

# GONZAGA RELIGIOUS STUDIES

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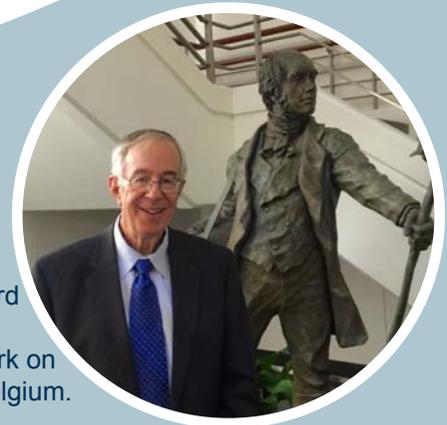
## Spring Flannery Lecture "SCIENCE, THEOLOGY, AND POPE FRANCIS'S ECOLOGICAL VISION"

Guest Speaker  
**DR. JOHN HAUGHT**

MARCH 2, 2016  
6:30 PM  
GONZAGA UNIVERSITY  
CATALDO HALL  
GLOBE ROOM

### THE SPEAKER

John F. Haught, Ph. D., Catholic University is a Distinguished Research Professor in the Theology Department at Georgetown University where he was formerly Professor and Chair. His area of specialization is systematic theology, with a particular interest in issues pertaining to science, cosmology, evolution, ecology, and religion. He has authored 20 books and numerous articles and reviews. In 2002 he was the winner of the Owen Garrigan Award in Science and Religion. He was awarded the Sophia Award for Theological Excellence in 2004 and in 2008 received a "Friend of Darwin Award" from the National Center for Science Education. In April 2009 in recognition of his work on science and religion he received an honorary doctorate from Louvain University in Belgium.



### THE LECTURE

"Unless we feel that we truly belong to the natural world, as Pope Francis points out, we will lack sufficient incentive to take care of it as our home. There is now a broken connection, however, between humans and nature, and it has been sanctioned by the academically endorsed suspicion that the universe has no point, no meaning, no purpose. It is difficult for living and thinking beings, after all, to feel a warm relationship to a universe that seems essentially lifeless and mindless. With the help of scientifically informed religious thinkers, such as Teilhard de Chardin and Alfred North Whitehead, therefore, this presentation explores Pope Francis's courageous affirmation in "Laudato si" that the universe does indeed have a purpose, namely, that of bringing about the self-justifying value of beauty. 'At the end,' he writes, 'we will find ourselves face to face with the infinite beauty of God.' What does this mean ecologically, scientifically, and theologically?"

### THE FLANNERY

The Flannery Chair of Roman Catholic Theology is an endowed Chair gift of the late Maud and Milo Flannery of Spokane, to further excellence of theological study and teaching at Gonzaga University. The Flannery Lecture is delivered twice per year by an outstanding theologian who is invited to campus especially for the lecture.

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