Summer Abdelbarry  Digital Detox: Into the Wild...Kind Of
How does engaging with everyday life without technology enhance or diminish our relationships with our friends and family, the World, God, and Society?

Julianna Bibbo  The Problem with the Problem of Evil: Reframing Suffering & Returning to God
How should we approach the problem of evil? In a world of suffering that often questions theological beliefs, how can we return to God?

Andrew Bogdan  They Should Have Sent a Poet: An Exploration into Grief
How does grief affect one's experience with the world?

Chris Cokinos  Surviving the Cave: A Guide to Post-Humanities Re-entry into the “Real” World
How can we re-enter the world after our Humanities education?

Sarah Cotteta  Caring to Care: Examining the Adequacy of Nursing Home Facilities in the United States
What does it mean to care for someone in a healthcare setting? Are there different types of care? Why is our system of nursing home care deficient now?

Alannah Cunningham  Cultivating a Full Life Through the Challenges of Change & Relocation
How do we cope with immigration and assimilation to new places and lifestyles while also remembering the past and where we came from?

Annie Eby  This Ordinary Life: Dignifying Our Pursuit of the Good
How can we dignify our simple, ordinary lives to enter into an excess of the good?

Rebecca Goehring  Quantum Anima
What is the value of human life and soul, and why does that differ between the classic thinkers and the engineering industries?

Matthew Hogan  A Freefall of a Fleeting Fortnight
What does the ephemeral reveal about the human condition?

Peter Keepman  Ad interiora, ad superiora: Augustinian Interiority & the Quest for the Real Thing
If human persons are body-soul composites, where does the notion of “the self” fit in? Or, indeed, is there even a place for "the self" in Christian anthropology?

Lauren McLaughlin  All You Need Is Love? An Exploration of Love in the Active Life & Contemplative Life
If love is affirming the good of the other, how does this conception of love play into eudaimonia or total human flourishing? Is love active or contemplative?

Genevieve Mohr  The Union of Heart & Mind: Faith, Reason, & Augustine’s Ascent of the Soul
How and why does Augustine’s pursuit of truth precede his rational inquiry? For Augustine, why is faith necessary for reason and ultimately understanding?

Andrew Patton  Εὐχαριστία: Lifting the Veil from Our World of Gift
What characterizes our view of the world now, and how did we get here? How do we remind ourselves that the world is all gift? What is our role within this world of gift?

Hannah Phillips  Absently Present: The Impact of Technology on our Attentiveness
What is the relationship between technology and attentiveness? How does technology affect our attentiveness to ourselves, each other, and the natural world?

Mike Oberschewen  What’s in a World? The Art of Sub-Creation
How do we see the world and translate it using story? What is the nature of subcreation?

Isabella Riitano  Aging Out of Wonder: The Child’s Gaze
What is wonder? How does it change as we grow and age?

Ellie Smith  Education Sets Us Apart: How Can It Bring Us Together?
What do we lose when we cultivate our intellect through education? Do we miss beauty or love when we are always searching the world for meaning?
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Gabriel Calvo  Divine Erotics: Whether God Loves Us Erotically
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Declan Carolan  The Limits of Human Design: Robert Moses, the Levitt brothers, and the New Cities
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Andrew D’Onofrio  Neat Little Boxes: The Dangers and Shortcomings of Categorization
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Erin Fabian  Ordinary World: How Can Heaven Be Made Out of the Hell of Other People?
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John Greene  Recovering Charity: Contemplation in Caritas
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Logan Khelil  The Other Side of Despair
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Corey Kuipers  In View of Shalom: Analyzing Political Forgiveness through a Religious Lens
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Casey O’Donnell  The Song of Creation: A Divine Love Song Transposed
How would you characterize ‘the song’ that all of creation is singing? What is the purpose of created beauty and what is the nature of the relationship between the material and the immaterial?

Jessica Sardina  Beyond Allyship: The Radical Transformation of Friendship
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Dominic Sceski  Mysterium Orationis: The Christian’s Approach to Understanding Petitionary Prayer
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Bruno Shiffman  From Naïve Faith to Mature Hope: Rejecting Flawed Rationalizations of Evil
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Bernard Zitzewitz  Preserving the White Light: A Catholic Understanding of Knowledge and the Technocratic Paradigm Through the Lens of J.R.R. Tolkien
Does Tolkien serve as a good case study for the political, economic, and ecological critiques presented by *Laudato Si’* and Wendell Berry?
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A String of Minor Graces
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Learning to Help: Theological Perspectives of Suffering and Humanitarian Aid
How should theological perspectives of suffering inform our humanitarian responses to suffering?

Katherine Hodskins  
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Ted Holleran  
The Decline, Death, and Dragging Behind the Chariot of the University
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Evan Jenkins  
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What does it mean to be human and practice emergency medicine/critical care? How does one best protect one’s humanity when confronted with the challenges of emergency medicine?

Emily LaPorte  
Experience and Experiential Knowledge for Understanding a Theological World
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Abbigail Morehouse  
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Colleen O’Brien  
Bringing Mindfulness to Work to Create an Enjoyable Experience Similar to That Found in Leisure
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Emma Poley  
Fantasy and Performance: A Study of Otherworldly Literature and the Sub-Creative Art
What is the human good of otherworldly literature? If you could get the same effect out of “realistic” literature, why write fantasy? Who, or what, on earth is a sub-creator?

Jeremy Puntel  
The Restless Heart of Hip Hop
How can Kendrick Lamar’s contribution to the musical and literary form of hip hop be characterized? How does that contribution match up with Augustinian insights into confession, psychology, and politics?

Sean Rodgers  
Abusive Ideology and Faith: Walking the Ruins of Close-mindedness and Looking Beyond
When it comes down to it, is there a difference between ideology and faith? If so, how does that difference pan out at the level of the personal encounter?

Keri Salanik  
A Finite Encounter with the Infinite: The Story of Conversion
How does God, who is beyond all comprehension, communicate to humans as finite beings in a finite world and how should one respond to the call?

Lila Samuelson  
The Shaping of You: An Introspective Look at Grief and the Good Life
How is grief integral to the human experience?

Margaret Shield  
Living Liturgically: A Look at Living In-Between the Mundane and the Extraordinary
What is the relationship between the ordinary tedium of daily life and the extraordinary?

Matthew Southerton  
The Unholy Trinity: On the Dangerous Presence of Moralistic Therapeutic Deism in Christian Culture
What is moralistic therapeutic deism, why is it insufficient as form of Christianity, and how can we overcome it?

Nicole Stefan  
Relationships: The Power of Human Connection to Overcome Personal Struggle
What role do relationships play in our life path?

MaryKate Winter  
“God Meets Us Where We Are”: Understanding Home as Sacred Space
How can Belden Lane’s axioms of sacred space inform an account of home that maintains the significance of place while allowing for multiple experiences of home?

James Wroblewski  
“My Why do that to yourself?” My Experience of (Happily) Living My Life as a Young, Gay, Catholic
Why is it so remarkable to so many in today’s society for a young gay man to willingly embrace his Catholic faith?
Antoinette Arndt  The Art of Suffering
Can we make sense of the plight of human suffering? How do we teach ourselves to see the good, even in the most desperate of times?

Blaire Bernstein  The Nature of Cruelty: Spectators, Participants, and Casualties
What is the role of observing cruelty in the human experience? How does our participation in institutions that perpetuate cruelty affect our ability to be virtuous?

Eliza Clark  The Experience of Homelessness in Philadelphia
What is human dignity in relation to the experience of homelessness? Is human dignity upheld on the streets or within the social good services available in Philadelphia?

Briana Connolly  Ambition in Political Life
What kind of ambition is proper in politics? How can great historical figures serve as a model for virtuous ambition?

Nazelie Doghramadjian  Is Knowledge for You? Epistemic Injustice and Worldbuilding
How does epistemic injustice and intellectual segregation shape the type of knowledge some do or do not cultivate?

Morgan Hazel  ...But Why?: The Necessity of a Humanities Based Education in an Increasingly Competitive Society
How can an education centered around the values of the Humanities positively influence our society?

Patrick Hudak  Acedia, Psychopathology, and the Human Person: Exploring Walker Percy's The Moviegoer and the Necessity of Meaning
How can psychological ailment be understood within the realm of spirituality? More specifically, in what ways is the sin of acedia, "a sadness about the spiritual good," relevant to understanding mental illness as a human phenomenon?

Simran Kripalani  Death and Dying: The Literature, Philosophy, & Practices of Adult & Pediatric End-of-life Care
Can you ever die a “good death,” and, if so, what factors contribute to dying a “good death”? Does this change in the pediatric setting? How can healthcare professionals aid in end-of-life care?

Jordan McDonald  The Tension of Technology: How Technological Progress Has Altered the Course of the Environment and Humanity
With society’s continued push towards technological progress, has the depletion and neglect of the natural world hindered the human person’s ability to live the good life?

David Miranda  Beauty and Restlessness: The Human Struggle Against, and Reconciliation With, Epiphany and Divine Ascent
What is the role of beauty in the human engagement of restlessness for God? Why is it that humans struggle to properly orient themselves to earthly and divine beauty?

Laura Spence  The Still Point of the Turning World: T. S. Eliot, Wendell Berry, and Memory
What is the role of memory in a human life? Does Hannah Coulter’s intensely nostalgic vision of the world hold her hostage or deepen her understanding of her relationship with family and place?

Ethan Swain  God With Us: The Eucharist and Human Deification
Can the theological concept of deification provide us with a deeper understanding, reverence, and awe, for the gift of the Eucharist and its effects?

Vaishnavi Warrier  The (Sacred) Sound of Music: Music as a Catalyst for Spiritual Transcendence
Can music initiate or intensify spiritual experiences, helping us understand the divine in a more wholesome way within boundaries of religion?

Rebecca Walters  From Genesis to the Gospel of John: Biblical Themes and their Key Passages
How can one use certain passages to highlight central themes of the Bible?

Elizabeth Williams  Universal Particularities: Exploring Cultural-Linguistic Understandings of Human Rights in the United States and Italy
International human rights law attempts to create “universal” legislation. Can philology help us understand cultures and languages in an attempt to pursue the universal human good?
Eric Aldieri — “Where Time and Eternity Spatter Each Other with Foam”: Signs of the Sacred and the Beautiful Impossibility of Home
How can music and narrative cultivate an apprenticeship to signs of the divine which lie within otherwise profane, material objects?

Gabriella Berman — The Family in Crisis: John Locke, the Contraceptive Mentality, and a Christological Response
How does our understanding of marriage reflect our understanding of the human person?

Luke Bozich — Transposition through Travel: Understanding Middle Earth through the Experience of Architecture and the Other
How do the observations on travel to foreign lands and architectural forms and spaces help to heighten one’s understanding of the world?

Trevor Davis — On Virtuous Memory: Properly Aligning Present with Past
How can we realize a life guided by virtuous memory in a culturally broken age?

Stephanie Edwards — Is Contemplation Enough?
If the telos of human life is to exist in a multi-faceted Eudaimonia, what different goods or values constitute this and how are they ordered?

Paul Elhallal — “Righteousness and bliss shall kiss one another”: The Reconciliation of Justice and Mercy through the Paschal Mystery
How is the apparent contradiction between justice and mercy reconciled within the sacramental life of the Church?

Luke Hensley — “A Priceless Treasure”: Death, Justice, and the Revitalization of Ethics in The Brothers Karamazov
How can a person be both guiltless and guilty at the same time? What determines “guilt”?

Nicole Kim — Proper Eudaimonia: The Struggle between Art, Beauty, and Humanity
If beauty exists in the world through art, how is it possible to see well in such a world where art is used as a mechanism of oppression in society?

Lauren Kloss — Literary Synesthesia and the Creation of Wonder
With reference to the phenomenon of synesthesia, how does literature help us break conventional notions and create wonder/radical amazement?

Madeleine Messinger — Till We Have Love: An Exploration of Love and Deification in C.S. Lewis’s Till We Have Faces
Can both beauty and dread be ascribed to the divine? Furthermore, how can this help us understand the relationship of the human and the divine?

Isabel Nelson — Manners and Morals in Mansfield Park: Religion and Transcendence in Jane Austen
What is the role of religion according to the characters of Mansfield Park, and is their account satisfying? What should be the relationship between religion and literature?

Regina Paparo — Altruism vs. Love: The Case for a Christian Understanding of Service
What is the relationship between selfishness and altruism?

Bella Perrino — Conscious Capitalism: Locating Ourselves within a Material World
Can we reconcile community as “the vital activity of communizing” with modern capitalism?

Connor Ritchie — Developing a Porosity for Caritas: An Exploration into Theology, Literature, and Philosophy to Witness Its Supreme Value
Giving due to tradition, literature, and philosophy, what is caritas, how does one personify it, and what is its metaphysical value?

Katie Stepanek — “The Inconsolable Secret”: Uncovering Joy as Hidden in C.S. Lewis’ Till We Have Faces
Should we expect Joy to be the primary interpretive key for C.S. Lewis’s writing, especially for his self-proclaimed masterpiece Till We Have Faces?

Tony Triggiano — Tasting Italy: Pursuing the Good of Italian Cuisine
Looking at the case of Italy and Italian culture, under what cultural and societal conditions does cuisine ennoble man’s state, bringing him to this level of spiritual appetite and satiety?

How can the human person reclaim space for leisure and celebration?

Matthew Zarenkiewicz — What Is to Be Done?: Religion and Politics in the U.S.
How should religious speech be used in political conversations in the United States?
Amanda Cialino  
**Markets Over Relationship? Human Dignity and the Economic Way of Thinking**
What role does economic thinking play in human relationships, and more specifically, those formed in the context of service?

Cecilia Franko  
**How Technology Has Replaced Our Lost Community**
With the rise of capitalism, how have society and community been negatively impacted? Does this effect modern architecture?

Olivia Hamilton  
**Communitas: How Spaces Shape Community at Villanova**
How do architecture and feelings of community intersect? How does community manifest itself through the buildings and spaces at Villanova?

Bernard Jacobson  
**Poor Gods: The Artist as Divine Imitator**
How does man’s desire to create art reflect his relationship with God?

Ali Laird  
**Sticky Little Leaves: Non-Locality, Non-Euclidian Geometry, and Positive Knowing in The Brothers Karamazov**
If chaos theory suggests that stability arises in a world ruled by entropy, can we affirm a kind of order in tragedy, without negating the reality of suffering?

John Liberatore  
**“Taking me seriously”: The Unheard Mind of the Emerging Adult**
What is the significance of the journey that is the Emerging Adulthood? How is mentorship of significant positive impact on the journeying emerging adult?

Katrina Marks  
**The Meaning of Memory: A Philosophy of Autobiography**
How does the human person make meaning through the narratives of memories? How do memories challenge what the human person understands as reality?

Caitlin Mitchell  
**Difficult Conversations: Doctor Patient Conversations about Death and the Dying Process**
How do the difficult conversations we have with loved ones shape the conversations we have with doctors, and how should doctors have these difficult conversations?

Ann Pollack  
**Human Free Will and the Nature of God**
Does the omniscient and omnipotent nature of God limit the human captivity for free will? How is human free will compatible with the Christian conception of God?

Mary Frances Roth  
**What Does It Mean To Do Fulfilling Work?**
What is meaningful work?

Adam Vincent  
**The Baptism of Homo Economicus**
If humanity is doomed to its worst expectations for itself, how can theological visions of human nature support alternative economic systems?

Kate Walsh  
**Instead of Tears, Give Deeds: Anger as a Positive Political Emotion**
Do modern people simply not believe in justice? Why are so many not moved to do what they can?

Emily Walthouse  
**Sometimes the Answers are Simple**
What role can the concept of simplicity play in combating the diagnosis of modernity as “everybody’s disease” in Wendell Berry’s *Hannah Coulter*?

Jennifer White  
**Beauty in the Face of Tragedy**
Is it possible to possess a vocation to pursue beauty in a tragic world or is to do so a dereliction of sacred duty to mankind?

Hindley Williams  
**Awe in the Stars: “There Will Be Time”**
What is the role of awe in the human life? What is the effect of living without awe?