

*The Boethius Initiative*



*The Boethius Initiative Symposium:*

*The Medieval Religious Experience: Unity in  
Diversity*

*March 14 – March 15, 2025*

*Ave Maria University  
Ave Maria, Florida*

# *Program*

## **Friday, March 14, St. Scholastica Honor's Lounge**

- 8:00: Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel
- 9:30: Coffee and pastries
- 9:45: Welcome Address, Dr. Thomas Maurer
- 10-11:30: First session, *The Cosmological Framework of the Medieval Religious Experience*
- Presider: Dr. Maureen Belinski, AMU
- Dr. Barry David, AMU: "A Dominant Meaning of 'Diversity in Unity' Among Medieval Christian Intellectuals"
- Dr. David Twetten, Marquette University: "How can God be Found through Aristotle's Cosmological Argument? The Solutions of Averroes, Albert, and Aquinas"
- 11:45-1:30: Boxed lunches for participants
- 12:05: Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe chapel
- 1:30-3:00: Second Session: *Sainthood and Space in the British Isles*
- Presider: Dr. Michael Lovell, Florida Atlantic University

Dr. Jason Stubblefield, University of Tennessee, Knoxville: “Faith Seeking (Historical) Understanding: Miracles as Evidence in William of Malmesbury’s Histories.”

Dr. Alexander Crawford, AMU: “Rendering unto Caesar: Religious Feasts and Noble Participation in Medieval Scottish Governance, 1124-1249.”

3:30-4:30: *Plenary Address*

Presider: Dr. Mary Blanchard, AMU

Rev. Augustine Thompson, O.P. University of Toronto: “Penance Culture in High Medieval Italy: Theology and Practice”

5:00: Dinner at Oasis, the Kitchen Lounge for all presenters

## **Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

9:00: Mass in the Student Union Ballroom

9:30: Coffee and pastries

10:00-11:30: Third Session: *Celebrating and Merging Difference in Dante’s Divine Comedy*.

Presider: Dr. William Gonch, AMU

Dr. Deana Basile Kelly, AMU: “From Slander to Solitude: Sacred and Profane Rhymes in *Purgatorio*.”

Dr. Anthony Nussmeier, University of Dallas: “Unity over Diversity: or how to Overcome a ‘Fractious Steed’”

- 11:45-1:00:           Boxed lunches for participants
- 1:00-2:30:           Fourth Session: *Framing the World: History and Prophecy*
- Presider: Dr. Michael Breidenbach, AMU
- Dr. Brian FitzGerald, Harvard University: “Greek East, Latin West, and the Spiritual Franciscan view of Christian History.”
- Dr. Thomas Maurer, AMU: “Prophecy of the Peoples: The Burdens of the Prophets”
- 3:00-4:00:           *Round Table Discussion*, all participants, led by Dr. Michael Lovell, Florida Atlantic University.
- 5:00:                 Final Reception, hosted by Dr. William Gonch

## *Special Thanks to:*

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**Dr. John Colman, *Director of the Honor's Program, Ave Maria University***

**Mrs. Megan Hare, *Administrative Assistant***

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