



The  
CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA

Office  
of the  
President

October 17, 1967

Rev. Bernard Lonergan, S.J.  
Regis College  
3425 Bayview Avenue  
Willowdale, Ont., Canada

Dear Bernie:

The 1968 convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America, scheduled for Washington, D.C., June 18-20, will have for its theme The Transcendence of God in the World of Man. This theme has for its purpose to explore the relationship between God and human values. For example, is the traditional conception of God something that sustains human values as we experience them, or is it in conflict with them? Is humanity the supreme transcendence? And so on.

As you will see from the tentative program I have enclosed, there are four major addresses. These addresses are supplemented by three sets of theme seminars, which propose for discussion by specially interested theologians particular areas of the general problem. As you can see, the seminars are divided into systematics, moral, and sacramental-ascetical.

I am writing, at the request of the board of directors, to ask if you would find it possible and congenial to introduce and direct the systematics seminar at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 19: "Natural Religious Knowledge in Contemporary Catholic Theology." You are easily our first choice. If you can accept, I shall give you more detailed information on what we have in mind, while leaving you great freedom to develop the subject as you see fit.

I hope you can say yes. Warm personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

*Walter J. Burghardt*

(Rev.) Walter J. Burghardt, S.J.  
President

*Woodstock*

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THE TRANSCENDENCE OF GOD IN THE WORLD OF MAN

The Catholic Theological Society of America  
Twenty-third Annual Convention  
Washington, D.C., June 18-20  
1968

Tuesday, June 18

- 9:30 a.m. Welcome
- 10:00 a.m. Major Address 1: "The Transcendence of God and Biblical Hermeneutic"
- 11:30 a.m. Presidential Address
- 2:00 p.m. Major Address 2: "The Transcendence of God and Linguistic Analysis"
- 4:00 p.m. Theme Seminars:
- 1) Systematics: "Theistic Evidences in Contemporary Protestant Theology"
  - 2) Moral: "The Transcendence of God and the Value of Human Life" [Non-Catholic]
  - 3) Sacramental-Ascetical: "God's Initiative toward Man the Symbol-maker"

Wednesday, June 19

- 9:30 a.m. Major Address 3: "The Transcendence of God and Existential Phenomenology"
- 10:45 a.m. Major Address 4: "The Transcendence of God and the Modernist Crisis"
- 3:00 p.m. Theme Seminars:
- 1) Systematics: "Natural Religious Knowledge in Contemporary Catholic Theology"
  - 2) Moral: "The Transcendence of God and the Value of Human Life" [Catholic]
  - 3) Sacramental-Ascetical: "God's Action Immanent in the World of Sacraments"

4:30 p.m. Theme Seminars:

- 1) Systematics: "Transcendent Divinity and Process Philosophy"
- 2) Moral: "God's Law regarding Abortion and Public Policy"
- 3) Sacramental-Ascetical: "The Transcendence of God and the Salvation of All Mankind"

8:30 p.m. Panel Discussion: "Towards a Theology of Academic Freedom"

Thursday, June 20

9:30 a.m. Theme Seminars:

- 1) Systematics: "Transcendence and the Expressions of the Magisterium"
- 2) Moral: "Past Church Teaching on Abortion"
- 3) Sacramental-Ascetical: "Transcendent God and Prayer as Encounter with Person"

10:45 a.m. Summary: "God's Transcendence and Man's World: The Critical Issues of This Convention"