

## Miguel J. Romero

### Education

**Duke University Divinity School**                      **Th.D. (May 2012)**  
Dissertation: “St. Thomas Aquinas on Disability & Profound Cognitive Impairment”  
Principle Director: Stanley Hauerwas  
Committee: Reinhard Huetter; Paul Griffiths; Edgardo Colon-Emeric

**Duke University Divinity School**                      **Th.M. (May 2008)**  
**Fuller Theological Seminary**                      **M.Div. (May 2006)**  
**Colorado College**                      **B.A. (May 2000)**

### Current Appointments

- **Associate Professor**, with tenure: Center for Health Care Ethics, Saint Louis University Aug 2023—Present).
- **Associate Professor**, secondary appointment: Department of Theological Studies, Saint Louis University Aug 2023—Present).
- **Board of Directors**, *New Wine, New Wineskins Moral Theology Symposium* (Summer 2019—Present).

### Past Academic Posts, Boards, Fellowships, Committees, and Research Appointments

- **Associate Professor**, with tenure: Religious & Theological Studies, Salve Regina (Aug 2022—Jun 2023).
- **Pell Faculty Fellow**, Salve Regina University (August 2019— Jun 2023).
- **Board of Directors**, *National Catholic Partnership on Disability* (Fall 2016—Nov 2022).
- **Diocesan Committee**, Diocese of Providence (RI), for the *Diocesan Phase of the Synodal Process* in Preparation for the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops (Jun 2021—Jun 2022).
- **Assistant Professor**, Religious & Theological Studies, Salve Regina University (Aug 2016—Jun 2022).
- **Adjunct Faculty**: Department of Theology, Holy Cross College (Aug 2015—Jun 2016).
- **Adjunct Faculty**: Department of Theology, University of Notre Dame (Aug 2015—Jun 2016).
- **Scholar in Residence**: Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame (Jul 2015—Jun 2016).
- **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**: Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame (Jul 2014—June 2015).
  - Research Advisor: John Cavadini.
- **University Life Fellow**: *Human Dignity & Life Initiative*, University of Notre Dame (Aug 2014—Jun 2015).
- **Moreau Postdoctoral Fellow**: Department of Theology, University of Notre Dame (July 2012—June 2014).
  - Research Advisors: Jerry McKenny; Peter Casarella.
- **Research Assistant**: Paul Griffiths (2008-10); Stanley Hauerwas (2010-11), Duke University.

### Books and Edited Volumes

- **Forthcoming Manuscript**: *Destiny of the Wounded Creature: St. Thomas Aquinas on Disability*. Advance contract with Catholic University of America Press. Manuscript under review. Target date: TBD.
- **Editor**: *The Journal of Moral Theology: “Engaging Disability,”* edited by Miguel J. Romero and Mary Jo Iozzio, Vol. 6, Special Issue 2 (Sept 2017).

### Work in Progress and Upcoming

- **Symposium and edited book project**: “Disability & Catholic Theology,” in partnership with the Notre Dame *Institute for Church Life* and the *National Catholic Partnership on Disability* (Sept 2023—Fall 2024).
- **Presentation and article**: “Catholic Theology & Disability: A Subversively Orthodox Ressourcement?” *New Ressourcement Conference* and *New Ressourcement Journal* (Dec 2023).
- **Presentation**: “Engaging Disability & the Catholic Intellectual Tradition,” *de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture Fall Conference* (Nov 2023).
- **Manuscript**: *My Brother’s Keeper: A Thomistic Theology of Mercy and Liberation*.

### **Articles, Essays, and Book Chapters**

- Refereed: “Aquinas on Disability, Deification, & Beatitude,” *The Thomist* (forthcoming, Fall 2023)
- Invited: “The Tree of Life: Aquinas, Disability, and Transhumanism,” with Jason Eberl, *Bioenhancement Technologies and the Vulnerable Body: A Theological Engagement*, edited by Devon Stahl (Baylor Press, forthcoming 2023).
- Refereed: “Disability, Catholic Questions, and the Quandaries of Biomedicine and Secular Society,” *National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly*, Vol. 20, No. 2 (Summer 2020): 277-310.
- Invited: “Disability, Theological Method, and Authorial Positionality: A Critical Engagement with *Wondrously Wounded*, by Brian Brock,” *Syndicate Journal* (Oct 2020).
- Invited: “Remembering ‘Mindless’ Persons: Intellectual Disability, Spanish Colonialism, and the Disappearance of a Medieval Account of Persons Who Lack the Use of Reason,” chapter five in *Disability in Medieval Philosophy & Theology*, ed. Scott Williams (Routledge Press, 2020).
- Invited: “Species, Intellect, and the Non-Deliberate *Actus Hominis*: A Review and Response to *Aquinas on Custom*, by William Mattison III,” *Journal of Moral Theology* virtual roundtable (March 2020).
- Refereed: “La Celebrazione del Mistero Cristiano,” chapter 2 in *Catechesi e Persone Con Disabilita: Un’attenzione Necessaria Nella Vita Quotidiana Della Chiesa*, edited by Francesco Spinelli and Eugene R. Sylva (San Paulo, 2018): 35-51.
- Refereed: “Mercy, Mental Illness, and the Moral Significance of Christian History: The Story of Fr. Juan Gilabert-Jofre, O.de.M.,” *Journal of Disability & Religion*, Vol. 22, No. 2 (May 2018).
- Refereed: “The Goodness and Beauty of Our Fragile Flesh: Moral Theologians and Our Engagement with Disability,” *Journal of Moral Theology: Engaging Disability*, Vol. 6, Special Issue 2 (2017): 206-253.
- Invited: “To Think Theologically About Disability,” *Culture E Fede* (Pontificium Consilium de Cultura), vol. XXIV, n. 3 (2016). 203-204.
- Refereed: “Happiness and Those Who Lack the Use of Reason,” *The Thomist* 80 (2016): 49-96.
- Invited: “Cognitive Impairment, Moral Virtue, and Our Life in Christ,” *Church Life*, Vol. 4, No. 4 (2014): 79-94.
- Refereed: “The Call To Mercy: *Veritatis Splendor* and the Preferential Option for the Poor,” *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 11, No. 4. (2013): 1205–27.
- Invited: “Aquinas on the *Corporis Infirmittas*: Broken Flesh and The Grammar of Grace,” book chapter in *Disability in the Christian Tradition: A Reader*, eds. Swinton and Brock (Eerdmans, 2012): 101—151.
- Refereed: “Liberation, Development, and Human Advancement: Catholic Social Doctrine in *Caritas in Veritate*,” *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 8, No. 4 (2010): 923—957.

### **Principle Author on Collaborative Documents**

- “The Mission of NCPD: The Fundamentals, Aims, and Recent History,” a study produced for the *National Catholic Partnership on Disability*: March 2021.
- “Speaking of Disability: Pastoral Guidelines on Appropriate Language Relating to Persons Who Have a Disability,” a resource provided by the *National Catholic Partnership on Disability*: May 2020.
- “Companion to the USCCB Sacramental Guidelines on Disability and Sacramental Access,” a resource provided by the *National Catholic Partnership on Disability*: Nov 2019.
- “Affirmation of and Commitment to the Call of the *Pastoral Statement of U.S. Catholic Bishops on Persons with Disabilities*: A Resolution Issued by the Board of Directors of the National Catholic Partnership on Disability on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Pastoral Statement,” a resource provided by the *National Catholic Partnership on Disability*: Sept 2018.

### **Academic Keynotes, Conference Papers, Colloquia, and Panel Presentations**

- Conference Paper: “Disability & Medieval Theology,” *Catholic Theological Society of America* (Milwaukee, WI): June 2023.
- Conference Paper: “Motley Beauty: Aquinas on the Diversity of Human Bodies in the State of Innocence” at University of Notre Dame, for the *de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture Fall Conference* (Nov 2022).

- Keynote: “Disability, Beauty, and Catholic Bioethics: *An Impractical Theological Proposal?*” and “Immigration, Healthcare, and Vice of Acedia: *Not My People, Not My Problem!*” at Franciscan University, for the Bioethics Lecture Series (Oct 2022).
- Conference Paper: “Deification, Disability, and Thomas Aquinas,” *Third International Symposium on Deification* (San Antonio, TX): Nov 2021.
- Keynote: “*Was Something Lost?* Thomas Aquinas, Intellectual Disability, and the 16<sup>th</sup> century Spanish Colonial Debates,” sponsored by *Lumen Christi* at the University of Chicago: April 2021.
- Keynote: “Moral Theology, Thomas Aquinas, and the Question of Disability,” sponsored by *Institute for Human Ecology* at Catholic University of America: April 2021.
- Respondent: “Disability, Thomists, and the Concept *Defectum*,” Roundtable on *Disability in Medieval Christian Philosophy & Theology* at Virtual Annual Meeting of the *American Academy of Religion*: Dec 2020.
- Keynote, two presentations: “Wonderfully Made: Creation, Human Dignity, and the Gift of Vulnerability” and “Called to Beatitude: Our Wounds, God’s Grace, and the Sacraments of the Church” at *Recognizing the Body of Christ Symposium: A Theological Engagement with Disability*, sponsored by the CUA Institute for Human Ecology (Washington, D.C.): Nov 2019.
- Conference Paper: “On the Side of the Angels? Augustine, Christian Politics, and Polarization,” *New Wine, New Wineskins* (Notre Dame, IN): July 2019.
- Keynote: “Disability, Beauty, and the Goodness of the Body,” *University Faculty for Life* (Mundelein Seminary, IL): June 2019.
- Conference Paper: “Remembering the *Amentes*: Spanish Colonialism, ‘Natural Slavery,’ and Persons Who Lack the Use of Reason,” *New Wine, New Wineskins* (Notre Dame, IN): July 2018.
- Conference Paper: “Francisco de Vitoria on *amentia*,” *Disability in Medieval Latin Philosophy and Theology* (Notre Dame, IN): April 2018.
- Keynote: “Sacramental Catechesis & Profound Cognitive Impairment,” *Catechesis and Persons with Disabilities Conference*, Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization (Rome, Italy): Oct 2017.
- Conference Paper: “The Goodness & Beauty of Our Fragile Flesh,” *New Wine, New Wineskins* (Notre Dame, IN): July 2017.
- Keynote: “One of Us: Catholic Teaching on Disability,” *Summer Institute on Theology & Disability* (Azusa, CA): June 2017.
- Conference Paper: “Retro-Acculturation and Retro-Catholicism,” *College Theology Society* (Newport, RI): June 2017.
- Conference Paper: “When We See Servulus: Learning To Go On By Looking To The Past,” at *Living Fully* (Rome, Italy): June 2016.
- Colloquia: “Mercy and Catholic Moral Teaching,” for *Notre Dame Anchor Leadership Program*: Nov 2015.
- Keynote: “Eucharist and Mercy,” response to *Mercy in the City* (2014) for *The Notre Dame Center for Liturgy*: Mar 2015.
- Conference Paper: “Poverty, Mercy, and Aesthetic Perception,” at *Responding to the Cry of the Poor* (CEC, Notre Dame). Nov 2014.
- Panel presentation: “Christian Communities & Faithful Responses to Mental Illness,” *3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on Medicine and Religion, University of Chicago* (Chicago, IL): Mar 2014.
- Keynote: “Fr. Juan Gilabert-Jofre: The Madman and The Order of Mercy,” plenary address at *Walking Together: History and Christian Care for Persons with Mental Illness* (Houston, TX): Feb 2014.
- Conference Paper: “The Redemption of Power: Response to Orlando Espin’s *Idol and Grace*,” *Society of Christian Ethics* (Seattle, WA): Jan 2014.
- Conference Paper: “Aquinas on Happiness and the Wounded Creature,” *European Society for the Study of Theology and Disability* (Université Catholique de Lille; Lille, France): Jun 2013.
- Conference Paper: “*Caritas in Veritate* and the Interpretive Tradition of *Populorum Progressio*,” at *Tradition and Liberation: Charity in Truth and the New Face of Social Progress* (DePaul University; Chicago, IL): Apr 2010.

### **Invited Workshops, Symposia, Presentations, and Guest Speaking**

- Guest Speaker: “Disability: Remarks on the Personal and the Theological,” Best Buddies, Salve Regina University: Feb 2021.
- Presentation of three original spoken word performance pieces: “The Fountain Song,” “Looking for Work with Saint Joseph the Worker,” and “Concerning the Prayer of an Old Woman” at *Spoken Word Event: Bending the Arc of the Universe Toward Justice*, Salve Regina MLK Week: Jan 2021.
- NCPD Board Respondent to Archbishop Kurtz, “A Theological Engagement with Disability,” sponsored by the CUA Institute for Human Ecology (Washington, D.C.): Nov 2020.
- “Transformed by Mercy: To See, To Encounter, and To Be Moved,” *OLMC: High School Missions Program* (Bristol, RI): Sept 2020.
- Moderator for “Moral Theology Today: An Evening with Holly Taylor Coolman, Charlie Camosy, and Fr. Nicanor Austriaco, O.P.,” *New Wine New Wineskins* virtual panel discussion: July 2020.
- Webinar: Presentation and Q&A on “Wonderfully Made: Creation, Human Dignity, and the Gift of Vulnerability,” NCPD: June 2020.
- Guest Speaker: “For Christians, All Access is Normal Access,” *Enriching Parish Access: A Workshop in Ministry with Persons with Disabilities and the Deaf* (Archdiocese of Boston, MA): Nov 2019.
- SRU Faculty Respondent to Dr. Damian Costello, 2019 Atwood Lecture “When the World Falls Apart: Nicholas Black Elk, Sainthood, and the Spirits of Mercy”: Sept 2019.
- Guest Speaker: “The World Has Been Changed: The Difference Between Inclusion and Belonging,” NCPD Great Lakes Regional Meeting (Donaldson, IN): July 2019.
- Panelist: “Special Education Panel with Salve Faculty,” Salve Council for Exceptional Children: April 2019.
- Guest Speaker: “Studiousness and Curiosity,” *Salve Regina: Delta Epsilon Sigma Induction Ceremony* (Newport, RI): April 2018.
- Guest Speaker: “Learning to Recognize the Poor Among Us,” *OLMC: High School Missions Program* (Bristol, RI): April 2018.
- Guest Speaker: “Church Teaching on Intellectual Disability, the Sacraments, & Sacramental Catechesis,” *Faith Formation Convocation*, Diocese of Providence (Providence, RI): March 2018.
- Faculty Respondent, *Princeton University Graduate Theology Conference* (Princeton, NJ): Jan 2018.
- “How Does Mercy Unite Us?” *SRU: United By Mercy Event* (Newport, RI): Sept 2017.
- Guest Speaker: “A Ministry of Presence,” *OLMC: High School Missions Program* (Bristol, RI): May 2017.
- Guest Speaker: “Preparing for Lent,” *OLMC: Elementary School Monday Message* (Bristol, RI): Feb 2017.
- Guest Speaker: “Theology and Disability,” Center for Social Concerns, L’Arche Seminar: Feb 2015.
- Presenter: “Catholic Teaching on Disability,” *Notre Dame University Life Fellows* workshop: Nov 2014.
- Guest Speaker: “Aristotle, Augustine, and Aquinas on Human Defect,” Mellon-ISLA Interdisciplinary Workshop on Disability: Jan 2013 (Notre Dame).
- Presenter: “Introduction: Aquinas on Disability,” Notre Dame Moral Theology Colloquium: Nov 2012.
- Presenter: “Disability & Medieval Historiography,” Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Studies: Sept 2012.
- Presenter: “Inventing the *Amens*: Aquinas on Intellectual Disability,” Duke Theology & Ethics Colloquium: Feb 2010.
- Presenter: “*Caritas in Veritate* as an Integral Theology of Liberation,” Duke Theology & Ethics Colloquium: Sept 2009.

### **Academic Honors & Awards**

- **Doctoral Fellow and Dissertation Fellow (2008-2012)**, Hispanic Theological Initiative.
- **The Colorado College Prize (2000)**, awarded by the faculty of Colorado College in recognition of exemplary and creative work on the subjects of war, violence, and human values.

### **Reviewing and Editorial work**

*The Thomist; Journal of Moral Theology; Journal of Religion Health & Disability.*

### **Professional Academic Societies**

- Academy of Catholic Theology (ACT), member 2019 – Present.
- Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians in the US (ACHTUS), member 2011 – Present.
- Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA), member 2017 – Present.
- New Wine, New Wineskins (NWNW), member 2010 – Present.
- The Society of Christian Ethics (SCE), member 2012 – 2017.
- American Academy of Religion, member 2014 – 2020.
- European Society for the Study of Theology and Disability, member 2016 – 2018.

### **University Service and Activities**

- Salve Regina Atwood Lecture Committee, *Salve Regina University* (Spring 2017-Jun 2023).
  - Salve Regina Faculty Respondent to Dr. Damian Costello, 2019 Atwood Lecture (Sept 2019).
  - Committee Chair, 2021 – Jun 2023.
- Salve Regina Mission Self-Study Committee, for the Council on Mercy Higher Education (Sept 2020-Mar 2021).
- Co-chair/chair, Salve Regina *ad hoc* Committee on Racial Diversity & Inclusion (May 2019-May 2021).
- Salve Regina Curriculum Committee, *Salve Regina University* (Spring 2018-May 2021).
- Senior Capstone thesis, advisor: “Beyond Pain: Narrating the Mysteries of Chronic Pain from Within the Christian Tradition” (2019-20).
- Salve Regina *Mercy and Spirituality ILO Taskforce*, (Nov 2018 to May 2019).
- Notre Dame Student Club Faculty Advisor: *Logan Center Recreation Club* (2012—2016).
- Senior thesis, secondary reader: “Disability, Catholic Social Teaching, and the Public Square” (2014-15).
- Senior honors thesis, co-advisor: “Focus on Flourishing: A Thomistic Response to Autism” (2013-14).

### **Teaching Experience & Courses Taught (as of Spring 2023)**

#### **Regular Courses (Salve Regina University): 2-year cycle**

- “The Theology of Thomas Aquinas: Background, Thought, and Legacy”: *offered 5 times.*
- “Disability, Vulnerability, and Human Flourishing,” intro to theological reflection on disability: *offered 5 times.*
- “The Quest for the Ultimate,” introduction to Catholic reflection on religion, faith, and spirituality: *offered 8 times.*
- “Explorations in Christian Theology,” introduction to systematic and moral theology: *offered 10 times.*
- “The Challenge of Mercy: Philosophical, Theological, and Practical Considerations”: *offered 5 times.*
- “Engaging the Catholic Experience: What Does It Mean to Be Catholic?”: *offered 6 times.*
- “Learning Theology with C.S. Lewis,” a philosophical and narrative introduction to theology: *offered 4 times.*

#### **Occasional, *ad hoc* Courses (Salve Regina University)**

- “Faith & Reason in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition”: *offered 2 times.*
- “The Theology of Augustine of Hippo: Background, Thought, and Legacy”: *offered 2 times.*
- “Friendship, Love, and Romance: The Call to Relationship”: *offered 4 times.*
- “Introduction to Happiness,” human flourishing in the Aristotelian-Thomistic tradition: *offered 2 times.*

#### **Past Courses (Fall 2012 to Spring 2016):**

- “Theology and Disability” (University of Notre Dame): *offered 8 times.*
- “Introduction to Moral Theology” (Holy Cross College, Notre Dame): *offered 2 times.*
- “Creation, Covenant, & Christ,” introduction to theology (Holy Cross College, Notre Dame): *offered 2 times.*
- “Introduction to Moral Theology” (Camino STEP Program, Notre Dame): *offered 1 time.*

#### **Teaching Collaborations, Apprenticeships, and Assistantships**

- **Co-Instructor**, with Gustavo Gutierrez (Notre Dame): “What It Means To Do Theology,” Fall 2012.
- **Lead Preceptor**, for Reinhard Hütter (Duke Divinity): “The Theology of C.S. Lewis,” *three times* (2008-12).
- **Course Assistant**, for Stanley Hauerwas (Duke Divinity): “Intro to Christian Ethics,” Spring, 2012.
- **Preceptor**, for Sam Wells (Duke Divinity): “Intro to Christian Ethics,” *two times* (2009-10).

- **Teaching Assistant**, Fuller Theological Seminary: “Systematic Theology: Christology,” *two times* (2005-6).
- **Teaching Assistant**, Fuller Theological Seminary: “Systematic Theology: Eschatology,” *two times* (2005-6).

**Diocesan and Parish Courses**

- “Our Life in Christ,” Permanent Diaconate Formation, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend (IN): Fall, 2014.
- “Theology of Marriage,” Permanent Diaconate Formation, Diocese of Raleigh (NC): Fall, 2007.
- “Confirmation Preparation,” Duke University Catholic Newman Center: 2007-8 & 2008-2009.