

Curriculum Vitae

Shaun Blanchard
Senior Lecturer in Theology
University of Notre Dame Australia
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Fields of Specialization

Early Modern and Modern Global Catholicism
Vatican I and Vatican II
Ecclesiology
Catholic Enlightenment
John Henry Newman
Jansenism
Catholicism and Modernity

Academic Employment

2023 to present: University of Notre Dame Australia (Lecturer from 2023–2025; from 2026 Senior Lecturer and Research Scholar) [permanent position, associate professor equivalent]

2021–2023: Senior Research Fellow, National Institute for Newman Studies (Pittsburgh, PA)

2018–2021: Assistant Professor of Theology, Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University (Baton Rouge, LA)

Education

2018 PhD in Religious Studies, Marquette University

Dissertation co-directed by Ulrich L. Lehner and Fr. Joseph Mueller, SJ:
“Eighteenth-Century Forerunners of Vatican II: Early Modern Catholic Reform and the Synod of Pistoia.”

2016 Autumn semester, Scholar in Residence at Durham University

2010 Master of Studies in Theology (Modern Christian Doctrine), University of Oxford, Blackfriars Hall

2009 B.A. in Religious Studies and History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Graduated with Distinction (for GPA) and Highest Honors (for Honors Thesis)

2007 Autumn semester abroad, University College Dublin, Reformation History and Irish History

Languages

Native English speaker.

Reading Comprehension in French, German, Latin, Spanish, and Italian.

Conversation skills in German and Italian.

Academic Service

Member of the editorial board for the series *Elements of the History of Theology and Philosophy*, published by Cambridge University Press.

Contributed an essay on John Henry Newman's ecclesiology to the *Positio* document requested by the Vatican Dicastery for the Causes of Saints in 2024. In 2025, Pope Leo XIV announced that the appointed committee had unanimously approved the request, and that Newman would be named the 38th Doctor of the Church. In light of this service, I have participated in a number of outreach opportunities, including writing popular-facing articles, giving in-person lectures, speaking with media in the US and Australia, and participating in online events.

Co-convenor of international conference: "Catholic Enlightenment in Europe, the Americas and Australia (1750–1840): Balancing Loyalties between State, Nationality, Citizenship and Church," St. Louis, MO, September 20–21, 2024," with Jürgen Overhoff (University of Münster), Rebecca Messbarger (Washington University) and Mary Dunn (St. Louis University).

Invited member of the EU-funded [COST research network](#) "Print Culture and Public Spheres in Central Europe 1500–1800."

Member of American Catholic Historical Association's John Gilmary Shea Prize committee, 2022, given to a book "judged by a committee of experts to have made the most original and distinguished contribution to knowledge of the history of the Catholic Church."

Peer reviewer for *Theological Studies*, *Journal of Jesuit Studies*, *Journal of Religious History*, *Irish Theological Quarterly*, *New Blackfriars*, *Yearbook of the Austrian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies* (including a special issue of 23 German essays), *Religions*, *Irish Studies Review*, *The New Ressourcement*, *Newman Studies Journal*, and Routledge Press (book proposal), Cambridge University Press *Elements* series (proposals and full manuscripts), UWA Press (University of Western Australia, full manuscript), Peeters Press, Leuven (chapters of edited volume), Narodowe Centrum Nauki (Polish National Science Center).

Associate Editor, *Newman Studies Journal*, 2021–2023. Member of editorial board since 2021.

Member of the University of Notre Dame Australia's Higher Degree by Research (HDR) faculty committee (responsible for many duties involving the research and progress of master's and Ph.D. students). Currently co-directing two doctoral dissertations.

Publications

Books

The Synod of Pistoia and Vatican II: Jansenism and the Struggle for Catholic Reform. Oxford Studies in Historical Theology. (Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2020).

Reviewed in: [Revue de l'histoire des religions](#) (France), [Themelios](#) (USA), [Modernism](#) (Italy), [Itinerantes: Revista de Historia y Religión](#) (Argentina), [Newman Studies Journal](#) (USA), [Augustiniana](#) (Belgium), [Catholic Archives](#) (UK), [Ecclesiology](#) (UK), CCHA [Historical Studies](#) (Canada), [Theologische Revue](#) (Germany; part of review essay). Included in *Catholic World Report's* "Best Books I Read in 2020" (USA, published [online](#) December 16, 2020); interview with Dr. Adam DeVille available [here](#).

Co-editor with Ulrich L. Lehner, *Catholic Enlightenment: A Global Anthology*. Series: Early Modern Sources (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2021).

Interview with publisher available [here](#). Reviewed in: [Seventeenth-Century News](#) (USA), [British Catholic History](#) (UK).

Co-author with Stephen Bullivant, *Vatican II: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, March 2023).

Reviewed in: [Louvain Studies](#) (Belgium), [The Tablet](#) (UK), [The Lamp](#) (USA), [Church Times](#) (UK), [Theology](#) (UK), [Douai Magazine](#) (UK), [Irish Theological Quarterly](#) (Ireland), [Astra Salvensis](#) (Romania). Included in *Catholic World Report's* "Best Books I Read in 2023" (USA, published [online](#) December 15, 2023). Subject of a panel discussion at the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism's (University of Notre Dame) April 2024 conference in South Bend, Indiana, titled "[\(Re\)-introducing Vatican II](#)."

Co-editor with Richard T. Yoder, *Jansenism: An International Anthology*. Series: Early Modern Sources (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2024).

Interview with publisher available [here](#). Reviewed in [Irish Theological Quarterly](#).

Books in Progress

Catholicism and Enlightenment (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, anticipated 2026). Under contract.

Co-editor with Mary Dunn, Rebecca Messbarger, and Jürgen Overhoff, *The Global Catholic Enlightenment: Balancing Church Authority and Modern Allegiances across Europe, the Americas, and Australia (1700–1840)* (Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, anticipated 2027). Under contract.

Catholics, Not Papists: Cisalpinism Between Enlightenment and Ultramontaniam (anticipated 2028).

Academic Articles and Books Chapters

“The Catholic Enlightenment,” in *T&T Clark Handbook of Modern Theology*, edited by R. David Nelson and Philip G. Zeigler (London and New York: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2026).

“Catholic Enlightenment from *Catholicisme intransigeant* to the Reception of Vatican II: Black Legend, Myth, or Historiographical Tool?” in Marco Barducci, ed. *Debating Enlightenment. Scholarship, Historiography and the Transmission of Books and Ideas* (Durham University IMEMS Press/Boydell & Brewer Ltd: Woodbridge, UK, 2025), 37–70.

“The Ghost of Modernism: Evocations of Anti-Modernist Doctrinal Documents at Vatican II,” *Theological Studies* 86.2 (2025): 220–244.

“Continuity and Discontinuity in Fruitful Tension,” in Andrei Orlov, ed., *Embodying the Tradition: Essays in Memory of Joseph Mueller, S.J. (1960–2023)* (Piscataway, NJ: Gorgias Press, 2025), 29–44.

“The Popes and the Enlightenment,” in *The Cambridge History of the Papacy, Vol. 1: The Two Swords*, edited by Joëlle Rollo-Koster, Robert A. Ventresca, Melodie Eichbauer and Miles Pattenden (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2025), 366–401.

“Introduction,” in Christopher M. Bellitto, ed., *The Essential Vatican II: The Council for the Future Church* (Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2024), xi–xxxi.

Co-authored with Richard T. Yoder, “An Introduction to Jansenism,” in Blanchard and Yoder, eds. *Jansenism: An International Anthology* (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2024), 1–64.

“The Catholic Story,” in Alec Ryrie and Mark A. Lamport, eds., *Entangling Web: The Fractious Story of Christianity in Europe*, Series: Global Story of Christianity (Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2024), 80–95.

“This Side of the Alps: The Catholic Enlightenment in Britain and Ireland,” in *The Oxford History of British and Irish Catholicism*, volume 3: *Relief, Revolution, and Revival, 1746–1829*, edited by Liam Chambers (series edited by James E. Kelly and John McCafferty) (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2023), 264–285.

“True and False Reformers in the Church: Congarian Lessons for Today,” in Salvador Ryan and Declan Marmion, eds., *Reforming the Church: Global Perspectives* (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2023), 17–33.

This volume [was awarded](#) first prize in the Theology category of the Association of Catholic Publishers, and [first place](#) in the Future of the Church category from Catholic Media Association (CMA).

“Reform vom Arno bis zum Rhein – Die jansenistische Synode von Pistoia und die deutschsprachigen Länder,” in *Der Jansenismus im deutschsprachigen Raum, 1670–1789: Bücher, Bilder, Bibliotheken*. Translated by Christoph Schmitt-Maaß. Series: Frühe Neuzeit (Volume 250). Edited by Christoph Schmitt-Maaß (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2023), 203–223.

“The ‘Fifth Vial’: Charles Walmesley’s Ultramontane Apocalypticism,” in *British and Irish Religious Orders in Europe, 1560–1800: Conventuals and Monastics in Motion*, edited by James Kelly and Cormac Begadon (Woodbridge, UK: Boydell and Brewer, 2022), 222–244.

“New Models of Church Government,” in *Innovation in Early Modern Catholic Theology*, edited by Ulrich L. Lehner (Abingdon, UK: Routledge, 2021), 87–110.

“Introduction: The World of Catholic Enlightenment” (co-authored with Ulrich Lehner), in *Catholic Enlightenment: A Global Anthology* (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2021), 1–18.

“Settling Old Scores: *Pastor Aeternus* as the Final Defeat of Early Modern Opponents of Papalism,” *Newman Studies Journal* 17.1 (Summer 2020): 24–51.

“Balance and Imbalance: The Papacy and the Contested Legacies of the Vatican Councils,” *Horizons* 47.1 (June 2020): 25–32 (invited contribution to roundtable on 150th Anniversary of the First Vatican Council).

“Was John Carroll an ‘Enlightened’ Catholic? Resituating the Archbishop of Baltimore as a ‘Third Party’ Prelate,” in *Katholische Aufklärung in Europa und Nordamerika*, edited by Jürgen Overhoff and Andreas Oberdorf (Göttingen: Wallstein, 2019), 165–82.

“Neither Cisalpine nor Ultramontane: John Carroll’s Ambivalent Relationship with English Catholicism, 1780–1800,” *US Catholic Historian* 36.3 (Summer 2018): 1–28.

“The Ghost of Pistoia: Evocations of *Auctorem Fidei* in the Debate over Episcopal Collegiality at Vatican II,” *Theological Studies* 79.1 (March 2018): 60–85.

“The Minority Report at Trent and the Vatican Councils: Dissenting Episcopal Voices as Positive Sources for Theological Reflection,” *New Blackfriars* 98 (March 2017): 147–156.

“‘Proto-Ecumenical’ Catholic Reform in Eighteenth-Century Italy: Lodovico Muratori as a Forerunner of Vatican II,” *Pro Ecclesia* 25 (Winter 2016): 71–90.

Forthcoming Academic Articles and Book Chapters

“Catholic Enlightenment in the Age of Beethoven: Bonn, Vienna, and Habsburg Reform,” in Nicholas Chong and Daniel K. L. Chua, eds. *Rethinking Beethoven and the Enlightenment* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2026).

“John Lingard’s Dislike of Newman: An Enlightened Cisalpine Confronts the Second Spring,” in Kenneth L. Parker, Christopher Cimorelli, and Elizabeth Huddleston, eds., *Scholar, Sage, Saint: The Legacy of John Henry Newman* (Catholic University of America Press and the National Institute for Newman Studies, forthcoming February 2026).

“Between Rome and Westminster: ‘Cisalpine’ Catholicism and the Struggle for Toleration,” in Shaun Blanchard, Mary Dunn, Rebecca Messbarger, and Jürgen Overhoff, eds., *The Global Catholic Enlightenment: Balancing Church Authority and Modern Allegiances across Europe, the*

Americas, and Australia (1700–1840) (Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press, anticipated 2027).

“Introduction,” co-authored Jürgen Overhoff, in Shaun Blanchard, Mary Dunn, Rebecca Messbarger, and Jürgen Overhoff, eds., *The Global Catholic Enlightenment: Balancing Church Authority and Modern Allegiances across Europe, the Americas, and Australia (1700–1840)* (Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press, anticipated 2027).

Translations and Edited Selections with Introductions

“Documents from the Synod of Pistoia: A Jansenist Vision for Liturgy and Devotion” (author of critical introduction and translator) in Blanchard and Yoder, eds. *Jansenism: An International Anthology* (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2024), 316–333.

“The Jansenist Church of Utrecht” (author of critical introduction and translator), in Blanchard and Yoder, eds. *Jansenism: An International Anthology* (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 2024), 273–279.

“The Fight Against Superstition: Lodovico Antonio Muratori (1672–1750),” (author of critical introduction and translator, with the assistance of Glauco Schettini), in Shaun Blanchard and Ulrich L. Lehner, *Catholic Enlightenment: A Global Anthology* (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, August 2021), 21–37.

“British Catholicism as Reasonable and Patriotic Christianity: Joseph Berington (1743–1827),” (author of critical introduction and editor) in Shaun Blanchard and Ulrich L. Lehner, *Catholic Enlightenment: A Global Anthology* (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, August 2021), 253–72.

“Catholicism and Democracy: John Carroll (1736–1815),” (author of critical introduction and editor), in Shaun Blanchard and Ulrich L. Lehner, *Catholic Enlightenment: A Global Anthology* (Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, August 2021), 273–90.

Popular Audience Essays and Articles (selected)

“Witch Hunts and ‘New Theology’: Papal Centralization and the Modernist Crisis,” [*Christian History Magazine*](#) 157 (2025): 17–20.

“Only Christ is King: The Papal Response to Fascism,” [*Christian History Magazine*](#) 157 (2025): 21.

“Doctor of Doctrinal Development,” *The Living Church* (October 19, 2025): 18–19.

Co-authored with Richard T. Yoder, “A Rival Magisterium: What today’s Traditionalists have in common with the Jansenists,” [*Commonweal*](#) (April 2025): 34–39.

Real Clear Religion also ran this essay.

“A Radical Forerunner of Vatican II?: The Synod of Pistoia’s Liturgical Texts,” [Church Life Journal](#) (Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame), 23 January 2025.

“Viva! Viva! Gesù!” [Christian History Magazine](#) 151 (2024): 9–12.

“What a failed 18th-century synod—and a talking point for Archbishop Viganò—can teach us about synodality,” [America](#) (23 October 2023).

Real Clear Religion also ran this essay.

“True and false reformers,” [The Tablet](#) (21 October 2023), 4–6.

“Synodality & Catholic Amnesia: The conciliarist tradition gets a new name,” [Commonweal](#) 150.10 (October 2023): 20–25.

Commonweal provided a [study guide](#) for group discussion of this essay. *Real Clear Religion* and *La Croix International* also ran this essay. It was translated into Portuguese and published in the online journal of the *Instituto Humanitas Unisinos*.

“Vatican II: Angels and devils on our shoulders,” [Catholic Herald](#) (UK), April 2023.

“Vatican II’s Departure from the Anti-Modernist Paradigm,” *Genealogies of Modernity*, published online in two parts, [29 November 2022](#) and [2 December 2022](#).

“‘This Sacred Council’: Sixty Years of Vatican II,” [The Tablet](#) (22 October 2022), 4–6.

“Charles Walmsley and the Cisalpine Stirs,” [The Douai Magazine](#) 184 (2022): 41–61.

“Consulting the Faithful: John Henry Newman’s Relevance for a Fully Catholic Synodality,” in [Spiritan Horizons](#) 19 (2022): 98–113.

“The Reform was Real: Continuity and Change at Vatican II,” in [Commonweal](#) 149.3 (March 2022): 20–26.

Named one of fifteen essays in *Commonweal*’s [“Best of 2022.”](#) *Real Clear Religion* and *La Croix International* also ran this essay. It was translated into Portuguese and published in the online journal of the *Instituto Humanitas Unisinos*.

“Why Lingard Didn’t Like Newman,” [Newman Review](#), 24 September 2021 (online journal of the National Institute for Newman Studies).

“*Traditionis Custodes* Was Never Merely About the Liturgy,” [Church Life Journal](#) (Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame), 2 August 2021.

Real Clear Religion and *La Croix International* also ran this essay.

“Was There a ‘Catholic Enlightenment?’: Rethinking Religion and the Age of Lights,” [Journal of the History of Ideas Blog](#), 26 July 2021.

“Old Myths About the Age of Enlightenment That Die Hard,” [*Church Life Journal*](#) (Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame), 11 June 2021.

“Fr. John Lingard (1771–1851): Between Enlightened Catholicism and the Newmanian Second Spring,” [*Newman Review*](#) 8 January 2021 (online journal of the National Institute for Newman Studies).

“Communal Guilt and the Black Catholic Experience in America: An Interview with Fr. Josh Johnson,” [*Church Life Journal*](#), (Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame), 7 October 2020.

“The Twists and Turns That Led to the First Vatican Council,” [*Church Life Journal*](#) (Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame), 1 July 2020.

“Is the Pope Still Infallible? Reflections on the 150th Anniversary of Vatican I’s Definition,” *Reality* (magazine of the Irish Redemptorists), Part One: May 2020, 12–17; Part Two: June 2020, 18–19.

“From Jansenism to *Humanae Vitae*: The Long History of Catholic Dissent,” [*Church Life Journal*](#) (Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame), 10 March 2020.

“Shaun Blanchard on Jansenism, Pistoia, and Catholic Historiography,” interview with Dr. Adam DeVille, [*Eastern Christian Books*](#), 28 February 2020.

“Rioting Over the Virgin Mary’s Belt: Enlightenment, Reform, and the Religion of the People in Tuscany,” [*Age of Revolutions*](#) 11 December 2019.

“Are Jansenists Among Us?” [*Church Life Journal*](#) (Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame), 4 October 2019.

“A Quasi-Defense of Gallicanism,” [*Church Life Journal*](#) (Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame), 19 October 2018.

“Ancient Faith and Modern Ways,” (on the English Catholic Cisalpine movement), [*Catholic Herald*](#), 4 August 2017, 26–27.

“A Catholic Observer in Rome,” (on an ecumenical conference with Anglicans and Episcopalians) [*Living Church*](#), 31 October 2016.

Grants, Fellowships, Scholarships, and Awards

2025–2027: Chief Investigator, “A History of the Capuchins in Australia.” Co-authored \$521,000 (AUD) research grant, a collaboration between UNDA, Durham University, and the Capuchins of Australia.

2023–2026: Co-Principal Investigator, “The Theology and Spirituality of the Early Modern Capuchins.” Co-authored \$325,000 (AUD) research grant, a collaboration between UNDA, Durham University, and the Capuchins of Australia.

2025: Peter R. D'Agostino Research Travel Grant, awarded by the University of Notre Dame's Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism in support of archival research in Rome.

2024: Co-Principal Investigator, *Big Ideas* research grant "Catholic History Research Hub," granted by UNDA Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research Office, \$35,000 (AUD).

July 2024: Visiting Fellow (two weeks) at the University of Münster, attached to the *Exzellenzcluster* in Religion and Politics.

May 2022: Visiting Research Fellow, Ushaw College library and archives, Durham University (UK).