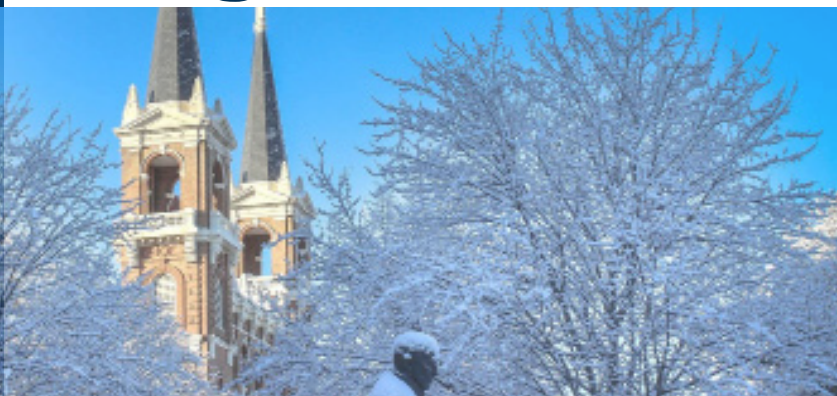
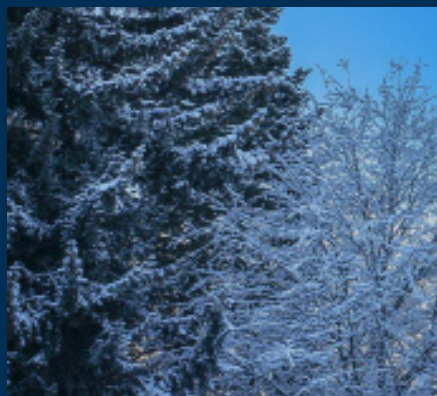


# Religious Studies



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**"The Church and Her Scriptures"** Three free public lectures in honor of Fr. Patrick Hartin, Prof. RELI

**1. February 15, 2016**  
"Matthew Today: Paradoxes and Politics" Speaker: Rev. Benedict T. Viviano, O.P.  
Wolff Auditorium, 7:00 p.m

**2. February 16, 2016**  
"A Catholic Interpretation of the Scriptures"  
Speaker: Fr. Patrick Hartin  
Barbieri Courtroom, 7:00 p.m.

**3. February 17, 2016**  
"Susanna and Matthew's Passion Narrative" Speaker: Dr. Catherine Brown Tkacz  
Wolff Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

\* \* \*

**March 2, 2016**  
Spring Flannery Lecture  
"Science, Theology and Pope Francis's Ecological Vision"  
Speaker: Dr. John Haught  
Cataldo Hall, Globe Rm.  
6:30 p.m./ FREE & open to all

Spring  
**16**

## Faculty Spotlight

### A Fond Farewell



#### Fr. Patrick Hartin

Originally from South Africa, Fr. Hartin found his way to Spokane after learning of a position teaching New Testament at Gonzaga University while teaching briefly at the Claremont Colleges. In his 21 years at Gonzaga, he has noticed changes in the technology, campus buildings, along with the population, diversity, and spirit of the students. His favorite part about teaching at Gonzaga is the interaction with the students, which Fr. Hartin mentions is in stark contrast to the British model of teaching that he used in South Africa. Fr. Hartin has taught classes for both the Religious Studies and the Classics Departments, and each class he teaches holds its own value, so he cannot pick a favorite. Religious Studies classes hold formative value and meet students wherever they are in their spiritual journeys. Fr. Hartin believes students should study religion because it is deeply ingrained within the heritage of Western Civilization, and it helps us to know who we are and where we come from. It enables students to engage with others who may hold different perspectives. Studying religion can help students make religion their own, and look at religion in an adult way. He advises students to be passionate and question things, rather than blindly accepting something. In retirement Fr. Hartin plans to add to the eighteen books he has already written, and while he will miss the classroom, he will enjoy visiting his brothers and sisters in South Africa about once a year.



#### Dr. John Downey

Dr. Downey was recruited to teach at Gonzaga 34 years ago because of his distinctive approach to the study of Theology. His preferred approach, known as fundamental theology, delves into how we think about religion, along with how religion relates to culture and philosophy. He has taught a variety of courses while at Gonzaga, including Religion and the Human Experience, Political Theology, St. Francis of Assisi, and the Bubonic Plague. Although he cannot pick a favorite, Dr. Downey believes that each course provides spectacular ways of understanding how religion is at work in our lives today. He advocates for students to study religion in order to be trained to think critically about religion, since it can be both liberating and restricting. Dr. Downey also believes that religion and the questions it attempts to answer are fundamental parts of being human. He encourages students to ask questions and be open to dialogue with experts in order to understand new perspectives, therefore discovering who they are and what they stand for. Dr. Downey is going to treat his retirement like an extended Sabbatical, and plans to do research and write a book on St. Francis of Assisi "for real people."

**The Religious Studies Department wishes both Fr. Hartin and Dr. Downey the best of luck as they move forward in each of their journeys!**

## Where Are They Now?

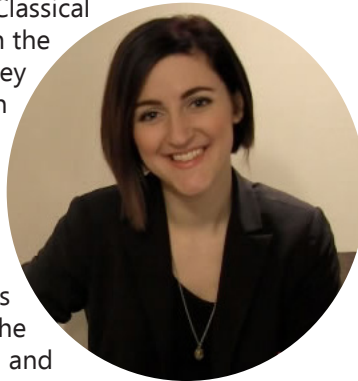


### Ylisse C. Bess Washington '13

Ylisse majored in Religious Studies and Sociology at GU. Following graduation she served a year with Americorps at City Year Chicago, tutoring and mentoring high school sophomores on the West Side of Chicago, IL. She now studies at Boston Univeristy School of Theology with her husband, a fellow Zag, whom she married in May 2015. They are in the Masters of Divinity program together. Her interests include spiritual healthcare policy focusing on women's reproductive rights.

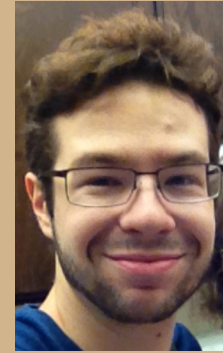
### Kacei Conyers '13

Kacei majored in Religious Studies with a minor in Classical Civilizations at GU. She will recieve degrees from the Yale Divinity School (Masters of Divinity) and Berkeley Divinity School (Diploma in Anglican Studies) in Spring 2016. While at Yale, she has been working as the Graduate and Professional Programs Coordinator at the Office of LGBTQ Resources. In the seminary, she works as a Videographer for the Yale Institute of Sacred Music. Kacei has been called to serve as Associate Rector for Family Ministries at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Anchorage, AK this June. She hopes to be ordained a transitional deacon this year, and afterwards, a priest in the Episcopal Church!



The Religious Studies Department wishes Ylisse and Kacei all the best in their bright futures. **Go Zags!**

## Student Spotlight



### Sean Richards Class of 2016

Sean is a political science and international relations double major, with a minor in Religious Studies. He is most interested in how religion and politics interact with one another, each informing the

other and says that "the academy provides a very unique and highly beneficial setting for studying religion that cannot be easily replicated elsewhere."

Sean was one of eighteen students to participate in this year's week long Winter School Program (WSP) organized by the International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT). At the program, he listened to lectures given by scholars from across the U.S. and Canada, with topics including "hadith studies, modern Islamic finance, Islam in America, Islam and modernity, the maqasid approach to al-shariah, and the question of how 'Islamic' ISIS really is." Sean says he "finished the program with a much clearer appreciation for just how large and diverse the field of Islamic thought is today... it was interesting to see how the fields of Christian thought and Islamic thought were very similar in some respects but quite distinct in others... it was valuable seeing how differences in areas such as theology, practice, and religious history have developed into both these similarities and differences." For him, "attending the program was an all-around fantastic experience."

Sean urges fellow students to be critical of general terms and really unpack what they mean. After graduation, Sean plans to spend a year volunteering for the Jesuit Volunteer Corp and later attended a graduate program for Middle Eastern Studies.

## GET CONNECTED

Event and department information, go to [www.gonzaga.edu/religious-studies](http://www.gonzaga.edu/religious-studies)

Visit us on Facebook at [facebook.com/GUreligiousstudies](https://facebook.com/GUreligiousstudies)

Contact us at  
**(509) 313-6782**

Spring Flannery Lecture

## "SCIENCE, THEOLOGY, AND POPE FRANCIS'S ECOLOGICAL VISION"

MARCH 2, 2016

6:30 PM

GONZAGA UNIVERSITY  
CATALDO HALL  
GLOBE RM



GUEST SPEAKER

**DR. JOHN HAUGHT**

LECTURE IS FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## Hey, you! Yes, you!

Are you having a hard time figuring out what you want to do with your major—or your life after Gonzaga? Sister Joy Milos, CSJ, of the Religious Studies Department, is available for extra advising if you'd like some help answering poet Mary Oliver's question: "Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"

Contact Sr. Joy at [milos@gonzaga.edu](mailto:milos@gonzaga.edu) or (509) 313-6714.