

Curriculum vitae October 2026

MARIA FEDORYKA, PhD

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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2020-present **Ave Maria University** *Ave Maria, FL*
Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy
- 2020-present Hildebrand Project *Steubenville, OH*
Associated Scholar
- 2016-2020 **Ave Maria University** *Ave Maria, FL*
Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Philosophy
- 2009-2016 **Ave Maria University** *Ave Maria, FL*
Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy
- 2003-2009 **Ave Maria University** *Naples, FL*
Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy
- 2002-2003 **Ave Maria College** *Gaming, Austria*
Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy
- 2001-2002 **Ave Maria College** *Ypsilanti, MI*
Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy

EDUCATION

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF PHILOSOPHY Schaan, Liechtenstein

PhD philosophy, *summa cum laude*.

Dissertation: *Only Privation? The Ontological Foundation and Reality of Moral Evil*

Supervisors: John F. Crosby, Josef Seifert

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF PHILOSOPHY Schaan, Liechtenstein

MA philosophy, *summa cum laude*.

Thesis: *The Moral "Grundhaltung" ("Fundamental Option") and Love in the Philosophy of Dietrich von Hildebrand*

CHRISTENDOM COLLEGE Front Royal, VA

B.A. Philosophy with minor in classical languages, *summa cum laude*.

Thesis: *Duns Scotus on the Nature of Freedom*

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Christian philosophy of human sexuality, marriage, and family

Philosophy of Dietrich von Hildebrand

Metaphysics of gender

Philosophy of love

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Masculinity and Femininity in their Symbolic Aspect” in *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, *Proceedings of the ACPA*, Vol. 98 (2024), pages 25-37

“The Personalist Basis of the Church’s Teaching on Human Sexuality and the Natural Law in the Work of John Paul II. Part One in *The Linacre Quarterly* 2024 Vol. 91(1), pages 39-51

“The Personalist Basis of the Church’s Teaching on Human Sexuality and the Natural Law in the Work of John Paul II. Part Two *Linacre Quarterly* 2024 Vol. 91(2), pages 168-180

“‘God is Love’: Personal Plurality as the Completion of Aristotle’s Notion of Substance and Love as the Absolute Ground of the Divine Being” in *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* vol. 91, 2017, pages 105-114

“*Finis Superabundant Operis: Refining an Ancient Cause for Explaining the Conjugal Act*” in *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, Vol. 90, no. 3, 2016, pages 477-498

“The Family: At the Heart of John Paul II’s *Theology of the Body*” in *Proceedings of the International Symposium John Paul II’s Theology of the Body 2011*

“A Metaphysics of Love and Embodiment: Abortion as the Retroactive Destruction of the Spousal Act” in *Life and Learning XVII: The Proceedings of The Sixteenth University Faculty for Life Conference (2007)*

“Metaphysics of the Person: Love as Foundation and Fulfillment” in *The Many Facets of Love: Philosophical Explorations*, ed. Thomas Jay Oord. Cambridge Scholars Press, 96-103, 2006

BOOK CHAPTERS/PROCEEDINGS

“Gender and the Spiritual Content of Femininity” in *Man and Woman in the Order of Creation*, ed. Deborah Savage, Franciscan University Press: Steubenville, 2026.

“Human Sexuality: The Battle for the Human Soul” in *Clerical Sexual Misconduct: Challenges and Theological Considerations*, ed. Jane Adolphe, Cluny Media, Inc.: Providence, 2021

“Does Gender Matter for Marriage? The Centrality of Masculinity and Femininity to Marriage as Mutual Self-Gift in the *Theology of the Body*” in Dutch *Communio*, proceedings of the 5th International Theology of the Body Symposium, Kerkrade: 2019

“Human Sexuality: The Battle for the Human Soul” in *Mary and the Crisis in the Church*, ed. Roger Nutt. Sapientia Press: Baltimore, 2019

“Von Hildebrand, Love and Contraception”, in *Humana Vitae, 50 Years Later: Embracing God’s Vision for Marriage, Love, and Life*, ed. Theresa Notare. CUA Press: 2019

“Only Union Plus Fruit Equals Love: A Personalist Reflects on the Teaching of *Humanae Vitae*” in *Why Humanae Vitae is Still Right*, ed. Janet Smith. Ignatius Press: 2018

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Love and Embodiment as Keys to the Catholic Teaching on Human Sexuality: A Personalist Metaphysics
(book manuscript)

“Is Moral Evil Only Privation? Another Look”

“A Comparison of Aquinas on the Passions and *Affectiones* with Hildebrand on ‘Genuinely Spiritual Affectivity’”

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

“Philosophy of Love (Recent Catholic Developments)” in *New Catholic Encyclopedia Supplement 2012-13: Ethics and Philosophy*

BOOK REVIEWS

Dietrich von Hildebrand, *Graven Images* in *Review of Metaphysics*, Volume 73, Number 3 (Issue No. 291), March 2020 pp. 636-637

ACADEMIC LECTURES BY INVITATION

March 2025 Three lectures on aesthetics in the context of a mini-course on the *Aesthetics* of Dietrich von Hildebrand for the faculty of Valor Schools. Austin, TX

- The Philosophical Context of Hildebrand's *Aesthetics*
- 'The Song that I Am': Music and the Human Soul. Elisabeth-Paule Labat on the Mystery of Music
- Rupnik and the Icon: A Critical Assessment

October 2024 "The Spiritual Content of Femininity" at conference on *Man and Woman*, sponsored by the University of Steubenville. Steubenville, OH

July 2024 Keynote lecture, "Dietrich von Hildebrand on the Nature of Community" at Hildebrand Summer Seminar on Hildebrand's *Metaphysics of Community*. Steubenville, OH

December 2022 "A Personalist Defense of the Teaching of Humanae vitae and Donum vitae" at conference put on by the International Catholic Jurists Forum: A Response to the Pontifical Academy for Life's Publication *Etica teologica della Vita. Scrittura, tradizione, sfide pratiche*. Rome, Italy.

Video link with my presentation at 1hr24min

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCu3tGagk28&list=PLWwG8qPyXx7fbPjF30fj0AiCb0W8I5do6&index=5>

February 2021 Annual Aquinas Lecture "The Respective Roles of Heart and Will in Moral and Spiritual Growth". Borromeo Seminary. Wickliffe, OH

June 2020 Three lectures at *Hildebrand Summer Seminar on the Heart*: Online Conference. Three talks:

- "Comparison of Hildebrand and Aquinas on the heart." Video link: <https://www.facebook.com/Hildebrandproject/videos/704657960380273> at 15min
- "Hildebrand on the Intimate Structure of Affectivity" Video link: <https://www.facebook.com/Hildebrandproject/videos/644923349704300> at 18min25sec
- "Affectivity and Gender: A Metaphysics of Gender and Some of its Implications". Video link: <https://www.facebook.com/Hildebrandproject/videos/596268484628445> at 1h:54min

February 2020 "A Comparison of Aquinas on the Passions and *Affectiones* with Hildebrand on 'Genuinely Spiritual Affectivity'" at Colloquium on Hildebrand's *The Heart*, sponsored by the Hildebrand Project and University of Dallas. Dallas, TX

September 2019 "Is Moral Evil Only Privation? Another Look". *The True, the Good, and the Beautiful – and the Encounter with Evil* Fellowship of Catholic Scholars Annual Convention. Montreal, Quebec

July 2019 “Does Gender Matter for Marriage? The Centrality of Masculinity and Femininity to Marriage as Mutual Self-Gift in the *Theology of the Body*”. 5th International Theology of the Body Symposium. Rolduc, Netherlands. Video: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/netherlands>

January 2019 “Human Sexuality: The Battle for the Human Soul”. *Crisis in the Church: On the Faith of Mary as the Pathway to Peace*. Conference put on by Ave Maria University January 11-12. Ave Maria, FL

November 2018 “Motherhood: Co-Creation with God” *Reborn in Wonder* Lecture Series. Newman Institute for Catholic Thought and Culture, connected to the University of Nebraska. Lincoln, NE. Video: <https://newmaninstitute.com/lecture-series>

May 29-June 2 2018 Faculty member of the *Dietrich von Hildebrand Legacy Project 2018 Summer Seminar: Love, Sex & the Human Person*.

- Two plenary lectures, 1) “Von Hildebrand’s Unique Vision of Human Sexuality”, 2) “Marriage as the Union of Man and Woman”. (Video links below)
- Three classes on the metaphysics of gender.

Videos:

- Marriage as the Union of Man and Woman:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mzlk-ZYcRoo&feature=youtu.be>
- Hildebrand’s Unique Vision of Human Sexuality:
<https://www.facebook.com/Hildebrandproject/videos/10156407163516804/> (part 1)
- <https://www.facebook.com/Hildebrandproject/videos/10156407188301804/> (part 2)

April 2018 by invitation of Archbishop Charles Chaput, Symposium on *Humanae vitae* (1968-2018), *Healing the Wounds in Human Sexuality and Marriage by Embracing God’s Vision for Love and Marriage: A Fiftieth-Year Anniversary*. Title of lecture: “Von Hildebrand, Love and Contraception”. Organized and sponsored by United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic University of America.

Video:

- <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpTzvCOJa7DBK9w1btMeiKDbbGUNRGS0j&app=desktop>

June 2013 “The Foundation in the Spirit of Spousal Desire in the *Theology of the Body*”. *Verbum caro factum est*: 4th International Symposium on John Paul II’s Theology of the Body, Fatima, Portugal.

Video:

- <https://vimeo.com/71386611>

November 2011 “Family as the Key to the *Theology of the Body*”. International Symposium on the Theology of the Body, *Love: The Splendor of the Gift*. Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum, Rome

June 2011 “The Family: At the Heart of John Paul II’s *Theology of the Body*”. A Timeless Catechesis on Life and Love: 3rd International Symposium on John Paul II’s Theology of the Body, St. Mary’s University College, Twickenham, London, UK.

Video: <https://vimeo.com/32299344>

April 2010 “Contingency from a Personalist Perspective: A Metaphysics of Love”, Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology, Berkeley, CA

June 2008 “Love and Embodiment as Keys to John Paul II on *Humana Vitae*”. St. Paul School of Divinity at the University of St. Thomas, “*Humanae Vitae*, the Person and the Thought of John Paul II”, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN

February 2007 “Edith Stein and the Vocation to Love” at The Edith Stein Project Conference, “The Edith Stein Project: Toward Integral Healing for Women and Culture”, Notre Dame University, South Bend, IL

ACCEPTED AND INVITED PAPERS AT ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

November 2024 Contributed paper “Masculinity and Femininity in their Symbolic Aspect”. Annual conference of the American Catholic Philosophical Association: “Man and Woman He Created Them”. Chicago, IL

November 2024 Parallel session “The Intimate Structure of Sex and its Meaning”. Annual conference of the American Catholic Philosophical Association: “Man and Woman He Created Them”. Chicago, IL

November 2023 Invited paper “A Critical Reflection on Alice von Hildebrand’s Critique of Feminism and some Ideas Towards a Philosophy of Suffering” at the University of St. Thomas. *Colloquium on the work of Alice von Hildebrand*, co-sponsored by the Hildebrand Project and the University of St. Thomas. St. Paul, MN

June 2022 Accepted Paper “Hildebrand on the Intimate Structure of Human Sexuality as Grounding Spousal Self-Communication” at Duquesne University Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies. *5th Biennial Philosophy of Communication Conference: Pragmatism* (Virtual conference)

November 2017 Contributed Paper “‘God is Love’: Personal Plurality as the Completion of Aristotle’s Notion of Substance and Love as the Absolute Ground of the Divine Being” Annual conference of the American Catholic Philosophical Association: *Faith and Modernity*. Dallas, TX

November 2016 Parallel Session “A Response to Lee and George on the Foundation of Human Rights”. Annual conference of the American Catholic Philosophical Association: *Justice, Then and Now*. San Francisco, CA

November 2013 Accepted Paper “The Foundation in the Spirit of the ‘Sexual Urge’: Metaphysical Underpinnings of the *Theology of the Body*”. The Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture conference *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made: The Body and Human Identity*. Notre Dame, IN

April 2011 Accepted Paper “*Finis* superabundant *operis*: the Tradition and Dietrich von Hildebrand on the Fecundity of the Spousal Act”. Annual Conference on Christian Philosophy: *Early Goettingen and Munich Phenomenology*, Franciscan University of Steubenville, Steubenville, OH

March 2008 Accepted Paper “*Humanae vitae*: An Interpretation ‘From Above’”. Franciscan University of Steubenville Institute for Bioethics, “Issues in Marriage and Family”, Steubenville, OH

June 2007 Accepted Paper “A Metaphysics of Love and Embodiment: Abortion as the Retroactive Destruction of the Spousal Act” at University Faculty for Life, Seventh Annual Meeting, Villanova University, Villanova, PA

March 2006 Accepted Paper “Metaphysics of the Person: Love as Foundation and Fulfillment” at Wesleyan Philosophical Society Conference, *Love: Investigating its Meaning, History and Expressions*, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, MO

July 2004 Accepted Paper “Toward a New Hermeneutic: The Person as Gift” at ISCA VI World Congress, *Science and Religion: The Missing Link*. Sponsored by the Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA

ACADEMIC AND SEMI-ACADEMIC LECTURES BY INVITATION

May 2026 Hildebrand Project Summer Graduate Residency. Gaming, Austria. Four lectures:
--Karol Wojtyla’s concept of shame in Love and Responsibility
--Karol Wojtyla’s concept of spousal love in Love and Responsibility
--Dietrich von Hildebrand’s philosophy of human sexuality in In Defense of Purity
--Dietrich von Hildebrand’s philosophy of affectivity in The Heart

January 2018 “The Creative Power of Motherhood” Genuine Feminine Conference
Woman and Family: The Sanctuary of Love. Ave Maria University, Ave Maria FL

January 2016 “The New Feminism: A Practical Guide” Genuine Feminine Conference
The New Feminism. Ave Maria University, Ave Maria, FL

April 2015 “Dealing with Wounds in Relationships”. Hosted by the *Ave Maria Anscombe Society (A Chapter of the Love and Fidelity Network)*

March 2012 “Gender: What is it and Why Does it Matter?” Genuine Feminine Conference “*What is a woman and how does she affect her society and culture?*” Ave Maria University, Ave Maria, FL

November 2011 “Creation in Love”. *Annual Faith and Reason Lecture Series*, Cathedral of St. Paul, St. Paul, MN

August 2010 Third annual “Evangelium” summer conference: “John Paul II: the Human Person and Love”, and “Body and Soul: Catholic Marriage, Chastity, and Dating”. The Oratory School, Reading, England

April 2009 “The Life and Thought of Edith Stein” for the *Great Minds of the 20th Century* lecture series at Florida International University (Biscayne Bay Campus)

September 2008 “The Centrality of Love and the Teaching of *Humanae Vitae*” at Co-Creating with God: *Humanae vitae* Today, sponsored by Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, MI

June 2008 “The Human Person’s Creation in Love” for the *Quid est homo?* speaker series of the Personalist Project, Philadelphia, PA

September 2006 “The Human Person and the Paradox of Contingent Existence”. Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, MI

February 2006 “Pastoral Care with Strength and Compassion”. Ave Maria University Pastors’ Workshop *Priest, Prophet, and King: Pastoring in Today’s Church*, Naples, FL

NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Summer 2018 *Inside the Vatican* “‘Love Alone Creates’: Love at the Heart of *Humanae vitae*”

July 2017 “The Centrality of Love to the Teaching of *Humanae vitae*”, *Homiletic and Pastoral Review*

November 2012 Article: “Gender: What is it and Why Does it Matter? And Some Reflections on Femininity”, *Homiletic and Pastoral Review*

Spring 2010 Small book: *The Special Vocation of Women: for God the family and the World*, Catholic Truth Society Publications, United Kingdom (reprint of *The Gift of Woman* with slight modifications)

Small book: Fall 2008 Small book: *The Gift of Woman*, Knights of Columbus *Veritas* Booklet Series

Magazine article: Spring 2008 “The Gift of Falling in Love”, *Renew* (AMU Student Newsletter) February/March

OTHER SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS BY INVITATION

November 2025, “Overcoming Anxiety”, day of recollection for Council of Catholic Woman, San Marco Catholic Church. Macro Island, FL.

October 2023 “Day of Christian Anthropology” for catechetical trainers, catechists, religion teachers, and RCIA instructors of the Archdiocese of Miami. Plantation, FL.

September 2021 “*Evangelium Vitae* IV: The Renewal of the Family”. Nebraska Conference of Catholic Bishop’s Annual Pro-Life Conference. Title of paper: “*A People of Life and For Life: Living out St. John Paul II’s Evangelium Vitae into the next 25 years.*” Lincoln, NE.
February 2020 Wichita Legatus. “Why *Humanae vitae* is Still Relevant Today”. Wichita, KS

March 2019 *Grow in Your Faith*. Only speaker, delivering three talks at one day conference sponsored by Catholic Woman’s Association of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Bradenton, FL:

- “Family as a Center of Love”
- “What does it Mean to Trust in the Lord?”
- “Prayer: Our Union with God and Source of Strength”

October 2018 “*Humanae vitae*: The Breathtaking Beauty of God’s Plan for Love and Family”. Diocese of Albany 50th Anniversary of *Humanae vitae* diocesan celebration, keynote speaker.

August 2018 “The Breathtaking Beauty of God’s Plan for Love and Family”. Diocese of Pittsburgh 50th Anniversary of *Humanae vitae* diocesan celebration, keynote speaker.

August 2018 “Love and Life in Marriage”. Dublin, Ireland. *Love and Life in Marriage – A Conference on Humanae vitae*. Dublin, Ireland. Video available at:
<https://loveandlife2018.com/videos-and-audio/> or
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CtVyqAZBG7E&feature=youtu.be>

June 2018 Lecture, “Called to Love” for the *Theology of the Body Series* sponsored by the Catholic Community of Sts. Charles, Joseph, and Mary. Greenville, MI

October 2017 By invitation of Archbishop Charles Chaput, main speaker at *Remain in My Love*, a series for the evangelizing and catechizing the Curia of the Archdiocese of

Philadelphia. Title: “The Three Goods of Marriage: Unity, Indissolubility and Fruitfulness”. Philadelphia, PA

August 2017 “Love and the Liberal Arts”, Honors Orientation at Ave Maria University, Ave Maria, FL

August 2016 “Love and the Liberal Arts”, Honors Orientation at Ave Maria University, Ave Maria, FL

March 2012 “Creation in Love”, Credo Group, St. Louis, MO

May 2011 “Culture as a Ray of the Eternal”, High School Commencement Address at Holy Family Academy, Manassas, VA

December 2007 “Contingency from a Personalist Perspective: A Metaphysics of Love” at Ave Maria University Philosophy Department Colloquia series

September 2007 “Love in the Life of the Human Person”, Legatus, San Diego, CA

December 2004 “John Paul II and Person as Gift”, Ave Maria Founder’s Club, Naples, FL

OTHER PROJECTS

2025 Philosophy of Love short course for Ave Maria University video series *The Pursuit of Wisdom*

2023 The Philosophy of Femininity and Masculinity on *The Catholic Theology Show* podcast with Michael Dauphinais: <https://catholic-theology-show.castos.com/episodes/the-philosophy-of-femininity-and-masculinity>

2023 talk at *One More Soul’s* Healing after Contraception Retreat:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vEMBQJGDEuE&t=1415s>

2021 “Personalism, Existentialism, Phenomenology...Oh my! And LOVE” for the ENDOW Podcast

Audio link: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1127885/7480216-personalism-existentialism-phenomenology-oh-my-and-love>

Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C5L8wqwdGZs&t=1466s>

2020 “The Philosopher Gene: An Interview with Maria Fedoryka”. Ave Maria University Podcast <https://open.spotify.com/episode/4TAFmvMAKcrV0iEnTkHWK5>

2016 “A Space that Only God Can Fill”. Video Presentation for religious order Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother. Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5JFMkDUEJ4&feature=youtu.be>

2014 Speaker in Humanum Series, videos commissioned by the Vatican and produced for the 2014 Vatican Symposium for the Family. Video Two: The Cradle of Life & Love - A Mother & Father for the World's Children

Video (at minute marker 5:40): <https://www.archkck.org/dmc/videos/humanum-series-episode-2>

BOARD SERVICE

American Catholic Philosophical Association – tenure begins fall 2026.

One More Soul – advisory board member 2021-present.

International Catholic Jurists Forum – advisory board member 2021-present.

Internet Encyclopedia of Phenomenology – editorial board member since 2021-present.

Fellowship of Catholic Scholars – board member 2017-2024.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Catholic Philosophical Association

Faculty for Life

Fellowship of Catholic Scholars

TRANSLATIONS

Translation from German: “The Personality of Max Scheler”, by Dietrich von Hildebrand in *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, vol. 79, Winter 2005, 45-55

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT

Nature and Person

Ethics

Philosophy of Love

Metaphysics

Epistemology

Ancient Philosophy

Medieval Philosophy

Modern Philosophy

Recent and Contemporary Philosophy

Political Philosophy
Franciscan Philosophy
Realist Phenomenology
Personalism

MINI-COURSES

March 2025 Three day mini-course on the *Aesthetics* of Dietrich von Hildebrand for the faculty of Valor Schools. Austin, TX

June 2011 Two 3-hour modules 1) “Anthropological foundations of womanhood” 2) “Edith Stein and her message for the Church of today and tomorrow”. Annual International Summer Course on Women’s Studies, WOMEN AS KEY TO HUMANITY: Cazenovia, New York, June, 14-23 2011. Sponsored by the Institute for Advanced Women’s Studies Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum – European University of Rome, organized by AVOW (Advocating the Vocation of Women)

March 2009 Five once-weekly course in Ethics at Moorings Presbyterian Church, Naples, FL

July 2007 Guest lecturer for summer course, “Aquinas and von Hildebrand on Deliberate Moral Wrongdoing”, the Gustav-Siewerth Akademie, *Weilheim, Germany*

July 2006 Guest lecturer for summer course, “Metaphysics of Love”, the Gustav-Siewerth Akademie, *Weilheim, Germany*

Summer 2002 *Gaming, Austria* Philosophy of the Human Person, Language and Catechetical Institute, Eastern European summer camp

LANGUAGES

English and Ukrainian: Fluent
German: Fluent reading, proficient speaking
French: Proficient reading, elementary speaking
Latin: Semi-Proficient reading of scholastic Latin