teacher ITEST Board Member mbaxendale@desmet.org De Smet Jesuit High School, Creve Coeur, MO

The Role of Science in the Catholic Faith Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC):159

Institute for Theological Encounter with Science and Technology (ITEST) The Institute for Theological Encounter with Science and Technology (ITEST), launched in 1966 and incorporated in 1968, studies the advances in science and technology and their meaning for the Christian understanding of the human being and of creation. https://faithscience.org/

#### WCAT Radio Faith and Science in Catholic Schools Podcast

ITEST has partnered with WCAT Radio to produce a new series on faith and science, and the impact Catholic primary and secondary school teachers in the Archdiocese of St. Louis are having on that conversation. WCAT Radio is an internet-based Catholic radio station located online at www.wcatradio.com. WCAT has a listening base of over 25,000 plays and downloads each month. All shows are be pre-recorded and airs Thursdays at 3:00 pm Eastern, remaining available afterward for ondemand listening.

https://faithscience.org/catholicschools/ https://wcatradio.com/faithscience/

The Magis Center: Catholic Answers to Science, Reason and Faith

The Magis Center provides comprehensive and systematic responses to restore, reconstruct, and revitalize belief in God, the transcendent dignity of every person, the significance of virtue, the higher levels of happiness, love, and freedom, and the real presence of Jesus Christ.

https://www.magiscenter.com/science-reason-faith/

#### The Reason Series

Based on the award-winning book, New Proofs for the Existence of God: Contributions of Contemporary Physics and Philosophy by Fr. Robert J. Spitzer, S.J. Ph.D. The Reason Series is a 5-part program that empowers teachers to effortlessly provide high-school students all the evidence they need to be more certain about a transcendent, super-intelligent, creative power: God. The Reason Series follows college freshman Joe as he learns to defend his faith from his atheist roommate, Tyler, with the help of physics and philosophy grad students, Dan and Alana.

https://www.magiscenter.com/series/reason-series/

## Cosmic Origins DVD

https://www.amazon.com/Cosmic-Origins/dp/B008YMHBJO

How did we get here?

How did everything get here - our planet, our solar system ... our universe?

For generations, science has ignored the concept of creation because doing otherwise would beg the question ... of a Creator. Today, however, we have compelling evidence - from science itself - for a beginning and fine-tuning of the universe. The insights are complementary, and that very fact provides evidence of a transcendent, intelligent Creator.

Cosmic Origins explores those insights. Executive Producer Fr. Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., Ph.D., is a philosopher, educator, author and former President of Gonzaga University. He is founder and President of the Magis Institute for Faith and Reason, an organization dedicated to public education on the relationship among the disciplines of physics, philosophy, reason, and faith.

This fascinating film features Fr. Spitzer and a group of physicists and academic heavyweights exploring modern scientific theories about how the universe came to exist. Joining Fr. Spitzer are Nobel Laureate **Arno Penzias** (who discovered the background radiation from the Big Bang), Templeton Prize winners **John Polkinghorne** (Cambridge) and **Michael Heller** (Vatican Observatory), **Owen Gingerich** (Harvard), **Lisa Randall** (Harvard), **Jennifer Wiseman** (NASA) and **Stephen Barr** (University of Delaware), who narrates the film. Throughout the journey, viewers learn that modern scientific paths point toward a very Christian understanding of how we came to be.

Cosmic Origins explains what we know about the beginning and nature of the universe, as well as its transcendent implications in clear, easy-to-understand terms. The film weaves together a compelling narrative from academics and credentialed scientists pointing toward a very Christian understanding of how the universe came to exist.

Cosmic Origins expertly conveys a vital and important message for everyone - our Christian faith is not disproven by modern science, but rather corroborated by it.

# Catholic Answers to Faith and Science Conference Show by Fr. Terrence Ehrman 9/28/18

https://www.catholic.com/audio/cal/cal-8735

Catholic books and media on faith and science and bioethics <a href="http://enroutebooksandmedia.com/itest/">http://enroutebooksandmedia.com/itest/</a>

#### Catholic Education Resource Center

https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/science/faith-and-science/

Baglow, CT. 2012. Faith, Science and Reason: Theology on The Cutting Edge. Woodridge (IL): Midwest Theological Forum. ISBN 978-1-936045-25-9

Trasancos, SA. 2016. Particles of Faith: A Catholic Guide to Navigating Science. Notre Dame (IN): Ave Maria Press.

Profile of the Grad-At-Grad What Makes a Jesuit School "Jesuit"? https://jesuitschoolsnetwork.org/publications/

#### Catholic Social Teaching and Environmental Ethics

http://www.webofcreation.org/DenominationalStatements/catholic.htm http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/seven-themes-of-catholic-social-teaching.cfm

Laudato Si – Environmental Stewardship

https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2015/06/18/top-ten-takeaways-laudato-si

## Catholic Teaching of Genesis and Evolution

CCC: 296, 297, 302, 337, 362, 375 (Bible is symbolic not literal – CCC 109, 110)

http://www.catholic365.com/article/1363/what-is-the-catholic-understanding-of-genesis-and-evolution.html

https://www.uscatholic.org/articles/201508/do-catholics-believe-evolution-30288

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/pope-would-you-accept-evolution-and-

big-bang-180953166/

https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/science/theory-of-evolution/

https://www.catholic.com/tract/adam-eve-and-evolution

## Catholic Teaching on Stem Cells and Cloning

http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/stem-cell-research/catholic-support-for-ethically-acceptable-stem-cell-research.cfm http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/cloning/http://catholicstraightanswers.com/what-is-the-churchs-teaching-on-cloning/

Catholic Teaching on Contraception, Reproductive Technologies and Abortion

CCC: 2258, 2270-2275, 2370, 2374-2379

http://catholicstraightanswers.com/what-is-the-churchs-teaching-on-contraception/https://www.catholic.com/tract/birth-control

Eliminating Misconceptions about NFP (accepted methods to avoid pregnancy or to attain pregnancy)

https://www.naprotechnology.com/ https://www.creightonmodel.com/

## What the Catholic Church is saying regarding Gender Identity

https://www.npr.org/2019/06/10/731300949/vatican-issues-document-during-pride-month-denving-gender-identity-is-a-choice

http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/marriage/promotion-and-defense-of-marriage/upload/Gender-Ideology-Select-Teaching-Resources.pdf
https://cruxnow.com/interviews/2018/07/26/ethicist-says-church-teaching-on-gender-not-incompatible-with-accepting-trans-identity/

https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/for-us-bishops-pope-francis-brings-clarity-to-transgender-issues-90466

https://www.ncbcenter.org/resources/frequently-asked-questions/gender-identity-disorder-and-sex-change-operations/

## Catholic Teaching on Euthanasia

CCC: 2276-2279

http://www.life.org.nz/euthanasia/euthanasiareligiouskeyissues/catholic-churchteaching/

## Catholic Teaching on Suicide

http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc css/archive/catechism/p3s2c2a5.htm

Grave psychological disturbances, anguish, or grave fear of hardship, suffering, or torture can diminish the responsibility of the one committing suicide.

**CCC** <u>2283</u> We should not despair of the eternal salvation of persons who have taken their own lives. By ways known to him alone, God can provide the opportunity for salutary repentance. The Church prays for persons who have taken their own lives.

## Catholic Teaching on Capital Punishment

CCC: 2266, 2267

https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/religion-and-philosophy/social-justice/catholicism-amp-capital-punishment.html

http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc\_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c2a5.htm

Catholic Teaching on Organ Donation, Body Donation, Autopsies and Cremation CCC: 2296, 2299-2301 (Respect for the Dead)

https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/science/ethical-issues/play-it-again-organ-donation.html

https://cruxnow.com/church/2015/04/20/does-the-church-allow-people-to-donate-their-bodies-to-science/

## **Workshops which Blend Faith and Science:**

McGrath Summer Institute Science and Religion Seminars

Learn teaching methods that enhance the dialogue between science and religion in Catholic education, challenging the notion that the two disciplines are in conflict. The Science & Religion Initiative offers summer seminars at the University of Notre Dame campus and Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans. During the academic year, the initiative hosts <u>Institute Days</u> at Catholic high schools across the nation to provide excellent in-service programming for teachers and administrators.

In most cases, school participation is by application or invitation only.

https://mcgrath.nd.edu/conferences/summer-institute/science-religion-seminar/

## Society of Catholic Scientists

The Society of Catholic Scientists is an international lay organization founded in June of 2016 to foster fellowship among Catholic scientists and to witness to the harmony of faith and reason. Workshops are open to members of the SCS.

https://www.catholicscientists.org/events/2019/06/2019-scs-conference

## Cosmos and Creation Conference at Loyola University Maryland

The annual Cosmos & Creation Conference began in 1982 with the vision that working scientists would find it fruitful to share their religious awareness with other scientists. The group has been ecumenical, although most who have participated have been mainline Christians. Those who participate in the conference are working scientists with earned doctorates (occasionally others have been invited). Former guests of the conference are also invited and some return each year as regular participants. The conference is for working scientists to discuss and share their vision of God and the world, based on their scientific training, reading, and working experience.

https://sc.loyola.edu/join-us/cosmos-creation/about

## Catholic Medical Association

Upholding the principles of the Catholic Faith in science and medicine <a href="http://www.cathmed.org/events/annual-educational-conference/future-annual-conferences/">http://www.cathmed.org/events/annual-educational-conference/future-annual-conferences/</a>