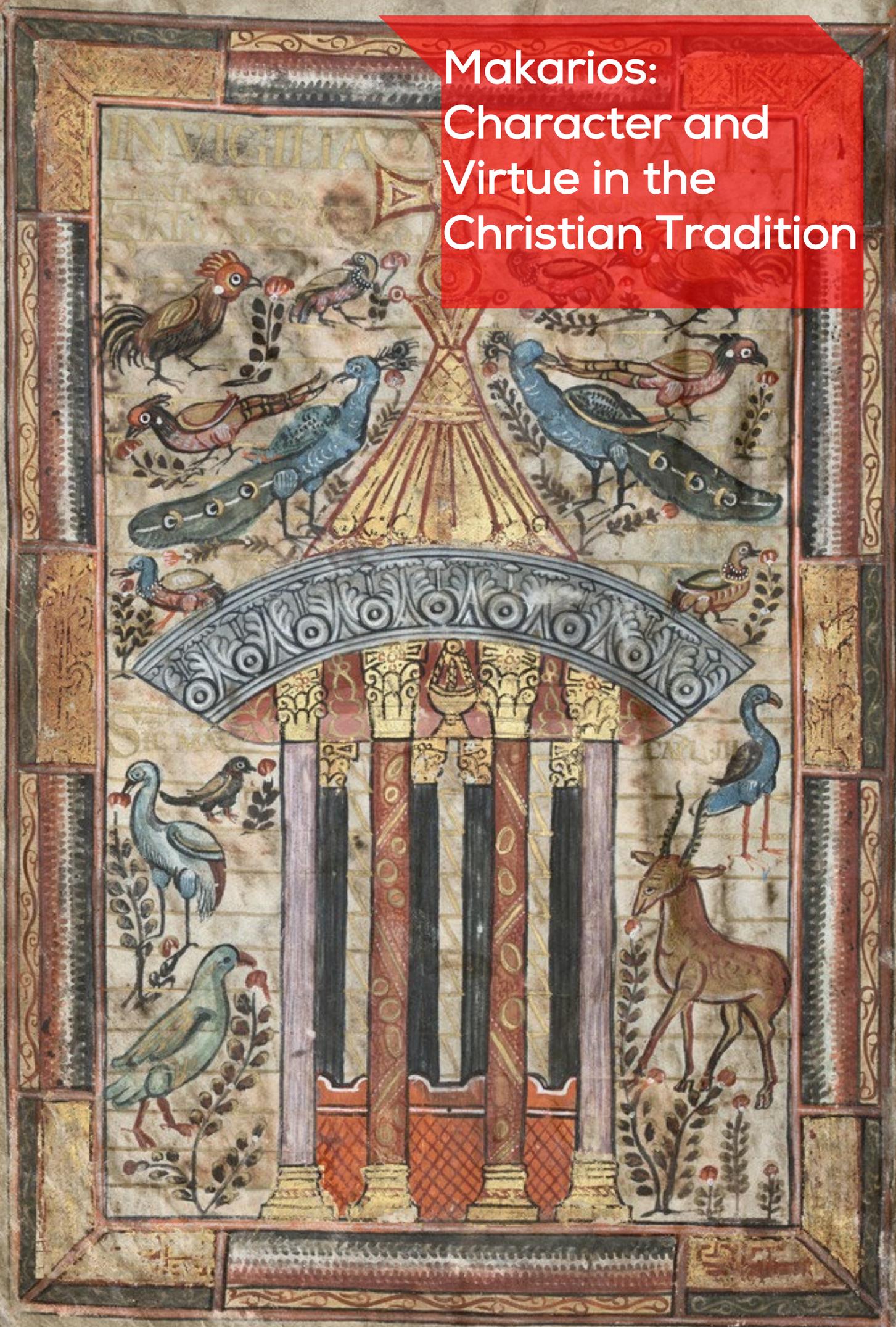


Makarios:
Character and
Virtue in the
Christian Tradition



Makarios: Character and Virtue in the Christian Tradition

26-28 May 2023

The inaugural *Makarios* conference aims to convene scholars from theology, philosophy, history, and the social sciences to explore the past, present, and future of Christianity's complex engagement with character and virtue as it relates to human flourishing. The conference is a joint undertaking of the Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry at Australian Catholic University, the Human Flourishing Program at Harvard University, the Lonergan Institute and the Colloquy in Historical Theology at Boston College, and the Institute for Studies of Religion at Baylor University.

Director's Welcome

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to ACU's Rome Campus. The Campus is located on the Gianicolo in Monteverde overlooking Rome, and we hope you will be able to enjoy local cafes and restaurants and nearby historical sites, lakes, and parks alongside the intellectual delights of the Conference.

Since 2015, the IRCI has sponsored international seminars on innovative topics in New Testament studies, early Christianity, Catholic theology, medieval and early modern studies, religious and analytic ethics, and European philosophy. Our aim is for the Rome Campus to be a vibrant centre contributing to the intellectual life of the universities and academies of the city, nurturing international research collaborations, and prompting new conversations and lines of scholarly inquiry.

So we are delighted to be hosting this significant collaboration between ACU and Harvard, Boston College, and Baylor. At the IRCI, our research is perhaps most creative when it explores the tension between the interpretive and the constructive in seeking a peacefully integrative account of knowledge from diverse perspectives. Similarly, in bringing together multiple disciplines, this event too promises engaging discussions and ongoing productive research collaborations.

I trust that this event will provide the opportunity to establish new connections and enrich existing ones. I am sure that lively conversations will expand our imaginations, refine ideas, and stimulate productive and beneficial research.

A/Prof. Michael Champion
Acting Director, IRCI

Logistical details

All sessions will be held at ACU's Rome Campus at Largo Giovanni Berchet 4, 00152 Roma and all participants will be staying in on-campus accommodation, unless other arrangements have been made. Unless otherwise communicated, all participants have three nights' accommodation, with check-in on Friday, 26 May and check-out on Monday, 29 May. Check-in time is at 3pm. You may also drop your luggage at the campus and have it securely stored if you arrive prior to check-in time. Further information about ACU's campus is available at <https://www.acu.edu.au/locations/rome>.

Attendees are asked to make their own arrangements for transport to the campus. If you are arriving at Fiumicino airport, we recommend pre-booking an airport transfer at <https://www.romecabs.com/transferservice/airports/>.

All meals will be provided on-campus for the duration of the conference but a list of nearby restaurants, cafes, and bars can be found at the end of the conference programme.

Questions about the campus and accommodations can be directed to the IRCI Coordinator Julie Carpenter (julie.carpenter@acu.edu.au), cc'ing Matthew Crawford (matthew.crawford@acu.edu.au). Questions about the program can be directed to Matthew Crawford.

Conference Schedule

Friday, 26 May

19:00-20:00 **Plenary lecture**
Location: Conference room
Chair: Flynn Cratty, Harvard Human Flourishing Program

“Virtue Ethics: Is it Christian?”
Michael S. Sherwin, University of Fribourg

20:00 Reception with drinks/canapes
Courtyard

Saturday, 27 May

7:30-9:00 Breakfast

9:00-10:00 **Plenary lecture**
Location: Conference room
Chair: Michael Champion, ACU

“Forgiveness as a Virtue”
Tyler J. VanderWeele, Harvard Human Flourishing Program

10:00-10:30 Coffee/tea

10:30-12:30 **Panel 1: Friendship in Early Christianity**
Location: Conference room
Chair: Matthew R. Crawford, ACU

“‘Necessary but also Noble’: Friendship in Aristotle’s Nicomachean Ethics”
Hannah Norman-Krause, Baylor University

“Withdrawal into Community: Virginitly and Friendship in Gregory of Nyssa”
Thomas Breedlove, Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion

“Augustinian Civic Friendship? On Friendship in the *Civitas Terrena*”
Nicholas Norman-Krause, Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion

“Aristotle, Gregory, and Augustine in Dialogue with Contemporary Scientific Studies of Relational Flourishing”
Alex Fogleman, Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion

Panel 2: Christianity and Medicine

Location: Classroom 2

Chair: Brendan Case, Harvard Human Flourishing Program

“Christ as Wounded Surgeon: Attention and the Sharp Compassion of the Healer’s Art”

Ryan Antiel, Duke University Medical Center

Nathan Antiel, Classical Academic Press

“Incarnational Medical Education: Virtue Formation in a U.S. Medical School Curriculum”

Kimbell Kornu, Belmont University

“The Inner Sanctuary: Making Sense of Catholic Conscience”

Xavier Symons, Harvard Human Flourishing Program

13:00-14:00 Lunch

Panel 3: Critical Modern Perspectives

Location: Conference room

Chair: Jeremy Wilkins, Boston College

“Dust, Divinized: Theology at the Limits of Evolutionary Psychology”

Brendan Case, Harvard Human Flourishing Program

“Truth Beyond Reason: Tradition at the Center of Human Existence”

Benjamin DeSpain, ACU

“More than Meets the Eye: Sacramental Theology in a Post-Metaphysical Context”

John Steichen, Boston College

Panel 4: Pedagogy

Location: Classroom 2

Chair: Alex Fogleman, Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion

“Service Learning and the Education of Feeling: Contributions from the Middle Ages and Contemporary Application”

Greg Fried, Boston College [virtual]

Eileen Sweeney, Boston College

“To Keep Alive the Remembrance of a Face: Josef Pieper’s Festive Aesthetics”

Nicholas Eastman, Ripon College

“Contested Visions of Virtue and Human Flourishing in Late-Antique Education”

Michael Champion, ACU

“Theological, Empirical and Practical Reflections on Cultivating Virtue and Character in Confessional and Multicultural Groups”

Jonathan Brant, University of Oxford

16:00-16:30 Coffee/tea

16:30-18:30 **Panel 5: Augustine**
Location: Conference room
Chair: Matthew R. Crawford, ACU

“The Anselmian Being from the Perspective of Virtue Ethics”
Saheba Saxena, University of Lincoln [virtual]

“Paradoxes of Virtue: Epistemic Humility and Moral Formation”
Joshua Blanchard, University of Aberdeen

“Servile Teachers of Feminine Virtue in Augustine’s Confessions”
Dawn LaValle Norman, ACU

Panel 6: Lonergan
Location: Classroom 2
Chair: Brendan Case, Harvard Human Flourishing Program

“Forgiveness and the Justice of the Cross”
Jeremy Wilkins, Boston College

“Probably Virtuous: Bernard Lonergan and the Role of Statistics in Understanding
Personal Character”
Jonathan Heaps, Boston College, The Lonergan Institute

“A Cultivation of Character through Prayer”
Andrew Barrette, Boston College

19:30-21:00 Dinner

Sunday, 28 May

7:30-9:00 Breakfast

10:30-12:30 **Panel 7: Early Modern/Reformation**
Location: Conference room
Chair: Flynn Cratty, Harvard Human Flourishing Program

“Virtue as Participation in the Divine Nature: The Cambridge Platonists between Antiquity and Modernity”

Samuel Kaldas, St. Cyril’s Coptic Orthodox Theological College

“Being Happy in an Endless Universe: Spinoza, Pascal, and Modern Religion”

Fritz Bauerschmidt, Loyola University Maryland

“For the Perfect Only? Reconsidering Exclusivity in Christian Spiritual Practices”

Erin Zoutendam, Duke University

“Awe and Christian Character Education: Towards an Understanding of the Stages of Mental Prayer through Kristján Kristjánsson’s Account of Aristotle’s ‘Disenchantment’”

Jeronimo Ayesta, Boston College

Panel 8: Patristics

Location: Classroom 2

Chair: Alex Fogleman, Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion

“Grace, Rebirth and Flourishing in Fourth-Century Catechesis”

Brian Dunkle, S.J., Boston College

“Memory and the Cultivation of Desire in the Philokalia”

Jonathan Zecher, ACU

“The Godly Passion of Apatheia: A Virtue Culminating Salutary ‘Emotional Scripts’ in Early Christian Ascetical Theology”

Paul Blowers, Milligan University

“Citizenship and Virtue in Early Christian Asceticism”

Michael Magree, Boston College

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00 **Panel 9: Social Cognitive Theory**
Location: Conference room
Chair: Brendan Case, Harvard Human Flourishing Program

“Social Cognitive Psychology, MacIntyre, and Flourishing: Offering Islands of Coherence in a Sea of Chaos”
Anthony Ahrens, American University

“Rethinking Thomist ‘Faculties’: The Psychology of Virtue in MacIntyre and Social Cognitive Theory”
David Cloutier, The Catholic University of America

“On Moral Agency”
Gian Vittorio Caprara, Sapienza University

16:00-16:30 Coffee/tea

16:30-17:30 **Plenary lecture**
Location: Conference room
Chair: Jeremy Wilkins, Boston College

“Neglected Virtues: Honesty and Studiousness”
Jennifer Frey, University of South Carolina
Christian B. Miller, Wake Forest University

19:30-21:00 Dinner

Restaurants, Cafes & Bars

For coffee, breakfast, light lunch, aperitifs – atmospheric, roomy indoor seating and outdoor under umbrella seating as well.

Bar Tabacchi

Mario Faustini
Via A. Poerio 21/23 Roma
(tel. 065810380)

Pizzeria “da Simone” Via Giacinto Carini 50 Trastevere

(tel. 065814980)
<https://carlafortebracci6.wixsite.com/pizzeriadasimone>

For excellent breakfast and tavola calda for lunch. Roomy indoor seating and outdoor as well.

Caffe Gli Archi Via F.lli Bonnet 4 Roma

(tel. 0658030881004)

Excellent full-service restaurant serving pizza, seafood, Mediterranean, European, Romana, Lazio, Central-Italian, with options that are vegetarian friendly, vegan, and gluten free.

Ristorante-Pizzeria Focolare

Via Gabrielle Rossetti 40/42 Roma
(tel. 06 5818395 or 06 5894332)

Slightly upmarket, but still good value – outdoor and indoor dining

Osteria Poerio

Via Alessandro Poerio 27 Roma
(tel. 06 58332851)
<https://www.osteriapoerio.it/>

Ristorante Il Cortile dal 1929

Via Alberto Mario 26 Roma
(tel. 06 5803433)
<https://www.ilcortiledal1929.com/>

L’antica Roma,

Via Alberto Mario, 17,
Roma
(tel. 06 5816809)

Another Pasticceria-Gelateria worth trying is

Nonna Nani

Via Giuseppe Carini 35 (tel. 06 5809370)

For wonderful pastry and gelati, the name says it all

Dolci Desideri

Via Antono Giulio Barrili 56 Roma
(tel. 06 5897709)

Notes

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Australian Catholic University
Villa Maria Rome Campus
Largo Giovanni Berchet, 4, 00152 Rome

*Cover image: Gospels of Saint - Médard de Soissons: Paris,
Bibl. Nat. lat. 8850, fol. 6v (ante 827)*