

Acting On Principles A Thomistic Perspective In Making Moral Decisions

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DECKER RIVAS

Justice as a Virtue Catholic University of Amer Press

Although most natural law ethical theories recognize moral absolutes, there is not much agreement even among natural law theorists about how to identify them. The author argues that in order to understand and determine the morality (or immorality) of a human action, it must be considered in relation to the organized system of human practices within which it is performed. In order to depict this structure and to explain how it bears upon the analysis of action, the author investigates a number of issues that have attracted the attention of Thomistic and Aristotelian scholarship. He examines the nature of practical reason, its relationship with theoretical reason, the derivation of lower from higher ethical principles, the incommensurability of human goods, the relationship between will and intellect, and the principle of double effect.

Bound for Beatitude A Thomistic Study in Eschatology and Ethics Catholic University of America Press

Acting on PrinciplesA Thomistic Perspective in Making Moral DecisionsWipf and Stock Publishers

Acts Amid Precepts Wipf and Stock Publishers

Scope: theology, philosophy, ethics of various religions and ethical systems and relevant portions of anthropology, mythology, folklore, biology, psychology, economics and sociology.

Principles of Education, a Thomistic Approach Acting on PrinciplesA Thomistic Perspective in Making Moral Decisions

The Perspective of the Acting Person introduces readers to one of the most important and provocative thinkers in contemporary moral philosophy

Thomistic Philosophy in the Principles of Social Group Work SUNY Press

This noteworthy book develops a new theory of the natural law that takes its orientation from the account of the natural law developed by Thomas Aquinas, as interpreted and supplemented in the context of scholastic theology in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Though this history might seem irrelevant to twenty-first-century life, Jean Porter shows that the scholastic approach to the natural law still has much to contribute to the contemporary discussion of Christian ethics. Aquinas and his interlocutors provide a way of thinking about the natural law that is distinctively theological while at the same time remaining open to other intellectual perspectives, including those of science. In the course of her work, Porter examines the scholastics' assumptions and beliefs about nature, Aquinas's account of happiness, and the overarching claim that reason can generate moral norms. Ultimately, Porter argues that a Thomistic theory of the natural law is well suited to provide a starting point for developing a more nuanced account of the relationship between specific beliefs and practices. While Aquinas's approach to the natural law may not provide a system of ethical norms that is both universally compelling and detailed enough to be practical, it does offer something that is arguably more valuable -- namely, a way of reflecting theologically on the phenomenon of human morality.

Principles and Disputations Emmaus Academic

The ten essays in this collection approach the philosophy of Thomas Aquinas not merely as an object of scholarly interest but also as a framework for addressing perennial philosophical questions, even as they are raised and debated in our own times. The first five articles are expositions of important philosophical themes as developed in Aquinas's own works. In the last five, the authors bring Aquinas's thought to bear on contemporary philosophical discussions of metaphysical, ethical, and social issues. In the first essay, Kenneth L. Schmitz explores the centrality of *esse* in Aquinas's thought and shows the richness of this notion by chronicling the changing currents in its study over the course of this century. Next, Jorge J. E. Gracia describes Aquinas's distinctive solution to the age-

old problem of the ontological status of universals. Turning to ethical themes, David M. Gallagher outlines the precise nature of moral goodness and how Thomas relates it to his metaphysical understanding of the good. Gregory Martin Reichberg takes up the more specific issue of the possibility and nature of moral responsibility within the activity of theoretical or speculative thought. In the final essay of the first part, Edward P. Mahoney examines Aquinas's arguments against Averroes' doctrine of the unity of the intellect in order to show the consistency of Aquinas's teaching throughout his career. Beginning the second set of articles, Oliva Blanchette contrasts Thomas's notion of perfection with that of Charles Hartshorne, demonstrating how Hartshorne arrives at his particular understanding of the divine perfection. Alejandro Llano argues that the understanding of possibility employed by Jaako Hintikka and Simo Knuuttila is much narrower than Aquinas's analogical understanding, and that consequently they do not distinguish between logical and ontological possibilities. Turning to political philosophy, John P. Hittinger examines Jacques Maritain and Yves Simon's Thomistically inspired arguments for the desirability of modern liberal democracies, while questioning their consistency with Thomas's own political thought. Arguments that could have direct bearing on questions in medical ethics are examined in William A. Wallace's essay, in which he appeals to principles of Thomistic natural philosophy to argue that personal death may well precede the biological death of the human body. In the final article, Stephen F. Brown shows how Henry of Ghent rejected Thomas's understanding of theology's relationship to all lower sciences.

Thomism and Predestination A&C Black

What does pleasure have to do with morality? What role, if any, should intuition have in the formation of moral theory? If something is 'simulated', can it be immoral? This accessible and wide-ranging textbook explores these questions and many more. Key ideas in the fields of normative ethics, metaethics and applied ethics are explained rigorously and systematically, with a vivid writing style that enlivens the topics with energy and wit. Individual theories are discussed in detail in the first part of the book, before these positions are applied to a wide range of contemporary situations including business ethics, sexual ethics, and the acceptability of eating animals. A wealth of real-life examples, set out with depth and care, illuminate the complexities of different ethical approaches while conveying their modern-day relevance. This concise and highly engaging resource is tailored to the Ethics components of AQA Philosophy and OCR Religious Studies, with a clear and practical layout that includes end-of-chapter summaries, key terms, and common mistakes to avoid. It should also be of practical use for those teaching Philosophy as part of the International Baccalaureate. Ethics for A-Level is of particular value to students and teachers, but Fisher and Dimmock's precise and scholarly approach will appeal to anyone seeking a rigorous and lively introduction to the challenging subject of ethics. Tailored to the Ethics components of AQA Philosophy and OCR Religious Studies.

Double-Effect Reasoning Cambridge University Press

The Principle of Sufficient Reason (PSR) says that all contingent facts must have explanation. In this 2006 volume, which was the first on the topic in the English language in nearly half a century, Alexander Pruss examines the substantive philosophical issues raised by the Principle Reason. Discussing various forms of the PSR and selected historical episodes, from Parmenides, Leibnez, and Hume, Pruss defends the claim that every true contingent proposition must have an explanation against major objections, including Hume's imaginability argument and Peter van Inwagen's argument that the PSR entails modal fatalism. Pruss also provides a number of positive arguments for the PSR, based on considerations as different as the metaphysics of existence, counterfactuals and modality, negative explanations, and the everyday applicability of the PSR. Moreover, Pruss shows how the PSR would advance the discussion in a number of disparate fields, including meta-ethics and the philosophy of mathematics.

The Thomist Tradition University Press of America

Publisher description

[An Analytic Reconstruction](#) Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing

This volume provides the first comprehensive treatment of the central topics in the contemporary philosophy of religion from a Thomist point of view. It focuses on central themes, including religious knowledge, language, science, evil, morality, human nature, God and religious diversity. It should prove valuable to students and faculty in philosophy of religion and theology, who are looking for an introduction to the Thomist tradition.

[The Perspective of Morality](#) Routledge

Synthesizes Thomistic and Whiteheadian metaphysics.

[Various Group Mind Theories Viewed in the Light of Thomistic Principles](#) Wipf and Stock Publishers

In this comprehensive anthology, twenty-seven outstanding scholars from North America and Europe address every major aspect of Thomas Aquinas's understanding of morality and comment on his remarkable legacy. The opening chapters of *The Ethics of Aquinas* introduce readers to the sources, methods, and major themes of Aquinas's ethics. Part II of the book provides an extended discussion of ideas in the Second Part of the *Summa Theologiae*, in which contributors present cogent interpretations of the structure, major arguments, and themes of each of the treatises. The third and final part examines the legacy of Thomistic ethics for the twentieth century and today. These essays reflect a diverse group of scholars representing a variety of intellectual perspectives. Contributors span numerous fields of study, including intellectual history, medieval studies, moral philosophy, religious ethics, and moral theology. This remarkable variety underscores how interpretations of Thomas's ethics continue to develop and evolve -- and stimulate fervent discussion within the academy and the church. Book jacket.

[Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics: Suffering-Zwingli](#) Routledge

Acting on Principles, the product of over thirty years of teaching, gives a comprehensive overview of the Moral Theology of St. Thomas Aquinas, placing it in dialogue with contemporary ethical theory and developments in Catholic theology since the Second Vatican Council. Suitable for students of ethics and moral theology, and general readers seeking Christian guidance in the formation of conscience and moral decision making, it presents the classical Catholic ethical tradition in a clear and lively style. "Fr. Zagar offers us a study that is at once scholarly and accessible to a wide readership. Faithful to the thought and method of St. Thomas, *Acting on Principles* is a splendid resource for teachers, students of moral theology, pastors, catechists, and for all who seek to understand more fully the basis for moral judgment. I am delighted to recommend to you this important work!" --Michael Sweeney, O.P. President Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology "Acting on Principles is, in its essence, a profound appreciation of the moral theology of St. Thomas Aquinas, its relevance to contemporary ethics in the light of the Second Vatican Council, and the culmination of over thirty years of study, teaching, and prayer. Father Zagar's lifetime of teaching renders his writing lucid and accessible. This book will long serve as an invaluable resource for seminarians, catechetical programs, and independent study." --Fr. Emmerich Vogt, O.P. Prior Provincial Western Dominican Province "As the fiftieth anniversary of the Second Vatican Council approaches, today's hope is to find ways to blend, in creative fidelity, the moments of continuity and discontinuity that were endorsed by the Council. Janko Zagar's *Acting on Principles*, which began to take shape in the first decades following the Council, exemplifies the ongoing quest for a synthesis true both to the Thomistic legacy and to a Conciliar sense of personalism." --Richard Schenk O.P. Regent of Studies, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley Western Dominican Province Fr. Janko Zagar, O.P., a Catholic priest of the Dominican Order, is Emeritus Professor of Moral Theology and former Academic Dean of the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. He is author of *Bentham et la France*, as well as numerous articles on moral theology and the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas.

[Essays in the Renewal of Thomistic Moral Philosophy](#) Georgetown University Press

Alongside a revival of interest in Thomism in philosophy, scholars have realized its relevance when addressing certain contemporary issues in bioethics. This book offers a rigorous interpretation of Aquinas's metaphysics and ethical thought, and highlights its significance to questions in bioethics. Jason T. Eberl applies Aquinas's views on the seminal topics of human nature and morality to key questions in bioethics at the margins of human life - questions which are currently contested in the academia, politics and the media such as: When does a human person's life begin? How should we define and clinically determine a person's death? Is abortion ever morally permissible? How should we resolve the conflict between the potential benefits of embryonic stem cell research and the lives of human embryos? Does cloning involve a misuse of human ingenuity and technology? What forms of treatment are appropriate for irreversibly comatose patients? How should we care for patients who experience unbearable suffering as they approach the end of life? *Thomistic Principles and Bioethics* presents a significant philosophical viewpoint which will motivate further dialogue amongst religious and secular arenas of inquiry concerning such complex issues of both individual and public concern.

[Philosophical Foundations of Thomistic Virtue Ethics](#) Springer Science & Business Media

The Perspective of the Acting Person introduces readers to one of the most important and provocative thinkers in contemporary moral philosophy

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A Philosophy of Poetry Based on Thomistic Principles ... Taylor & Francis

A. "SEPARATE SUBSTANCES" AND "ANGELS"? It is interesting to note that, in an expressly theological treatise such as the *Summa theologiae*, St. Thomas generally uses the term "angel", in preference to "separate substance"; while in works with a less explicit theological intent - e. g. the *Summa contra gentiles* and the *De substantiis separatis* 1 - he generally prefers the term "separate substance". But at any rate there is little doubt that the two terms, "separate substance" and "angel" have a certain interchangeability and equivalence in the works of St. Thomas. In other words, "the separate substance" is equivalent to "the angel, insofar as its existence and attributes are knowable through human reason alone". And this has led Karl Barth 2 to charge that St. Thomas' angelology is primarily a philosophical presentation, with little relevance to theology. 1 We might say that these works are "philosophical" insofar as arguments from reason are emphasized in them, rather than arguments from revelation or faith. However, as Lescoe points out (in the Introduction to his edition of the *De substantiis separatis*, p. 8), the treatise on separate substances leads up to theological subject-matter in Ch. 's XVII ff- namely, an exposition of Catholic teaching as found in Sacred Scripture, the Fathers, and especially Dionysius. And Chenu maintains that the *Summa contra gentiles* is basically a theological work, because it not only leads up to theological subject-matter in Bk.

Introduction to Thomistic Philosophy Open Book Publishers

Bound for Beatitude is about St. Thomas Aquinas's theology of beatitude and the journey thereto. Consequently, the work's topic is the meaning and purpose of human life embedded in that of the whole cosmos. This study is not an antiquarian exercise in the thought of some sundry medieval thinker, but an exercise of ressourcement in the philosophical and theological wisdom of one of the most profound theologians of the Catholic Church, one whom the Church has canonized, granted the title "Doctor of the Church," and for a long time regarded as the common doctor. This exercise of ressourcement takes its methodological cues from the common doctor; hence, it is an integrated exercise of philosophical, dogmatic, and moral theology. Its specific theological topic, the ultimate human end, perfect happiness, beatitude, and the journey thereto—stands at the very heart of St. Thomas's theology. Far from being passé, his theology of beatitude is of urgent pertinence as the crisis of humanity and of creation and the exile of God seems to approach its apogee. By way of a presentation, interpretation, and defense of Thomas Aquinas's doctrine of beatitude and the journey thereto, *Bound for Beatitude* advances an argument based on four theses: (1) The loss of a theology of beatitude has greatly impoverished contemporary theology. In order to succeed and flourish, theology must recover a sound teleological orientation. (2) In order to recover a sound teleological orientation, theology must recover metaphysics as its privileged instrument. (3) Thomas Aquinas provides a still pertinent model for how theology might achieve these goals in a metaphysically profound theology of beatitude and the beatific vision. Finally, (4) Aquinas's rich and sophisticated account of the virtues charts the journey to beatitude in a way that still has analytic force and striking relevance in the early twenty-first century.

[Encyclopædia of Religion and Ethics: Suffering-Zwingli](#) CUA Press

This book introduces readers to Thomistic philosophy through selected topics such as being, God, teleology, truth, persons and knowledge, ethics, and universals. John Peterson discusses metaphysics and the essence-existence distinction and presents what he believes is Aquinas' strongest theistic proof. He offers a new defense Aquinas' idea of natural ends based on the distinction between immanent and transient change. Unveiling the complexity of Aquinas' account of truth, Peterson shows the hierarchical levels of truth in the thought of St. Thomas. The book explains why Aquinas would reject Cartesian dualism as well as both materialism and epiphenomenalism on the body-mind issue. Defending the basis of Aquinas' natural-law ethics, *Introduction to Thomistic Philosophy* reveals the role of universalizability and the relation of right and good in his ethics.

[Toward a Thomistic-Whiteheadian Metaphysics of Becoming](#) Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing

Never before in the history of mankind has there been a period when hitherto accepted moral principles have been more severely tested. The agonized cry of a world smitten by two major wars in a handful of years leaves no doubt in the minds of many that natural law ethics, if it is to have relevance and to survive, must provide at least the outline of an answer to the problems of every day living. To date, many hundreds of books and articles have been written setting forth with great eloquence the basic and immutable principles of natural law ethics. But too often these discussions fail to consider, in their agonizing detail, situations where there is a choice between conflicting values, conflicting loyalties, conflicting ideas and duties, each of which has a claim to recognition. It is only in the isolation of the particular case that the frightening dilemmas of natural law can be most clearly experienced. To give just two illustrations.

A Philosophy of Social Leadership According to Thomistic Principles Oxford University Press
Aquinas, says Jean Porter, gets justice right. In this book she shows that Aquinas offers us a cogent and illuminating account of justice as a personal virtue rather than a virtue of social institutions. For Aquinas, justice is more about interpersonal morality than civic or social obligations, and Porter masterfully draws out the contemporary significance of Aquinas's perspective. - back of book.