

Daniel Patrick Castillo

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EMPLOYMENT

- 2020–present Associate Professor of Theology, Loyola University Maryland (LUM)
- 2014–2020 Assistant Professor of Theology, LUM

EDUCATION

- 2015 Ph.D. Theology, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN
Dissertation: “An Ecological Theology of Liberation: Reconstructing Gustavo Gutiérrez’s Concept of ‘Integral Liberation’ in View of the Yahwist, the New Jerusalem, and the Human Ecology of Alf Hornborg”
Director: J. Matthew Ashley
- 2009 M.A. Systematic Theology, Washington Theological Union, Washington, DC
M.A. Thesis: “Toward an Ecological Christology: A Theology of the Human Vocation”
- 2002 B.A. History, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2028 Invitation to hold the Griset Chair in Bible and the Christian Tradition (Chapman University)
- 2023 Bunting Peace and Justice Studies Summer Research Grant, LUM
- 2020–21 Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies (University of Notre Dame)
Visiting Research Professorship for *Confronting the Age of Cain: Christian Faith in the “Anthropocene”*

2020–21	Louisville Institute Sabbatical Grant for <i>Confronting the Age of Cain: Christian Faith in the “Anthropocene”</i>
2020	College Theology Society Best Book Awardee for <i>An Ecological Theology of Liberation: Salvation and Political Ecology</i>
2019	Bunting Peace and Justice Studies Course Development Award (to develop course entitled “Violence and Holiness in 20 th -Century El Salvador,” co-taught with history department)
2019	Interdisciplinary Course Development Award from the LUM Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences (to develop “Violence and Holiness in El Salvador”)
2017–2018	Louisville Institute First Book Grant for Underrepresented Scholars, for <i>An Ecological Theology of Liberation: Salvation and Political Ecology</i>
2015	Recipient of a Summer Research Grant from the LUM Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences
2015	Bunting Peace and Justice Studies Course Development Award (to develop course entitled “Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation”)
2014	Grant from LUM’s Catholic Studies Program (this award was used to cover the expenses of the students in my Liberation Theology course who attended the 2014 Ignatian Family Teach-In on Justice and Solidarity)
2009–2014	Global Linkages of Biology, Environment, and Society Fellow (GLOBES, funded through the National Science Foundation)
2013	Recipient of GLOBES Mini-Grant (this grant was used toward the construction of an urban perennial garden)
2012	Notebaert Professional Development Travel Grant Recipient (used to fund travel to South Africa for the Christian Faith and the Earth International Conference)
2009–2010	Hispanic Theological Initiative Doctoral Fellow
2006–2009	Washington Theological Union Sister Katharine Drexel Service Scholar
1998–2002	National Hispanic Scholar Award Recipient, University of Florida

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Confronting the Age of Cain: Christian Faith Amid Planetary Emergency (under contract, Orbis Books, initial submission June 2027)

An Ecological Theology of Liberation: Salvation and Political Ecology, with Foreword by Gustavo Gutiérrez (Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 2019), (N.B. awarded College Theology Society's 2020 "Best Book Award"; trans. into Korean 2022)

Editor

Journal of Religious Ethics, contributing guest editor, focus issue "Interruption: Religious Ethics and Political Ecology," first drafts were due June 2026, contributors include: Rume Ahmed, Ki Joo Choi, Anna Gade, Clifton Granby, Sarah Fredericks, Axel Takacs

Essays (*Peer-Reviewed Journals*)

"Interrupting the Glamour of Evil: Reading Metz Constructively in a Time of Politico—Ecological Emergency," *Theological Studies*, 87.3 (2026): 456-476.

"The Age of Cain: The 'Anthropocene,' Western Extractive Colonialism, and the Christian Imagination," *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 44.1 (2024): 27–45.

"The Meek Shall Inherit the Earth: Surfacing the Politico-Ecological Dimensions of Nonviolent Struggle," *Journal of Catholic Social Thought* 20.2 (2023): 241–257.

"Reconfiguring Ignacio Ellacuría's symbol of 'the Crucified People': Jesus, the Suffering Servant, and Abel," *Theological Studies* 84.1 (2023): 8–29.

"The Dynamism of Integral Liberation: Reconsidering Gutiérrez's Central Concept After the 'End of History,'" *Political Theology* 18.1 (2017): 44–59.

"Integral Ecology as a Liberation Concept," *Theological Studies* 77.2 (2016): 353–376.

"Agony in the Garden? Evaluating the Cosmology of Alejandro García-Rivera in View of the 'Little Story' and the 'Principle of Foregrounding,'" *Diálogo* 16.2 (2013): 65–68.

"'The Time of No Room': Toward a Theological Critique of Contemporary Attempts at Earth Management," *Scriptura* 111.3 (2012): 312–322.

Essays (*Commissioned and Refereed*)

“Ecological Theology,” in *T&T Clark Handbook of Modern Theology*, eds. Philip Ziegler and R. David Nelson (London: Bloomsbury/T&T Clark, 2026), 153–160.

“On Grieving for the Garden of the World: Catholic Education and the Cultivation of an Ecologically Sensitive Conscience,” in *Conscience and Catholic Education: Theology, Administration, and Teaching*, eds. David DeCosse and Kevin Baxter (Maryknoll: Orbis, 2022), 183–197.

“Sobre la Escritura, el método y el discipulado perspectivas del trabajo de Gustavo Gutiérrez,” trans. Carmen Lora de Gautier, in *Memoria, presencia, futuro: A los 50 años de Teología de la liberación*, eds. Andrés Gallego, et al. (Lima: CEP, 2021)

“Sobre ‘Superar Las Actitudes y Los Estilos De Vida Egoístas’: Las Reflexiones y Limitaciones Ambientales de Ecclesia in America,” in *Ecclesia in América: Un Diálogo Teológico e Intercultural*, eds. María Clara Bingemer and Peter Casarella (Buenos Aires: Agape Libros, 2021), 245–268.

“On the Challenge of Singing a New Church and a New World into Being: Liturgical Space and Prayer Amidst the Planetary Emergency,” *Yale ISM Review* 6.1 (2021): <https://tinyurl.com/na37m9h9>

“Hacia una Teología Ecológica de la Liberación: A partir de la obra de Gustavo Gutiérrez,” trans. Pedro De Guchteneere, *Páginas*, 254 (2019): 22–28.

“The Tree of Christ and the Tree of Satan: Ignatian Discernment in a Time of Eco-Social Crisis,” *The Other Journal*, 28 (2018): 93–98.

“Speaking Structurally: Medellín’s Conception of the Socio-Structural Dimension of Human Life,” in *The Legacy of Medellín* (Miami: Convivium, 2018), 124–135.

“Prophetic Mourning, Lament, and the Ecological Crisis,” in *Our Fragile Earth*, ed. William T. Cavanaugh (Eugene: Cascade, 2018), 151–162.

“Against the Unity of Babel: Liberation Theology and the Language of Sustainable Development,” in *Theology and Ecology Across the Disciplines*, eds. Celia Deane-Drummond and Rebecca Artinian-Kaiser (London: Bloomsbury/T&T Clark, 2018), 119–131.

“To Praise, Reverence, and Serve: The Theological Anthropology of Pope Francis,” in *Everything is Connected: The Theological and Ecological Vision of Laudato Si’*, ed. Vincent Miller (London: Bloomsbury/T&T Clark, 2017), 95–107.

“To Cultivate and Care for Creation: The Human Vocation as the Unifying Principle for Ecological Theology and Soteriology,” *Koinonia: The Princeton Theological Seminary Graduate Forum*, XXII (2010): 66–81.

Essays (In Development)

“‘Conquering’ as the Struggle for Disenclosure: A Counter-Colonial Reading of Genesis 1:28” (over half of the essay drafted, *Journal of Religious Ethics* likely target)

“Sacred Darkness and the Glamour of Evil: A Liturgical Response” (co-authoring with Dr. Byron Wratee of Villanova University, develops a liturgical response to the difficulties that traditional “light and darkness” imagery poses for communities of faith in view of the realities of anti-Black racism, first draft of liturgy complete, in the initial stages of the accompanying essay, *Worship* likely target)

“To Be Made Whole: The Rich Man and the Task of Politico-Ecological Repair” (considers Mark’s narration of the “rich ruler” as a template for conceiving of discipleship as a call to make reparations; first draft of essay approximately half complete, *Studies in Christian Ethics* likely target)

“Decolonizing Ignatian Spirituality: Ignatius of Loyola’s Meditation on the Two Standards and the Political Ecological Demands of Discipleship” (delineates a counter-colonial approach to Ignatius of Loyola’s *Spiritual Exercises* by foregrounding the idolatry of greed and the colloquy on the “Two Standards,” first draft of essay approximately half complete, *Spiritus* likely target)

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS & INVITED LECTURES

“Pope Leo and the Future of Catholic Ecological Theology,” invited paper presented at DePaul University’s Center for World Catholicism & Intercultural Theology’s World Catholicism Conference, “Pope Leo XIV: From the Americas, for the World” (May 2026) Chicago, IL

“The Doctrine of the Providential Function of Commerce: Uncovering the Roots of Alienation within Modern International Law,” presented at the Annual Conference of the Society of Christian Ethics (Jan. 2026) Washington, DC.

“Ambiguity: In Gratitude to H. Paul Santmire” (presented at the annual convention of the American Academy of Religion, Nov. 2025) Boston, MA.

“Renouncing the Glamour of Evil: Dangerous Memory in a Time of Politico–Ecological Emergency,” presented at the Annual Convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America (June 2025) Portland, OR

“The Planetary Emergency, Integral Ecology, and the Way of the Gardener: Christian Faith and Land Justice,” Invited Lecture at the St. Catherine of Siena Environmental Summit, sponsored by Iona College (May 2025) Ossining, NY

“Discipleship as Repair: The Christian Imagination, Colonialism, and Political Ecology,” Annual Faith and Reason Lecture at Carroll College (April 2025) Helena, MT

“The Land is Not Ours: Christian Environmental Ethics Against Eco-Fascism,” an invited lecture at Sacred Heart University (March 2025) Fairfield, CT

“Discipleship in the Anthropocene: Solidarity and Protest (In Memory of Gustavo Gutiérrez),” an invited lecture at the College of the Holy Cross (March 2025) Worcester, MA

“Laudato Si’ and the Cry of the Poor,” an invited paper for Creighton University (June 2023) virtual presentation

“The Age of Cain: The ‘Anthropocene,’ Western Extractive Colonialism, and the Christian Imagination,” at the annual meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics (Jan. 2023) Chicago, IL

“Ethical Imperatives Amidst a Planetary Emergency,” an invited lecture for St. Joseph’s University (Nov. 2022) virtual presentation

“Constructing an Ecological Theology of Liberation: One Methodological Consideration,” an invited paper for the virtual series “Teología de la Liberación: Perspectivas para el Tercer Milenio. A 50 años de Teología de la Liberación,” organized by Pontificia Universidad Católica de Río de Janeiro, Duke University y Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Oct. 2021) virtual presentation

“Contagion, Fascism, and Fear: Imagining a Way Out of the Anthropocene with Ignatius of Loyola,” an invited paper for the Center for World Catholicism at DePaul University (Jan. 2021) virtual presentation

“The Age of Cain: The Anthropocene, Extractive Colonialism, and the Production of Anti-Black Racism,” an invited paper for the international symposium, “Vinte anos da Exortação Apostólica ‘Ecclesia in America,’” (Oct. 2019) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

“Gustavo Gutiérrez and the Option for the Poor,” an invited paper for a plenary panel at the University of Notre Dame for the Option for the Poor Conference (March 2019) South Bend, IN

“The Preferential Option for the Earth and Poor: The Task and Possible Contribution of Theology,” an invited paper at the University of Notre Dame for the opening of the Ansari Institute of World Religions (October 2018) South Bend, IN

“Behold the New Adam: Christ, the Gardener, and the Eco-Social Crisis,” at the annual meeting of the Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA), (June 2018) Indianapolis, IN

“Toward an Ecological Theology of Liberation,” an invited paper at the annual meeting of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians in the United States (June 2018) Indianapolis, IN

Invited Response to Andrew Davison’s Address “Symbiosis and Mutualism: A Scientific Survey” at the Convention of the International Society for Science and Religion (Nov. 2017) Boston, MA

Invited Response to Anne Clifford’s Plenary Address “An Ecofeminist Response to *Laudato Si*” at the annual meeting of the CTSA (June 2017) Albuquerque, NM

“Pope Francis’s Call for Eco-Social Conversion,” an invited lecture presented at Villanova University’s Mendel Symposium (March 2017) Philadelphia, PA

“Integral Ecology as a Liberationist Concept,” presented at the annual meeting of the CTSA (June 2016) San Juan, PR

“To Cultivate and Care for Creation: Can Nature (Alone) Be Our Guide?” an invited lecture presented at John Carroll University (April 2016) Cleveland, OH

“The Eco-Theological Anthropology of Pope Francis,” an invited lecture presented at the University of Dayton (March 2016) Dayton, OH

“The Gardener and the Image of God: Material Poverty, Ecological Degradation, and a Christian Understanding of the Human Person,” an invited lecture presented at the University of Utah (Sept. 2015) Salt Lake City, UT

“God, the ‘Gardener,’ and the Human Vocation: The Biblical Foundations of an Eco-Liberationist Theological Anthropology,” presented at annual meeting of CTSA (June 2015) Milwaukee, WI

“The Crucified Peoples and the Tree of Life: Ignacio Ellacuría, the Spiritual Exercises, and Political Ecology,” presented at the annual meeting of the College Theology Society (CTS) (May 2015) Portland, OR

“‘Blessed Mourning’: The Church as a Site of Lament in the Midst of Ecological Crisis,” an invited paper presented at The Conference on World Catholicism at DePaul University (April 2015) Chicago, IL

“‘My Eyes Have Seen You’: The Formation of the Christian Prophetic Imagination in the Theology of Gustavo Gutiérrez,” presented at the annual meeting of CTS (May 2014) Latrobe, PA

“Climate Change, Mourning, and Repentance,” presented at the National Conference on Climate Change and the Common Good (March 2013) Notre Dame, IN

“‘The Time of No Room’: A Theological Critique of the Totalized Fiscal Quantification of the Earth,” presented at the Christian Faith and the Earth International Conference (May 2012) Cape Town, South Africa

“‘Now and Forever Here’: Wendell Berry’s Port William Novels as Metzian Dangerous Narratives,” presented at the annual CTS meeting (May 2012) San Antonio, TX

“From Babel to Pentecost: An Eco-Theological Critique of the World Bank and the Language of ‘Sustainable Development,’” presented at the annual CTS meeting (May 2011) New Rochelle, NY

“If Only You Had Eyes to See: The Threat of the ‘Mythologizing Cross’ in the Space of Empire,” presented at the International Conference of the Colloquium on Violence and Religion (June 2010) Notre Dame, IN

“‘To Cultivate and to Care’: The Human Vocation as the Unifying Principle for Ecological Theology and Soteriology,” presented at the *Koinonia* Conference (2010) Princeton, NJ

PUBLIC MEDIA

“Remembering the spiritual poverty and subversive laughter of Gustavo Gutiérrez,” *America* (Dec. 2024)

“We Need a Political Ecology of Repair that Rejects ‘Business as Usual,’” *National Catholic Reporter* (June 2023)

COURSES TAUGHT

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| ❖ Introduction to Christian Theology | ❖ Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation |
| ❖ Liberation Theology | ❖ Ethics and the Lives of the Saints |
| ❖ Christian Environmental Ethics | |

- ❖ World Christianity
- ❖ The Resurrection
- ❖ Survey of Systematic Theology

- ❖ Violence and Holiness in Twentieth-Century El Salvador (co-taught with Dr. David Carey, History Department)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Completed LUM Service-Learning Workshop (Summer 2016)

Completed LUM Ignatian Pedagogy Workshop (Summer 2016)

Member of LUM Peace and Justice Reading Group (2014–2017)

Interdisciplinary Working Group on the Environment, University of Notre Dame (2012–2014)

GLOBES Interdisciplinary Reading Group (2011–2014)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Óscar Romero Working Group, primary organizer Todd Walatka, Univ. of Notre Dame (2024–present)

Integral Ecology Working Group, primary organizer Emmanuel Katongole, Univ. of Notre Dame (2024–present)

Ecclesia in America Working Group Participant, primary organizers Peter Casarella, Duke Univ. and María Clara Bingemer, PUC-Rio (2019–present)

Society of Christian Ethics (2019–present)

Catholic Theological Society of America (2012–present)

American Academy of Religion (2010–present)

College Theology Society (2009–present)

Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians in the United States (2013–2019)

SERVICE TO ACADEMY & COMMUNITY

Administrative and Organizational at LUM

Director of LUM M.T.S. Program (Fall 2021–2024)

Co-Chair of LUM Laudato Si' University Committee (2022–2024)

Member of LUM Steering Committee for Environmental Studies (2021–present)

Member of LUM Steering Committee for Catholic Studies (2024–present)

Co-Chair for LUM Committee on Catholic Social Thought (2018–present)

Post-Doctoral Fellow Mentor (2023–2025)

Junior Faculty Mentor (2024–present)

for Post-Doctoral Fellow

Member of LUM Service-Learning Committee (2018–2019)

Lead or co-organizer for Public Lectures and Events at LUM:

John Hermanson, et al. “Hope Amid Exile: Songs from the Prophet Isaiah” (Fall 2025)

Lisa Sideris, “Thinking About Earth in a Time of Technocracy” (Spring 2025)

J. Matthew Ashley, “Hope at the End of the Anthropocene” (Spring 2024)

Elizabeth Gandolfo, “The Struggle for Our Common Home” (Spring 2024)

Cecelia Lynch, “Wrestling with Violence” (Fall 2023)

Willie James Jennings, “Acts” (Fall 2023)

Peter Fritz, “Healing the Sick Economy: Insights from CST” (Spring 2023)

Jose Rodriguez, “Labor Law and Catholic Social Thought” (Fall 2022)

David Lantigua, “Pope Francis on the Global Signs of the Times” (Spring 2022)

Paul Scherz, “Entrepreneurial Science and the Reproducibility Crisis” (Fall 2019)

Michael Lee and O. Ernesto Valiente, “The Witness of Saint Óscar Romero” (Fall 2019)

Margie Pfeil, “White Complicity in U.S. Hyper-Incarceration” (Spring 2016)

Kelly Brown Douglas, “Jesus and Trayvon” (Spring 2016)

Willis Jenkins, “Rather than a problem to be solved...” (Fall 2015)

Peer Reviewer

Studies in Christian Ethics, Religions, Political Theology, Modern Theology, Theological Studies

Additional Service

Co-Convener of the “Theology, Ecology, and the Natural Sciences” section of College Theology Society’s Annual Convention (2016–2018)

Instructor at Holden Village (Summer 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024)

Address to Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities Mission Officers' Conference: "The Two Standards and the Planetary Emergency" (Spring 2022)

Representative of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians in the United States to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (Fall 2025)

Contributor to the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change's statement on diversity, equity, and inclusion (

Plenary Lecture, LUM Honors Program (recurring)

Participant, LUM Earth Day Teach-In (Spring, 2022–2025)

Host of Roundtable Discussions for LUM students, staff, and faculty, held at my home (2023–2026)

Organizer, campus orchard initiative with Rev. Dr. Heber Brown and the Black Church Food Security Network (ongoing)

Organizer of speaker lunches for students and faculty through the LUM Committee on Catholic Social Thought and Catholic Studies (2022–2025)

Community Lectures on Christian Environmental Ethics:

Society of St. Clement, Annapolis (Fall 2025)

Monastery of the Sisters of Carmel, Baltimore (Fall 2021 and Fall 2024)

Grace United Methodist Church, Baltimore (Spring 2018)

St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Baltimore (Spring 2016)

All Saints' Episcopal Church, Chevy Chase (Spring 2016)

St. Pius X Parish, Baltimore (Spring 2015)

Member of the Advisory Council to the Dean of the College of Arts and Letters at the University of Notre Dame (2016–2019)

Faculty Liaison to the LUM Peace and Justice Club (2016–2017)

Community member of Jubilee House, the Gainesville Catholic Worker House, Gainesville, FL (2004–2006)

Community member of Karen House, the St. Louis Catholic Worker House, St. Louis, MO, (2003–2004)

Jesuit Volunteer Corps, St. Louis, MO (2002–2003)