

In Ipso
Spring 2022
Catholic Moral Theology
Syllabus

Last Revised: December 1, 2021

Instructor: Fr. Daniel Kluge, MA
Contact: wallofbrass@icloud.com
Time: 7pm-8:30pm, Mondays
Location: Archdiocese of Denver

Course Description

We shall study Catholic Moral Theology by following the order of topics laid out by St. Thomas Aquinas in both parts of *Summa Theologica* II. We shall make use of other authors who present brief summaries or commentaries on ST II, and also consider some other moral questions raised more recently. This class is primarily about St. Thomas's writing, though, and we will only address current events if they are relevant to the subject matter at hand. Thus, the first section of the course will be focused primarily on the principles of moral theology, such as man's last end, how he uses his intellect and will to do good or evil, how he is influenced by emotion, and how he forms both virtuous and vicious habits. In the subsequent classes, we will address the particular virtues and sins against them. These classes will tend to be more practical and are often more engaging, as people are often more curious about what is a sin and what isn't; but Thomas's treatment of the virtues rests upon the principles he discusses in the first part. The texts referenced in the class may be bought used or new, and most of them can be accessed electronically for free. There will be no assignments, tests, or grades. Class discussion will vary depending on people in the class and subject matter discussed.

Class Schedule Adjustments will be made as necessary.

Interpretive Key: The 'topic' describes *some* of the topics which are covered in the class taught on that date. Next follow the questions from St. Thomas that will be discussed, followed by the relevant sections from some of his more modern commentators.

Numbers: Thomas are ST Part followed by Question; Farrell are Volume.Chapter; Elmendorf (Elm) are Part.Chapter; C&M are page numbers from the hardcopy, which restart with the second volume; Davies are Chapter.Section.

#	Date	Topic	Thomas	Farrell	Elm	C&M	Davies
1	1/3	Faith Pt.2: Heresy, apostasy; participation with non-Catholics; Hope:	II-II 12-22	3.2	2.1-2	318-450	15.1-2

2	1/10	Charity: Virtuous acts	II-II 23-30	3.3-4	2.3	450-487	15.3
	1/17	No Class: Fr. Kluge Vacation					
3	1/24	Charity: Almsgiving, fraternal correction; Vices Pt.1: Hatred, sloth, envy	II-II 31-36	3.4-5	2.3-4	487-539	15.3
4	1/31	Charity: Vices Pt.2: strife, war, sedition, scandal, cooperation	II-II 37-44	3.5-6	2.4	539-629	15.3
5	2/7	Wisdom/foolly; Prudence	II-II 45-56	3.6	3.1	629-670; V2: 15-43	16.1
6	2/14	Justice: Rights, judgment, different kinds of justice; restitution	II-II 57-62	3.7	3.2	43-103	16.2
7	2/21	Justice: Vices Pt.1: Death penalty, killing, maiming, stealing; taxes	II-II 63-66	3.8	3.3	103-215	16.3
8	2/28	Justice: Vices Pt.2: Verbal injuries, cheating, usury	II-II 67-78	3.8-9	3.3	215-287	16.3
#	Date	Topic	Thomas	Farrell	Elm	C&M	Davies
9	3/7	Justice: Religion Pt.1: Prayer, adoration, sacrifice, tithes, vows	II-II 79-88	3.10	3.4	287-348	17.1-4
10	3/14	Justice: Religion Pt.2: Oaths; Vices: Superstition, idolatry, divination	II-II 89-95	3.11	3.4	348-373	17.4-5
11	3/21	Justice: Religion Pt.3: Vices: Observances, tempting God, perjury, sacrilege; Related: Piety, obedience, gratitude, vengeance	II-II 96-108	3.11-12	3.4-5	373-430	17.5-6
12	3/28	Justice: Related: Lying, dissimulation, affability	II-II 109-117	3.12-13	3.5	430-457	17.6
13	4/4	Justice: Related: Greed, epikeia, decalogue; secrets	II-II 118-122	3.13	3.5	444-465	17.6
14	4/11	Fortitude: Martyrdom, magnanimity, ambition, vainglory, patience	II-II 123-140	3.14-15	3.6	465-483	18.1-2
	4/18	No Class: Easter Monday					
15	4/25	Temperance Pt.1: Intemperance; abstinence, gluttony, drunkenness	II-II 141-150	3.16	3.7	483-501	18.3
16	5/2	Temperance Pt.2: Chastity, lust	II-II 151-156	3.17-18	3.7	501-549	18.3

17	5/9	Temperance Pt.3: Clemency, anger, modesty, pride, curiosity	II-II 157-169	3.18-19	3.7	549-560	18.3
18	5/16	Catch up / states of life					

Texts

St. Thomas, *Summa Theologica* [ST] I-II and II-II.

Text: Available online and in print. If you want to see the Latin, too, but don't want to buy it, let me know and I can send you a file with English and Latin side by side.

Audio: There are free recordings of the Summa online. You can download the files through the Librivox app on your phone; you can also find them here. The files we will be using are "Summa Theologica - 06" through "- 11."

Walter Farrell, *A Companion to the Summa*, Vols 2 and 3.

Electronic: <http://www.domcentral.org/farrell/companion/compfram.htm> or **Kindle Paper:** Some copies can be found on Amazon, but they're a bit spendy. Searching Bookfinder will produce cheaper results.

John J. Elmendorf, *Elements of Moral Theology*.

Electronic: <https://maritain.nd.edu/jmc/etext/emt.htm>

Paper: There *is* a copy available at Amazon (from CreateSpace) but it is a very broad cumbersome book. A different new printing can be bought here (from Franklin Classics); the book is a normal size, but the text is a mediocre photocopy. Smaller printing than the broad book, and easier, I think, to follow, but still not the best. I have a used first edition. I also have a pdf I can email you upon request.

NB: Elmendorf is an Anglican heretic. His principle treatment of ST II is, however, quite trustworthy, but not so much his parenthetical remarks and footnotes. The chapters of his book on ST III pertaining to the Sacraments are less reliable.

John McHugh and Charles Callan, [C&M] *Moral Theology: A Complete Course Based on St. Thomas Aquinas and the Best Modern Authorities*. Vols I & II. Revised and enlarged by Edward P Farrell. Veritatis Splendor Publications, 2014.

Electronic: It's online in various formats, including Kindle and iBooks here.

Paper: Available on Amazon.

Brian Davies, *Thomas Aquinas's Summa Theologiae: A Guide & Commentary*.

This is one book to cover the whole of the *Summa Theologica*, oriented towards the more 'modern' reader.

Various Levels of Preparation/Participation

Minimal: Just attend the classes. This is fine! But be prudent about asking questions or joining in discussions. "Listeners" ("auditors") are welcome, even if you only come to one or two classes.

Moderate: Read the Farrell chapters, perhaps also Elmendorf. Listen to the ST on Librivox when you can. In general, the more you read from various sources about the same topic, the more you'll get out of the lectures and discussions.

Maximal: Read everything.

How to Study for this Course

Listening: Unless you're going to sit down and read every article of every question in the ST, with all the objections, etc., then make use of busy time by listening to the ST on Librivox. You can download the files through the Librivox app on your phone, and play them anywhere. A number of our classes will cover more than 8 hours of the recordings on Librivox; so a good policy would probably be to listen to as much as you can a day (if you have that much road time, etc.), and if you fall behind, to restart yourself each week with that week's assignment.

Reading: The pages listed on the schedule are those which will be covered in class/date in the same line. The order you read things in really depends on you. You may find it helpful to read Farrell first (the most accessible of our authors). Or you might like to read ST on your own, and then look at the commentary. For reading the ST itself, a good method to follow for limited time is to skip straight to the corpus of each article, which begins with "I answer that," and then skim over any of the responses to objections that catch your eye. If, in any of the readings, you get stuck on something and can't seem to understand the author, if you don't get it the second time you read over that paragraph, just move on.

Note Taking: Taking notes while you read, even if it is merely underlining or marginalia, is very helpful.