

Life and Learning XXXI:

A Pro-Life Journal

Proceedings of the Thirty-First Conference  
of the University Faculty for Life

Held Online June 2021

Edited by J.D. Flanagan

University Faculty for Life  
Northfield, MA

## UFFL Life and Learning Conference XXXI

All articles linked below are available in **.pdf** format.

### PREFACE

#### **Preface**

*R. Mary Hayden Lemmons, Ph.D.*

### MEDICAL PERSPECTIVES

#### **Unmasking the Truth About Chemical Abortions**

*Kathleen Raviele*

### PHILOSOPHICAL AND THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

#### **Biopolitics, Sexuality, and Women**

*Angela Franks*

#### **The False, the Evil, and the Ugly: A Critique of Margaret Kamitsuka's Defense of Abortion**

*Charles K. Bellinger*

#### **How Not to Defend the Unborn**

*David Hershenov and Philip A. Reed*

### POLITICAL AND LEGAL PERSPECTIVES

#### **In Search for An Authentic Reproductive Justice**

*Erika Bachiochi*

#### **The Constitutionality of Laws Banning Down Syndrome Abortions**

*Richard Myers*

Half a Century of Strife: The Abortion Controversy's Inescapable  
Centrality in Modern American History

*Keith Cassidy*

LITERARY PERSPECTIVES

Anna Laetitia Barbauld: Poet of Pregnancy among the Romantic  
Radicals

*Bernadette Waterman Ward*

"He hath made Himself...weak enough, now into the world to come":  
The Embryo Christ in Lancelot Andrewes and John Donne

*Theresa Kenney*

Fiction of the New Killers: Girls, Teenagers, and Other Misguided  
Female Feminists in Contemporary Young Adult Fiction on Abortion,  
Infanticide, and Euthanasia

*Jeff Koloze*

## Preface

**T**HE THIRTY-FIRST CONFERENCE of the University Faculty for Life was, like our previous meeting, held online. We owe a special debt of gratitude to the University of St. Thomas for hosting this conference under such trying circumstances. The online conference offered four addresses, which are included in these *Proceedings*, along with six other papers from legal, philosophical, literary, and cultural perspectives.

The publication of these papers was delayed by the unexpected death of our brilliant editor and contributor Fr. Joseph Koterski, S.J., on August 9, 2021. Fr. Koterski was not only the founding editor of *Life and Learning* but also served as an esteemed member of the Board of Directors (1993-2021); Treasurer (1997-2006); Secretary (2006-2021); and associate professor of philosophy at Fordham University (1992-2021). He was a prodigious scholar, producing eleven books as author, editor, or translator; nearly 300 scholarly articles of various types; 53 homilies and spiritual reflections; and three audio/video courses for *The Great Courses*. In 2016, the University Faculty for Life awarded him the *Rupert & Timothy Award for Distinguished Contributions to Pro-Life Scholarship*. Father also led a robust life as a prayerful and very active priest. This unsigned appreciation of Fr. Koterski appeared in *Review for Religious on August 11, 2021.*:

His life was an enactment of the parable of the sower, constantly scattering the seed of the Gospel. As news of his untimely death spread, there was an outpouring of memories...from both those whose vocations he supported to priesthood or religious life and the laity.... He was renowned for his generosity, whether reviewing line-by-line chapters written by brother Jesuits, giving retreats, encouraging vocations, or arranging reading and study groups for interested students; he was constantly and selflessly giving of his time and energy to whoever came into his life. (<https://www.reviewforreligious.com/in-news/in-memoriam-fr-joseph-koterski-sj/> . Accessed 3.10.22.)

We are grateful that Don Flanagan, a retired English professor (B.A. Georgetown, Ph.D. University of Minnesota) has stepped in to edit these papers. Electronic versions of the papers and many of those delivered at previous UFFL conferences are available on our web site at [www.uffl.org](http://www.uffl.org).

For additional copies of this volume or for bound versions of the proceedings of our earlier conferences, please contact:

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