

# SANTA CROCE

PONTIFICAL UNIVERSITY OF THE HOLY CROSS FOUNDATION



## PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

### Your Support Is Helping to Change the Way Business is Done

“Does the Pope have credibility when he speaks about economic issues?” This was at the core of many earnest questions answered by Msgr. Martin Schlag following his presentation to business and finance professionals in New York City. His talk, “Ten Words of Pope Francis to Business Leaders,” aimed at putting the pope’s words into proper context. After all, the Holy Father has come to be known for his off-the-cuff comments which are frequently misunderstood.

In reference to “unbridled capi-

talism,” a term used in Pope Francis’ encyclical *The Gospel of Joy*, one attendee asked, “Why do we hear about unbridled capitalism? There is no such thing as unbridled capitalism and no one is in favor of it.” This prompted Msgr. Schlag to agree, up to a point. But Fr. Martin’s overall response underscored a major theme for the event – that the global marketplace is fragile and needs an ethical culture to support it.

When advocating more ethical economic practices, Pope Francis does not offer the words of an

economist, but of a prophet looking at the bigger picture. Fr. Schlag explained that some of the pope’s concerns stem from what he refers to as “crony capitalism,” politicians doing business with political insiders – something he witnessed first-hand in his home country of Argentina. However, the tendency

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With my background in business, I decided to go to Rome to study theology at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in order to better understand my faith and apply it to my career. Currently I’m doing a PhD in Moral Theology with Msgr. Schlag as my thesis advisor. Thanks to him I’m studying some moral issues in relation to the subprime crisis.

All the professors (each with double degrees in civil and ecclesiastical disciplines) provide great formation – explaining the doctrine of the Church Fathers and the Magisterium in relation to modern challenges.

Studying in Rome with people from all over the world helps to strengthen my fidelity and unity with the Pope, the Holy See, and all Catholics, which is something that you can’t experience studying theology in your own country.

If you want to be part of the solution to the problems of our relativist society, collaborating with Santa Croce is one of the best ways. Your help will be greatly multiplied due to the influence their students can have on thousands of others when they return to their own countries.

**John Paul Graells studies Moral Theology at Santa Croce. Fr. Schlag is his thesis advisor.**



**Monsignor Martin Schlag has been teaching Moral Theology at Santa Croce since 2008. He recently gave a talk in New York City on Pope Francis’ words to business leaders.**

Fr. Schlag’s primary dedication in research and teaching is the social teaching of the Church. Together with Prof. Juan Andrés Mercado he founded and presently directs the Markets, Culture and Ethics Research Center ([www.mceproject.org](http://www.mceproject.org)).

Areas of research include: Christian Humanism in Society; the History of Economic Thought and Christian Faith; the Anthropological Bases of Management. In 2012, Fr. Schlag was appointed as Consultant to the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace.



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toward greed and vice is not limited to any particular country or economic system.

In this respect, Fr. Schlag urged his audience to guard against generalizations such as European versus American economics. There are significant differences even between segments of individual countries – for example between northern and southern England, or northern and southern Italy.

### INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION

In order to better discern these complex issues, MCE takes an interdisciplinary approach for a systematic and scientific study of economic and social life in the light of reason and Catholic faith. Every class at Santa Croce teaches ethics, virtues, role-models, best-practices, and sometimes even guides people in setting up their own business. The focus is on developing the moral and cultural basis necessary to respect the dignity of the human person within a free market system.

Fr. Schlag characterized a typical business school approach to ethics with a story. A finance professor at such a school was asked to include the teaching of ethics in his courses. He replied, “If I teach ethics, I will have

Prior to the luncheon/talk, I was not familiar with the work of the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome or of the MCE Research Centre headed by Msgr. Schlag. However, due to my vocation as a deacon in New York, I received an invitation from Lady Leitch, a board member of MCE.

I now realize that MCE provides a good conceptual framework for “Making All Things New,” a parish management plan instituted by the Archdiocese of New York under the guidance of Cardinal Dolan. One initiative within this program – a parish business manager project – was started in 2013.

Deacons with business experience were assigned to a few parishes in the Archdiocese. The deacon/business manager reports to the Archdiocese and the pastor. It is a



**Deacon Richard A. Cheu**  
**Church of St. Vincent Ferrer**

program to provide trained parish business managers to work with the pastor so that the pastor can focus on sacramental activities and the business manager addresses parish management and finances.

**I believe the future for parishes and the Church is to apply the principles presented in the work of MCE.**

no time to teach finance.” But when a donor presented \$20 million dollars for that purpose, the school naturally found a way to make it happen. Unfortunately, his method of teaching went something like this: “Jesus says this, Mohammad says this, Confucius says this, Kant says this ... so do whatever you want.”

### ECONOMICS FOR ECCLESIASTICS

Economics within the Church face

the same difficulties as in the business world. Cardinal George Pell, Prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy, asked Santa Croce to consider offering a course for Church administrators. He said, “What we want is a thorough education of priests and lay people in both economics and ethics. The administration of money in the Church must be exemplary and according to the Gospel.”

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**Professor Luanne D. Zurlo**  
**Catholic University of America**

I teach finance at CUA’s School of Business and Economics. We aim to integrate Christian values in all our coursework and projects. Accordingly, I am quite focused on how our capitalist system, including finance, operate in the context of Catholic social doctrine.

I learned about the MCE institute and Santa Croce during the winter of 2014, which I spent in Rome. I was introduced to Fr. Martin and we met a few times and I attended a few events at Santa Croce.

Given my esteem for Fr. Martin and my interest in the Holy Father’s views on the economy, there was no question in my mind that I would

attend the luncheon.

Integrating economics and ethics is important work because economics plays such an important role in our lives today. Decisions made in the secular, economic realm have important consequences, both good and bad, upon the quality of our lives from a material and spiritual perspective.

**Few people have a deep understanding of both Catholic social doctrine and the world of finance and how our capital markets operate. The MCE does an excellent job bridging this knowledge gap.**


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Beginning in January 2016, Santa Croce will launch a two-year pilot project that one day will develop into an academy to give high-potential young clergy and seminarians the formation needed to competently administer the Church's business and assets. It will be something along the lines of an executive MBA program for ecclesiastics with classes in management, finance, markets, and business ethics. To fill this need, Fr. Schlag is currently gathering knowledgeable people to help develop the program. One existing model already run by MCE is the successful workshop, "Economics for Ecclesiastics." A recent class included seventy priests and nuns, with one of them remarking, "This is the course I always wanted to take, but couldn't afford it."

MCE and Santa Croce are committed to improving the way business is

done, forming the basis for a just society – something we can't afford not to do.

As Professor Zurlo of Catholic University of America emphasized,

economic decisions "have important consequences, both good and bad, to the quality of our lives from both a material and spiritual perspective." 



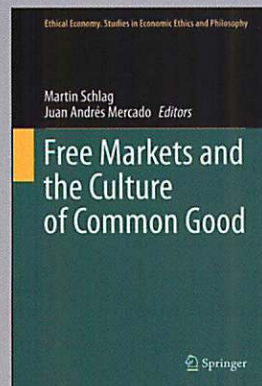
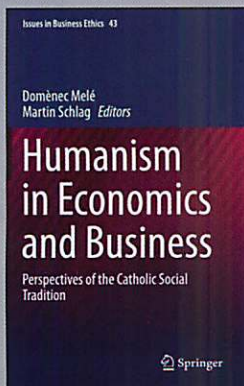
**Mark Swartzberg, a co-host of the MCE luncheon, and twenty-nine professionals from the world of business and finance, attended the event in New York City.**

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**"The international business community can count on many men and women of great personal honesty and integrity, whose work is inspired and guided by high ideals of fairness, generosity and concern for the authentic development of the human family. I urge you to draw upon these great human and moral resources and take up this challenge with determination and farsightedness. Without ignoring, naturally, the specific scientific and professional requirements of every context, I ask you to ensure that humanity is served by wealth and not ruled by it."**

— *Pope Francis* | Message to the World Economic Forum | January 17, 2014

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**The most recent book (March 2015) edited by Martin Schlag and Domènec Melé explains the Catholic social tradition.**

**MCE also publishes original scholarly research papers as a resource to promote a just and charitable business model.**

[www.MCEproject.org](http://www.MCEproject.org)

# THE JOYS AND TRIALS OF THE ARTIST

— The 6th International Poetics and Christianity Conference —

Academics and artists from a variety of fields gathered at Santa Croce recently to discuss the convergence of artistic culture and its expressions of faith. The title question of the conference, “Writing: What for and for Whom?” prompted three additional questions: Where does the need to create art come from?; What are the artist’s motivations and intentions?; Who is the recipient of a work of art?



**A wide variety of artists shared their hopes, motivations, aspirations and difficulties that mark their vocation to write, perform and compose at this biennial conference sponsored by Santa Croce’s School of Communications.**

## FILLING THE VOID

“How we answer these questions says a great deal about how we understand both art and human nature” said Professor John Wauck. His talk outlined several possible answers regarding the artistic process and purpose. In one view, making art overcomes a void which can be “represented by a white canvas, a blank sheet of paper, an empty niche where a statue might stand, the silent air that might be filled with music.”

Some artists consider their activity to be an expression of beauty or creating objects of aesthetic interest. Others see their work as self-expression, or as a vehicle of moral and political education, or as imitations of “harmony and proportion in the world.” Art is often inspired by the loss of a loved one – another intimation of filling a

void and pointing to immortality.

## LEISURE AS THE BASIS OF CULTURE

A common element of artistic life is the need for reflective meditation. In his book, *Leisure as the Basis of Culture*, Josef Pieper defends the need for reflection in modern society. He says that



**Nicholas Schapfl**  
*Composer*

“Composing is more about perception than invention; it has more to do with being “in relation to” than with being about me, a shared experience of meaning – objectivity rather than subjectivity.”



**Fr. John Wauck**  
*Professor at Santa Croce*

Fr. John, a Chicago native, studied history and literature at Harvard University and holds a doctorate of philosophy from Santa Croce where he teaches Literature and Communication of the Faith.



**Natalia Sanmartin Fenollera**  
*Author, The Awakening of Miss Prim*

Ms. Fenollera’s novel has been translated into eight languages and enjoys international acclaim. She said her book “owes much to poetry and Christianity” and questions many ideas in today’s culture.

our culture must understanding what the psalmist intended in the words: "Be still and know that I am God."

To "be still" is not inactivity, but involves active listening and reflection. The life of contemplation provides meaning and purpose. The arts and what is called the "liberal arts"



**Alessandro Rivali, poet and editor for Ares publishing house, speaking with attendees during a break. In his talk, he said that "poetry, while often born from wounds, must lead to beauty."**

provide the basis of culture and our understanding of what it means to be human. In his talk "Seeking Style, Seeking Identity: Beyond Creative Writing," Jose Manuel Mora Fandos said, "Authentic creativity requires the contemplation of the mystery and harmony between personal experience and the outside world."

## REFLECTING ON OLD QUESTIONS

The mindless busyness of modern life is contemplation's opposite. One featured speaker, Natalia Fenorella, characterized today's world as composed of "frenetic activity and the excesses of a world that no longer has time to reflect on the old questions."

In her novel, *The Awakening of Miss Prim*, the main character finds employment as a librarian in a remote French village which is in revolt against modernity and the dysfunctions of modern education. Eventually, she falls in love with the dashing, eccentric owner of the library.

The novel is set in the village of St. Irenius near a Benedictine Abbey, a

constant reminder that human life must be ordered by old and wise ideas. The village's homeschooled children grow up with literature, myths, and fairy tales which convey the traditions of truth, goodness and beauty.

While many read this best-selling novel as a love story, it can't be measured by today's standards of a love story. The book can also be read as a story of religious conversion which the author says is "so visible ... that many do not see it."

## MUSIC, FILM, AND MORE

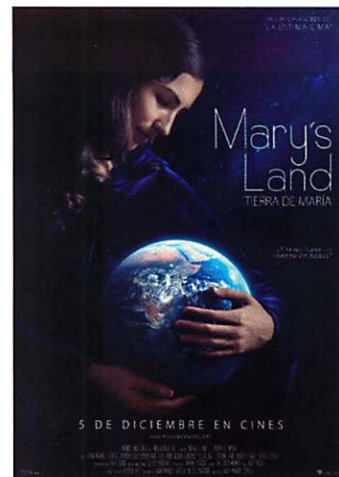
The conference included much more than words from a podium – there was a piano concert in the Basilica of Saint Apollinare, a slide show of Vatican art, an exhibition on G.K. Chesterton, and a screening of "Mary's Land," a film directed



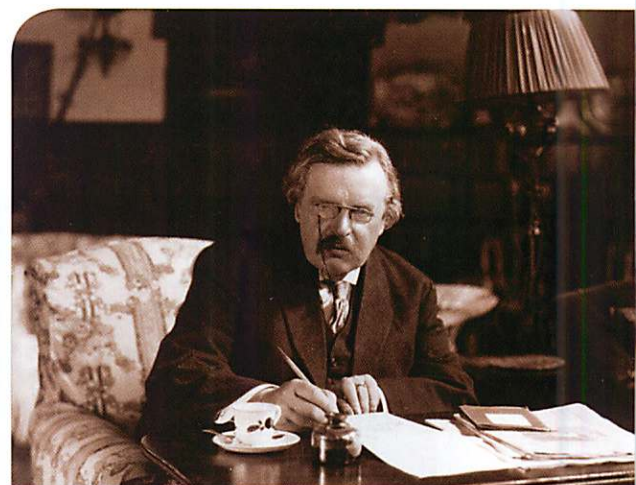
**About 100 people attended the two-day conference which, in addition to the main speakers, included shorter panels, music, and film.**

by Juan Manuel Cotelo in which he interviews people from all over the world who experienced a spiritual conversion where Our Lady played a key role.

In two years, the School of Communication will sponsor another international conference exploring the relation between faith and art – inspiring artists to create works that explore the mysteries and marvels of our existence in God's world. Conferences like this provide students an opportunity to interact with art and artists, enhancing the unique value of the Rome experience at Santa Croce. 🏛️



**The movie "Mary's Land" was shown at the end of the conference.**



**The conference included a special exhibit introducing the life, thought and work of G.K. Chesterton, one the most famous Christian apologists of the twentieth century.**

The central theme of this exhibit can be found in Chesterton's 1912 novel *Manalive*, whose main character, Innocent Smith, learns that the best way to discover the value of one's own home is to leave it, walk around the world, and then return with a newfound appreciation for its hidden value.

The exhibit includes a replica of Chesterton's home "Top Meadow," where he wrote the memorable books that enable readers to discover the hidden glories of the ordinary world that they may have previously taken for granted.

# THREE CORE PRINCIPLES FOR GIVING

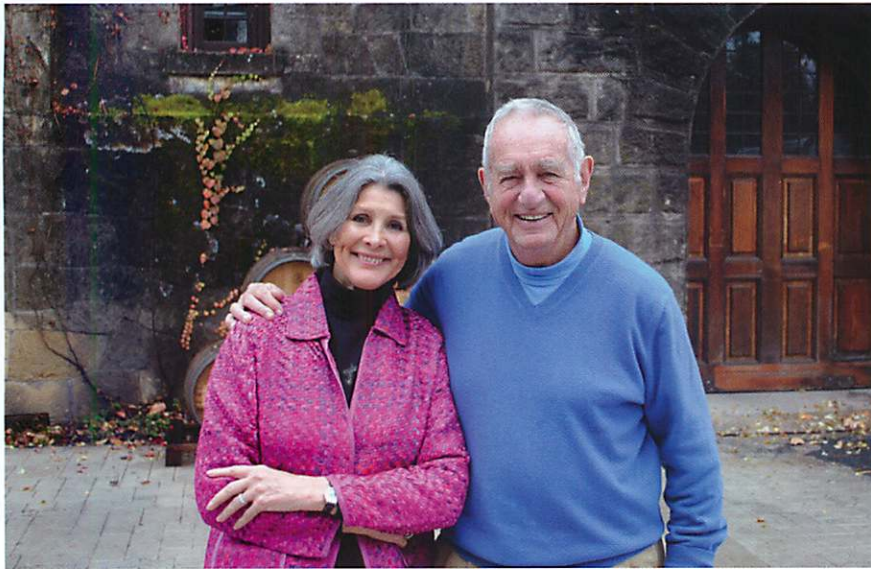
## Judy Barrett

Through the years, my late husband Jim and I faced the dilemma of many donors: how to sort through the plethora of donation requests that flood the mailbox. We wanted to give with our heads as well as with our hearts to organizations where our hard-earned dollars would go to work for our intended purposes. We fine-tuned our charitable giving priorities, and arrived at three core principles for giving: support for vocations to the priesthood and religious life, authentic Catholic education, and the poorest of the poor.

One of Jim's older brothers, Fr. Vincent Barrett (deceased), was a diocesan priest, and through him we became intimately aware of the vast influence one priest has during his lifetime. Just stop and think about the priests you know – the sacraments administered, the homilies preached, the sick and dying consoled, the families counseled and aided...how many lives are touched, how many souls are saved. Likewise, outstanding men and women religious who support the universal Church through service, prayer and contemplation are shining

at odds with Church teaching. That clinched our decision to support only institutions that were faithful to the Magisterium.

With regard to caring for the poor, that is a universal mandate from our Lord. We must provide for material and spiritual needs, and we're all called to do what we can in our own spheres of influence. But let's face it – priests, religious and dedicated lay men and women working for Church-related organizations typically are "our hands" at work among the poorest of the poor.



**Jim and Judy Barrett**

Those who knew Jim were often amused by his figures of speech. With regard to charitable contributions, he liked giving "where we get a lot of bang for our buck." Translated, that means giving where donations provide both maximum benefit and maximum multiplier effect.

beacons in a world sorely in need of hope!

Our eyes were opened about the great need for authentic Catholic higher education when our alma mater, a Catholic law school, invited graduation speakers and gave honors to individuals who were notoriously

Santa Croce fulfills the charitable goals Jim and I established in a very unique way. **We know that our donations will provide priests and religious for the Church throughout the world for many years to come. Santa Croce will send into the world men and women grounded in the universal truths of our Catholic faith to teach in schools, universities, seminaries and religious education programs, and who will provide Christ-centered leadership in business, communications and nonprofit organizations.** A visit to the campus in Rome in 2012 confirmed our commitment. My fond hope is a return visit, to stand on that rooftop terrace overlooking the Eternal City.

As Jim would say, you get "a lot of bang for your buck" by supporting The Pontifical University of the Holy Cross Foundation. 🙏

# BUILDING THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH



**Two of the five men ordained on June 12, 2015, at The Cathedral of the Incarnation in Nashville, TN, graduated from Santa Croce. Our next newsletter will cover the impact of Santa Croce in the Diocese of Nashville.**

You can help build the future of the Church with a few words! A few words in your will or trust can allow you to continue your support for what you believe in – well beyond the years God will give you in this lifetime. Your bequest will help ensure the training for future leaders to serve the Church.

Bequests, both large and small, have been crucial to Santa Croce's financial health over many years. In addition to a simple will designation, there are many other ways to make a

charitable bequest. These include the following beneficiary designations:

- **Your will or living trust**
- **401K plan**
- **Traditional or Roth IRA**
- **Life insurance policy**
- **POD or TOD (pay on death or transfer on death) in bank or brokerage account**
- **Health Savings Account**

Perhaps you would like to receive our new guide entitled *A Brief Overview of Charitable Planning*. Let us know and we'll send it out to you along with details about our Legacy Society.

As a local supporter, you already know that the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross (Santa Croce) is addressing one of the world's most critical needs – the formation of priests who will lead the Church in the 21st century and beyond. By planning today, you can change the future!

- Please send me your brochure *A Brief Overview of Charitable Planning*.
- Please enroll me in the Santa Croce Legacy Society. I have already remembered the Foundation in my:
- |   |   |                                      |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Will               | <input type="checkbox"/> Trust          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
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# FROM ALL THE WORLD...INTO ALL THE WORLD

Our students are tremendously grateful for the unique opportunity they have to study at Santa Croce. They study with world-renowned thinkers, and they meet friends from every continent – all within an easy stroll of the Vatican, the Pantheon, and the countless other treasures of the Eternal City, and more importantly, all done for the glory of God and the good of His holy Church.



“I feel right at home at Santa Croce. The academic environment is professional, warm, orthodox and passionate. At Santa Croce, we’re Catholic, and we love it!”

*Fr. Andrew Dalton  
Atlanta, Georgia, USA  
Biblical Theology Student*



“I was sent to Rome to study from a fisherman parish in Ecuador. Now I am casting my nets out into the depths of academic life; weaving the nets that will enable me to better fish for the mission the Lord will entrust to me.”

*Fr. Miguel Angel Vera Chica  
Carman, Ecuador  
Communications Student*



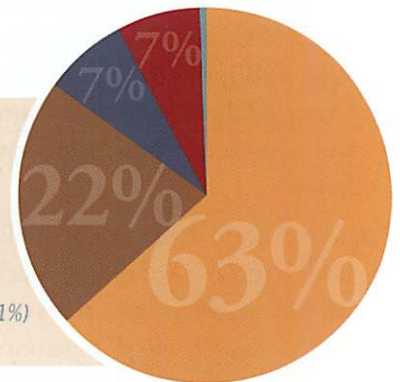
“Santa Croce, in my opinion, is the best place to be, and I would say that my dreams are complete, just being here and seeing the beautiful roots of Christianity”

*Fr. Nicholas Kaliminwa  
Zambia  
Communications Student*

**Santa Croce’s current student body of 1,517 hail from 75 different countries!**

Students by Location:

- Europe
- Americas
- Africa
- Asia
- Oceania (less than 1%)



**On behalf of all our students, *THANK YOU!* Your help makes a world of difference!**



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*The Pontifical University of the Holy Cross Foundation raises much-needed resources for the university’s mission. To support the University, please contact the foundation by phone, email, or mail.*

**Get to know the students who your financial donations help support.**

Our brief **e-newsletters** introduce you to the people who make up the heart of Santa Croce.

Go to our website to sign up for your **free copy**, delivered weekly to your email inbox.

**UniversityHolyCross.org**