

FALL LONERGAN SYMPOSIUM

Mysticism & Method

CONSCIOUSNESS · METHOD · MEDIATION

PRESENTER



**Mary Frohlich,
RSCJ, Ph.D.**

Professor Emerita of Spirituality
Catholic Theological Union

PRESENTER



**Amy E. W.
Maxey, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of Spirituality
Oblate School of Theology

RESPONDENT



**Kevin L.
Hughes, Ph.D.**

Chair, Theology & Religious Studies
Villanova University

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2026

9:30 AM check-in · 10 AM-noon program

Chancellor's Suite, Bishop Dougherty University Center
Seton Hall University · South Orange, New Jersey

Part of Contemplative Community Week

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8 • CHANCELLOR'S SUITE

Program

9:30 AM **Guest check-in and refreshments**

10-10:10 AM **Welcome and opening**
Patrick Manning and Jonathan Heaps

10:10-10:40 **Mary Frohlich, RSCJ, Ph.D.**
"A Lonerganian Perspective on the Mystical Transition: From the 'Below Upward' I to the 'Above Downward' We"

10:40-11:10 **Amy E. W. Maxey, Ph.D.**
"Christian Mysticism as Illuminated by Historicity, Dialectics, and Authenticity: Bernard Lonergan as Methodological 'Wellspring' for Bernard McGinn"

11:10-11:20 **Break**

11:20-11:35 **Response to the presentations**
Kevin L. Hughes, Ph.D.

11:35-noon **Moderated discussion, audience questions and closing**

The Bernard J. Lonergan Institute

Launched by the Center for Catholic Studies in 2006, the Bernard J. Lonergan Institute supports research on Lonergan's thought and its application to contemporary culture. It brings scholars together through lectures and faculty development and publishes the peer-reviewed journal *The Lonergan Review*.

THE PRESENTERS, RESPONDENT, AND HOST

People & ideas

PRESENTER

Mary Frohlich, RSCJ, Ph.D.

Professor Emerita of Spirituality, Catholic Theological Union; Visiting Scholar, Boston College Clough School of Theology and Ministry

Mary Frohlich writes and teaches on Christian spirituality, mysticism and theological method. Her work has brought Lonergan into conversation with the study of Teresa of Ávila. Recent books include *Breathed into Wholeness* (2019) and *The Heart at the Heart of the World* (2024).

RESPONDENT

Kevin L. Hughes, Ph.D.

Chair, Theology and Religious Studies; Professor of Historical Theology, Villanova University

Kevin Hughes is a scholar of historical theology and chairs Villanova University's Department of Theology and Religious Studies. He offers a response to the two presentations.

PRESENTER

Amy E. W. Maxey, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Spirituality and Rolheiser Chair in Spirituality, Oblate School of Theology

Amy Maxey studies Christian mysticism, feminist theological anthropology and method, with particular attention to medieval women mystics. Her current monograph develops a constructive feminist account of mystical eros.

SYMPOSIUM HOST

Jonathan Heaps, Ph.D.

Director, Bernard J. Lonergan Institute; Editor, *The Lonergan Review*

Jonathan Heaps directs the Institute and edits its peer-reviewed journal. He teaches in Seton Hall's University Core and Honors Program and organizes the philosophy area of the International Institute for Method in Theology at Marquette University.



CENTER FOR
CATHOLIC STUDIES

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

Center & Institute acknowledgments

Patrick Manning, Ph.D.

Director, Center for Catholic Studies

Samuel McDonald

Program Manager, Center for Catholic Studies

Jonathan Heaps, Ph.D.

Director, Bernard J. Lonergan Institute; Editor, *The Lonergan Review*

Francesca Zaccaron, Ph.D.

Research Associate, Bernard J. Lonergan Institute

Gloria Garafulich-Grabois, DHS

Director, G.K. Chesterton Institute for Faith & Culture;
Managing Editor, *The Lonergan Review*

Sabra Butler

Graduate Assistant, Center for Catholic Studies

Walter (Wally) Kennedy, M.B.A.

Director, Micah Institute for Business and Economics

Audrey Erskine-Dalessandro

Student Assistant, Center for Catholic Studies

NEW FROM THE LONERGAN INSTITUTE

The Lonergan Review • Vol. XV

“Cooperating Community”

Available online; print copies are expected for subscribers. Learn more at shu.edu/lonergan/lonergan-review.html.



WATCH THE SYMPOSIUM ONLINE

shu.edu/lonergan/fall-symposium.html

Questions: catholicstudies@shu.edu