CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) refers to the corpus of authoritative ecclesiastical teaching, usually in the form of papal encyclicals, on social matters, beginning with Pope Leo XIII’s *Rerum Novarum* (1891) and running through Pope Francis. CST is not a social science and its texts are not pragmatic primers for social activists. It is a normative exercise of Church teaching, a kind of comprehensive applied – although far from systematic – social moral theology.

This volume is a scholarly engagement with this 130-year-old documentary tradition. Its twenty-three essays aim to provide a constructive, historically sophisticated, critical exegesis of all the major (and some of the minor) documents of CST. The volume’s appeal is not limited to Catholics, or even just to those who embrace, or who are seriously interested in, Christianity. Its appeal is to any scholar interested in the history or content of modern CST.

Gerard V. Bradley is Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame. He has been a Visiting Professor of Politics at Princeton University, a Fellow of the Hoover Institution at Stanford, and is currently a Senior Fellow of the Witherspoon Institute. At Notre Dame he is Co-Editor-in-Chief of *The American Journal of Jurisprudence* and serves as Co-Director of the Natural Law Institute.

E. Christian Brugger is Professor of Moral Theology at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, Florida. He is author of *Capital Punishment and Roman Catholic Moral Tradition*, 2nd ed. (2014), and more recently, *The Indissolubility of Marriage and the Council of Trent* (2017).
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Catholic Social Teaching

A VOLUME OF SCHOLARLY ESSAYS

Edited by

GERARD V. BRADLEY
University of Notre Dame, Indiana

E. CHRISTIAN BRUGGER
St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, Florida
Germain Grisez (1929–2018)
Joseph Boyle (1942–2016)
Contents

List of Contributors  page xiv
Acknowledgments  xvi
List of Abbreviations  xviii

Introduction: Contingency, Continuity, Development, and Change in Modern Catholic Social Teaching  1
Gerard V. Bradley and E. Christian Brugger

PART I HISTORICAL BACKGROUND  9
1 Aquinas as a Primary Source of Catholic Social Teaching  11
John Finnis
2 The Nineteenth-Century Historical and Intellectual Context of Catholic Social Teaching  34
Thomas C. Behr

PART II LEO XIII TO FRANCIS: THE DOCUMENTARY TRADITION  67
3 Rerum novarum (1891)  69
Joseph Boyle
4 Quadragesimo anno (1931)  90
Samuel Gregg
5 Pope Pius XII on Social Issues  108
Ronald J. Rychlak
### Contents

6  Development in Catholic Social Teaching: John XXIII to Paul VI  
   V. Bradley Lewis  
6  Development in Catholic Social Teaching: John XXIII to Paul VI  
   V. Bradley Lewis

7  Social Teaching in Pope John Paul II  
   Patrick Lee  
7  Social Teaching in Pope John Paul II  
   Patrick Lee

8  Pope Benedict XVI on the Political and Social Order  
   J. Brian Benestad  
8  Pope Benedict XVI on the Political and Social Order  
   J. Brian Benestad

9  The Social Teaching of Pope Francis  
   Daniel J. Mahoney  
9  The Social Teaching of Pope Francis  
   Daniel J. Mahoney

PART III THEMES IN CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING  
233

10 Catholic Social Teaching on the Common Good  
   V. Bradley Lewis  
10 Catholic Social Teaching on the Common Good  
   V. Bradley Lewis

11 The Universal Destination of the World’s Resources  
   Cristóbal Orrego  
11 The Universal Destination of the World’s Resources  
   Cristóbal Orrego

12 The Apostolate of the Laity  
   Christopher Tollefson  
12 The Apostolate of the Laity  
   Christopher Tollefson

13 Globalization  
   John Finnis  
13 Globalization  
   John Finnis

14 Are Some Men Angels? Modern Catholic Social Thought and Trust in Government  
   Christopher Wolfe  
14 Are Some Men Angels? Modern Catholic Social Thought and Trust in Government  
   Christopher Wolfe

15 The Moral Principles Governing the Immigration Policies of Polities  
   Kevin L. Flannery, SJ  
15 The Moral Principles Governing the Immigration Policies of Polities  
   Kevin L. Flannery, SJ

16 International Finance and Catholic Social Teaching  
   Robert G. Kennedy  
16 International Finance and Catholic Social Teaching  
   Robert G. Kennedy

17 Subsidiarity  
   Maria Catherine Cahill  
17 Subsidiarity  
   Maria Catherine Cahill

18 Socialism and Capitalism in Catholic Social Thought  
   Catherine Ruth Pakaluk  
18 Socialism and Capitalism in Catholic Social Thought  
   Catherine Ruth Pakaluk
Contents

19 The Preferential Option for the Poor and Catholic Social Teaching
   Martin Schlag 468

20 Catholic Social Teaching and Living the Christian Life
   Russell Shaw 483

PART IV EVALUATIVE AND CRITICAL REFLECTIONS 507

21 Catholic Social Teaching Is Catholic Moral Teaching
   E. Christian Brugger 509

22 How Bishops Should Teach Catholic Social Doctrine
   Gerard V. Bradley 528

23 A Radical Critique of Catholic Social Teaching
   John Finnis 548

Bibliography 585

Index of Names and Subjects 609

Index of Ecclesiastical Texts 622
Contributors

Thomas C. Behr is Assistant Professor in Comparative Cultural Studies at the University of Houston.

J. Brian Benestad is the D'Amour Professor in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition at Assumption College.

Joseph Boyle was Professor of Philosophy at the University of Toronto.

Gerard V. Bradley is Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame.

E. Christian Brugger is Professor of Moral Theology at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, Florida.

Maria Catherine Cahill is Lecturer in Law at University College Cork.

John Finnis is Professor of Law and Legal Philosophy Emeritus at the University of Oxford, and Biolchini Family Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame.

Kevin L. Flannery, SJ is Professor of the History of Ancient Philosophy at the Pontifical Gregorian University.

Samuel Gregg is the Director of Research at the Acton Institute and a Fellow of the Center for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory University.

Robert G. Kennedy is Professor of Catholic Studies at the University of Saint Thomas (MN).

Patrick Lee is the John N. and Jamie D. McAleer Professor of Bioethics at the Franciscan University of Steubenville.

V. Bradley Lewis is Associate Professor of Philosophy at The Catholic University of America.

Daniel J. Mahoney is Professor of Politics at Assumption College.

Cristóbal Orrego is Professor of Law at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile.
List of Contributors

Catherine Ruth Pakaluk is Assistant Professor of Social Research and Economic Thought at The Catholic University of America.

Ronald J. Rychlak is the Jamie L. Whitten Chair of Law and Government and Professor of Law at the University of Mississippi School of Law.

Martin Schlag is Professor of Catholic Studies and Ethics & Business Law at the University of St. Thomas (MN).

Russell Shaw is a veteran journalist and author.

Christopher Tollefsen is College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the University of South Carolina.

Christopher Wolfe is Distinguished Affiliate Professor of Politics at the University of Dallas.
Acknowledgments

The plan to produce this volume originated in a conference held in late October 2013, in Notre Dame Indiana, on (unsurprisingly) Catholic Social Teaching (CST). Several of the papers presented there appear here as chapters; to them we solicited and added the rest. The impetus then and since has been our conviction that, although there is an enormous literature on CST, only a fraction of it is scholarly, and much of that fraction is polemical and often uncritically mortgaged to contemporary ideologies. We believe that a fresh set of rigorously scholarly essays on the key documents and issues, as well as on the thought of popes starting with Leo XIII, will help Catholics and non-Catholics alike understand, and act upon, the perennial moral truths which undergird any just social order.

We are especially grateful to John Berger, Senior Editor for Cambridge University Press, and to John Witte Jr., distinguished Professor of Law and of Religion at Emory University, for including our volume in Cambridge’s invaluable Law and Christianity series. We thank also Danielle Mentz for her professional assistance at the early stages of our work with Cambridge University Press; Catherine Smith for her good help on the cover and with the illustration of Leo XIII; and Bret Workman for his efficient final copyediting. Special thanks is also due to the Hon. Joseph Santamaria of Hawthorn Australia for offering us to copy for our front piece the imposing portrait of Pope Leo XIII from the original drawn during a papal audience in 1894 by August Benziger that hangs in the private collection of the Santamarias. Before we sent the manuscript to Cambridge, Pamela Vivolo Bradley scrupulously edited the great bulk of the manuscript and wrangled our authors into timely cooperation on final drafts. Katherine A. Miller, Notre Dame Law School class of 2019, gave the entire manuscript a final proofread, and with Rose L. Brugger prepared the tables and indices. We thank each of them.

John M. Finnis, Biolchini Family Professor of Law at Notre Dame and Professor Emeritus of Law, University of Oxford, secured most of the funding
Acknowledgments

and much counsel for the 2013 conference. We are grateful for both, and for his generous contribution (three chapters) to this volume. Professor Finnis has been an irreplaceable mentor to each of us for well over two decades.

Lastly, this book is dedicated to our two dear friends, cherished mentors who were central participants at the conference but did not live to see this volume come to fruition. Germain Grisez and Joseph Boyle exemplified for each of us, as they did for so many others, what it means to be a Catholic scholar. In the words of Saint Pope John Paul II (from his Apostolic Constitution on Catholic Universities, *Ex corde ecclesiae*), they “unite[d] existentially by intellectual effort two orders of reality that too frequently tend to be placed in opposition as though they were antithetical: the search for truth, and the certainty of already knowing the fount of truth.”
Abbreviations

Ecclesiastical Documents of Catholic Social Teaching

AAS  Acta Apostolicae Sedis (Official Acts of the Holy See)
AP  Aeterni Patris (On the Restoration of Christian Philosophy) Leo XIII (1879)
AM  Africae Munus (On the Church in Africa) Benedict XVI (2011)
ASS  Acta Sanctae Sedis (Official Acts of the Holy See pre-1908)
AV  Amantissima Voluntatis (To the English People) Leo XIII (1895)
AL  Annum Sacrum (On consecration to the Sacred Heart) Leo XIII (1899)
AM  Quod Apostolici Muneris (On Socialism) Leo XIII (1878)
AA  Apostolicam Actuositatem (Decree on the Apostolate of Laity) Vatican II (1965)
AD  Arcanum Divinae (On Christian Marriage) Leo XIII (1880)
AQ  Auspiciæ Quaedam (On public Prayers for World Peace and Solution of the Problem of Palestine) Pius XII (1948)
CV  Caritas in Veritate (On Integral Human Development in Charity & Truth) Benedict XVI (2009)
CC  Casti Connubii (On Christian Marriage) Pius XI (1930)
CA  Centesimus Annius (On the 100th Anniversary of Rerum novarum) John Paul II (1991)
CCC  Catechism of the Catholic Church, editio typica, John Paul II (1997)
CID  Communium Interpretes Dolorum (Appealing for Prayers for Peace During May) Pius XII (1945)
List of Abbreviations

DN Datis Nuperrime (Lamenting the Sorrowful Events in Hungary and Condemning the Ruthless Use of Force) Pius XII (1956)
DF Dei Filius (On the Catholic Faith) Vatican I (1870)
DH Dignitatis Humanae (On Religious Liberty) Vatican II (1965)
DR Divini Redemptoris (On Atheist Communism) Pius XI (1937)
DIM Divini Illius Magistri (On Christian Education) Pius XI (1929)
D Diuturnum (On the Origin of Civil Power) Leo XIII (1881)
DC Dominicae Cenae (On the Mystery and Worship of the Eucharist) John Paul II (1980)
EA Ecclesia in America (On the Encounter with the Living Jesus Christ: The Way to Conversion, Communion and Solidarity in America) John Paul II (1999)
EE Ecclesia in Europa (On Jesus Christ, Alive in His Church, the Source of Hope for Europe) John Paul II (2003)
EJFA Economic Justice for All (U.S. Bishops’ Pastoral Letter) (1986)
EN Evangelii Nuntiandi (On Evangelization in the Modern World) Paul VI (1975)
EF Exsul Familia (Apostolic Constitution on Migration) Pius XII (1952)
FCo Firmissimam Constantiam (On the Religious Situation in Mexico) Pius XI (1937)
GC Graves De Communi Re (On Christian Democracy) Leo XIII (1901)
GE Gravissimum Educationis (Declaration on Christian Education) Paul VI (1965)
List of Abbreviations

GS  Gaudium et Spes (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the
Modern World) Vatican II (1965)
HV  Humanae Vitae (On the Regulation of Birth) Paul VI (1968)
HG  Humanum Genus (On Freemasonry) Leo XIII (1884)
FP  Il Fermo Proposito (On Catholic Action in Italy) Pius X (1905)
ID  Immortale Dei (On the Christian Constitution of States) Leo XIII
(1885)
IDC Inscrutabilii Dei Consilio (On the Evils of Society) Leo XIII (1878)
IMC In Multiplicibus Curis (On Prayers for Peace in Palestine) Pius XII
(1948)
LA  Laetamur Admodum (Renewing Exhortation for Prayers for Peace
for Poland, Hungary, and the Middle East) Pius XII (1956)
L  Libertas (On the Nature of Human Liberty) Leo XIII (1888)
LC  Libertatis Conscientia (Instruction on Christian Freedom and
LE  Laborem Exercens (On Human Work) John Paul II (1981)
LG  Lumen Gentium (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church) Paul VI
(1964)
LN  Libertatis Nuntius (Instruction on Certain Aspects of the
“Theology of Liberation”) Congregation for the Doctrine of the
Faith (1984)
LS  Laudato Si’ (On Care for Our Common Home) Francis (2015)
LEv Luctuosissimi Eventus (Urging Public Prayers for Peace and
Freedom for the People of Hungary) Pius XII (1956)
LF  Lumen Fidei (On Faith) Francis (2013)
MCC  Mystici Corporis Christi (On the Mystical Body of Christ) Pius XII
(1943)
MI  Mirabile Illum (On the Crusade of Prayer for Peace) Pius XII (1950)
MBS Mit Brennender Sorge (On the Church and the German Reich)
Pius XI (1937)
MM  Mater et Magistra (On Christianity and Social Progress) John XXIII
(1961)
MP  Miranda Prorsus (On Motion Pictures, Radio and Television) Pius
XII (1957)
NEN Nostis et Nobiscum (On the Church in the Pontifical States) Pius
IX (1849)
NMI Novo Millennio Ineunte (At the Close of the Great Jubilee of
the Year 2000) John Paul II (2001)
OA  Octogesima Adveniens (On the 80th Anniversary of Rerum
novarum) Paul VI (1971)
List of Abbreviations

**OP** Optatissima Pax (On Prescribing Public Prayers for Social and World Peace) Pius XII (1947)

**PDMP** Pacem, Dei Munus Pulcherrimum (On Peace and Christian Reconciliation) Benedict XV (1920)

**PT** Pacem in Terris (On Establishing Universal Peace in Truth, Justice, Charity, and Liberty) John XXIII (1963)

**PH** Persona Humana (Declaration on Certain Questions Concerning Sexual Ethics) Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (1975)

**PP** Populorum Progressio (On the Development of Peoples) Paul VI (1967)

**PGP** Praeclara Gratulationis Publicae (The Reunion of Christendom) Leo XIII (1894)

**QA** Quadragesimo Anno (On Reconstruction of the Social Order: 40th Anniversary of Rerum novarum) Pius XI (1931)

**QC** Quanta Cura (Condemning Current Errors) Pius IX (1864)

**QAS** Quarto Abeunte Saeculo (On the Columbus Quadricentennial) Leo XIII (1892)

**QPr** Quas Primas (On the Feast of Christ the King) Pius XI (1925)

**Qe** Quemadmodum (Pleading for the Care of the World’s Destitute Children) Pius XII (1946)

**QP** Qui Pluribus (On Faith and Religion) Pius IX (1846)

**QAM** Quod Apostolici Muneris (On Socialism) Leo XIII (1878)

**QID** Quod iam Diu (On the Future Peace Conference) Benedict XV (1918)

**QM** Quod Multum (On the Liberty of the Church) Leo XIII (1886)


**RM** Redemptoris Mater (On the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Life of the Pilgrim Church) John Paul II (1987)

**RN** Rerum Novarum (On the Condition of the Working Classes) Leo XIII (1891)

**SC** Sapientia Christiana (On Ecclesiastical Universities and Faculties) John Paul II (1979)

**SL** Sertum Laetitae (On the Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Establishment of the Hierarchy of the United States) Pius XII (1939)

**SQ** Singulari Quadam (On Labor Organizations) Pius X (1912)

**SRS** Sollicitudo Rei Socialis (On Social Concern) John Paul II (1987)

**SS** Spe Salvi (On Christian Hope) Benedict XVI (2007)

**SD** Studiorum Ducem (On St. Thomas Aquinas) Pius XI (1925)

**SM** Summi Maeroris (On Public Prayers for Peace) Pius XII (1950)
List of Abbreviations

SP  Summi Pontificatus (On the Unity of Human Society) Pius XII (1939)
TBN  Testem Benevolentiae Nostrae (Concerning New Opinions, Virtue, Nature and Grace, With Regard to Americanism) Leo XIII (1899)
UADC  Ubi Arcano Dei Consilio (On the Peace of Christ in the Kingdom of Christ) Pius XI (1922)
VS  Veritatis Splendor (On Fundamental Questions of the Church’s Moral Teaching) John Paul II (1993)
VC  Vita Consecrata (On the Consecrated Life and Its Mission in the Church and the World) John Paul II (1996)