

## **DR. JAMES CORKERY, S.J.**

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### INDIRIZZO DI CASA:

Collegio Internazionale del Gesù  
Piazza del Gesù, 45  
00186 Roma  
Italia

### INDIRIZZO DI LAVORO:

Pontificia Università Gregoriana  
Piazza della Pilotta, 4  
00187 Roma  
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### DATI PERSONALI:

1954 – Nato a Limerick, Irlanda, il 26 marzo

1972 (giugno) – Diploma di Maturità (Sacred Heart College SJ, Limerick)

1972 (il 23 settembre) – Ingresso nel Noviziato della Compagnia di Gesù a Dublino, Irlanda

1984 (il 22 giugno) – Conferimento dell'ordinazione sacerdotale

### EDUCAZIONE

1974-1977: Bachelor of Social Science, University College Dublin, Ireland.

1977-1979: Bakkalaureat in Philosophie, Hochschule für Philosophie, Munich, Germany.

1979-1980: Higher Diploma in Education, University College Galway, Ireland.

1981-1984: Bachelor of Divinity, Milltown Institute of Theology and Philosophy, Dublin, Ireland.

1984-1986: Licentiate in Theology, The Catholic University of America, Washington DC, USA.

(Thesis title: *The Social-Structural Dimensions of Grace and 'Dis-grace' in the Theology of Leonardo Boff*).

1986-1991: Doctorate in Theology, The Catholic University of America, Washington D.C., U.S. A.

(Dissertation title: *The Relationship between Human Existence and Christian Salvation in the Theology of Joseph Ratzinger*).

### CARRIERA PROFESSIONALE

2024- *Professore Emerito*.

2019-2024: *Professore Ordinario*, Departments of Fundamental and Dogmatic Theology,  
Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy.

2015-2019: *Professore Straordinario*, Departments of Fundamental and Dogmatic Theology,  
Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy.

2013-2014: Semester 1: Visiting International Jesuit Scholar, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester  
MA 01610, USA.

2005-2006: Sabbatical Year: Semester 1: Rome (*Collegio S. Roberto Bellarmino*). Semester 2: Visiting  
International Jesuit Scholar, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA 01610, USA.

2001-2005: Head of Department of Systematic Theology and History, Milltown Institute, Dublin.

2001-2014: Associate Professor of Systematic Theology, Milltown Institute, Dublin.  
1995-2001: Lecturer in Systematic Theology, Milltown Institute, Dublin.  
1992-1995: Associate Lecturer in Systematic Theology, Milltown Institute, Dublin.  
1991-1992: Assistant Lecturer in Systematic Theology, Milltown Institute, Dublin.  
1981-1991: Full-time studies of Theology in Dublin and in Washington D.C. (see above).  
1979-1981: Teacher of philosophy, sociology, religion and German at Crescent College Comprehensive, Limerick, Ireland.

### **ATTIVITÀ E AFFILIAZIONI PROFESSIONALI**

1991-1995: Member of Steering Committee, *European Jesuit Theologians*.  
1992-1997: Member of the *Irish Theological Association*.  
1998-2001: External Examiner, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, *University of Wales*, Lampeter, U.K.  
1999-2002: Associate Editor, *The Way* and *The Way Supplement* (2002-present: Editorial Correspondent).  
1999-2001: Member of Executive Board of *Irish School of Ecumenics*, Dublin, Ireland.  
2001-2005: Chair, Steering Committee of *Irish School of Ecumenics Trust*.  
2007-2013: Member of Steering Committee of *Irish School of Ecumenics Trust* (Acting Chair, 2010-2011).  
2002-2013: Member of Academic Council of *Irish School of Ecumenics Trust*.  
2002-2004: External Examiner, Certificate in Reconciliation Studies, *University of Ulster*, Northern Ireland.  
2002-2005: External Examiner, Department of Religious Studies, *Saint Mary's College*, Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland.  
2004-2007: External Examiner, Department of Religious Studies, *Mary Immaculate College*, University of Limerick, Ireland.  
2009-2014: Member (and Secretary in final year) of the Theological Commission of the Irish Episcopal Conference.  
2021-oggi: Member of the International Advisory Board of the peer-reviewed journal, *Irish Theological Quarterly* <https://journals.sagepub.com/home/itq>

### **INTERESSI DI RICERCA**

**A.** Systematic Theology; **B.** Spirituality (social, Jesuit).

**A.**

(1) The social and structural dimensions of the theology of grace.

- (2) Differences between the soteriologies and anthropologies of liberation theologies, on the one hand, and documents of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, on the other.
- (3) The Theology of Joseph Ratzinger/Pope Benedict XVI.
- (4) The Theology of Avery Cardinal Dulles SJ.
- (5) Contemporary approaches to the Resurrection.
- (6) Foundational issues: the development of credible foundations for religious and Christian faith in contemporary postmodern culture(s).

**B.**

- (7) Social spirituality.
- (8) Spirituality and culture.
- (9) Spirituality and history of the Jesuits.

## **PUBBLICAZIONI**

### **Libri**

*Reaping the Harvest: Fifty Years after Vatican II.* Co-authored with Suzanne Mulligan (ed.) and Gerry O’Hanlon SJ. Dublin: The Columba Press, 2012.

*The Papacy since 1500: From Italian Prince to Universal Pastor.* Collection of essays co-edited with Thomas Worcester. USA and UK: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

*Joseph Ratzinger’s Theological Ideas: Wise Cautions and Legitimate Hopes.* Dublin: Dominican Publications and Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2009.

### **Libri più brevi**

*One City, Two Tiers: A Theological Reflection on Life in a Divided Society.* Co-authored with eight others. Dublin: Cherry Orchard Faith and Justice Group, 1996.

### **Attività editoriale e la scrittura di articoli**

*The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the Jesuits*, general editor Thomas W. Worcester SJ, Associate Editors: Megan C. Armstrong, James Corkery SJ, Alison Fleming, Andrés Ignacio Prieto (U.K. and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017). Articles by James Corkery: “Papacy” (3000 words), “Theology” (3000 words); “Grace” (800), “Pope John Paul II” (800); “Charism”, “Congregations”, “Kleutgen, Joseph SJ”, “Liberatore, Matteo SJ”, “McGarry, Cecil SJ”, “*Murmurationes*”, “Postulate” and “Vatican I” (300 words each).

### **Articoli in riviste e capitoli in opere edite**

“Grace: Divine Solitude for a World in Intensive Care” in: Regan, E. and Kearns, A., eds., *Critical Questions in Contemporary Theology: Essays in Honour of Dermot A. Lane* (Oxford, Bern, Berlin, Brussels, Frankfurt am Main, New York, Vienna: Peter Lang, 2024,125-135).

“Joseph Ratzinger/Pope Benedict (1927-2022): Legacies” in: *Doctrine & Life* 73:2 (February 2023): 26-30.

- “ ‘Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace’ (Luke 2:29): Joseph Ratzinger/Pope Benedict XVI (1927-2002)” in: *Thinking Faith: The Online Journal of the Jesuits in Britain*, 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.
- “Esseri umani misteriosi ed imprevedibile: il gesto creativo di Rosa Parks.” Conferenza in occasione del cinquantesimo anniversario dell’Istituto di Psicologia dell’Università Gregoriana (febbraio 2022, publication forthcoming).
- “Elizabeth A. Johnson: A Theological Life” in: *Doctrine & Life* 71:10 (December 2021): 10-34.
- “Prefazione” in: *POPE ART: Esperienza religiosa, Estetica e Spiritualità: Verso una teologia della teoria e critica dell’arte contemporanea*. A cura di Yvonne Dohna Schlobitten (Rome: Gregorian & Biblical Press, 2021, 7-8).
- “The Regensburg Address of Pope Benedict. Ten Years Later” in: *Le sfide delle religioni oggi – 2018*. Volume 10: Interreligious and Intercultural Investigations. Series directed by Laurent Basanese SJ. This is the text of a talk given by James Corkery SJ at the Forum of the Centro Studi Interreligiosi of the Gregorian University on 16th January 2017 (Rome: Gregorian & Biblical Press, 2019, 29-34).
- “Ratzinger’s Dialogical Personalism” in: Amaury Begasse de Dhaem, Enzo Galli, Maurizio Malaguti, Rafael Pascual and Carlos Salto Solá (editors), *Deus Summe Cognoscibilis: The Current Theological Relevance of Saint Bonaventure* (Leuven: Peeters, 2018, 205-214).
- “Jesus and Children, Images of a Loving God” in: Karlijn Demasure, Katharina A. Fuchs and Hans Zollner (editors), *Safeguarding: Reflecting on Child Abuse, Theology and Care* (Leuven: Peeters, 2018, 5-15).
- “Towards an Understanding of Salvation that could be ‘Salvific’ for Survivors of Sexual Abuse in the Church: An Exploration of the Notion of Representation in Joseph Ratzinger’s Soteriology” in: K. Demasure, K.A. Fuchs and H. Zollner (eds.), *Safeguarding: Reflecting on Child Abuse, Theology and Care* (Leuven: Peeters, 2018, 17-35).
- “The Cultural Impact of Mercy: A Christian Reflection” in: Valentino Cottini, Felix Körner and Diego R. Sarrió Cucarella (editors), *RAHMA: Muslim and Christian Studies in Mercy* (Rome: Pontificio Istituto di Studi Arabi e d’Islamistica, 2018, 187-196).
- “Sourpuss” in: Joshua J. McElwee and Cindy Wooden (eds.), *A Pope Francis Lexicon* (Collegeville MN: Liturgical Press, 2018, 181-183).
- “Grinchus” in: *Pape François Lexique. Traduit de l’anglais et de l’américain par Farah Mebarki* (Paris : Les Éditions du Cerf, 2018, 169-173).
- “Luther and the Theology of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI” in: Declan Marmion, Salvador Ryan and Gesa Thiessen (eds.), *Remembering the Reformation: Martin Luther and Catholic Theology* (U.S.A., Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2017, 125-141).
- “Francesco: erede e innovatore: un Papa argentino e gesuita nella tradizione post-conciliare” in: Michelina Tenace (ed.), *Dal Chiodo alla Chiave: La Teologia Fondamentale di Papa Francesco* (Città del Vaticano: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2017, 135-150).
- “Karl Rahner” in: Patrick Carberry SJ (ed.), *With Christ in Service: Jesuit Lives Through the Ages* Dublin: Messenger Publications, 2017, 45-50).
- “A Serving Church: An Appraisal” (with Staf Hellemans) in: Charles Taylor, José Casanova, George F. McLean and João Vila-Chà (editors), *Renewing the Church in a Secular Age* (USA: Washington DC: Council for Research and Values in Philosophy, 2016, 263-268).

- “In Remembrance: Finbarr G. Clancy SJ (1954-2015)” in: *Milltown Studies* 76 (Winter 2015): 1-7.
- “The Reception of Vatican II in Ireland over Fifty Years” in: Dermot A. Lane (ed.), *Vatican II in Ireland, Fifty Years On* (Bern: Peter Lang, 2015, 97-119).
- “Detectives of Grace in the Adventures of Scholarship” in: *Becoming Beholders: Cultivating Sacramental Imagination and Actions in College Classrooms*. Eds. Karen E. Eifler and Thomas M. Landy (Collegeville MN: The Liturgical Press, 2014, 18-37).
- “What Can You Expect from a Jesuit Pope?” in: *The Francis Factor: A New Departure*, editors John Littleton and Eamon Maher (Dublin: The Columba Press, 2014, 48-56).
- “Bringing God to the World and the World to God: The Priest in the Twenty-First Century” in: *Priesthood Today: Ministry in a Changing Church*. Ed. E. Conway (Dublin: Veritas, 2013, 149-156).
- “Reason and Faith are Friends: Faith in the Writings of Joseph Ratzinger/Benedict XVI” in: *Religious Life Review* 52:283 (November/December 2013): 325-336.
- “Pope Francis and the Eight Cardinal Advisors” in: *Thinking Faith: The Online Journal of the British Jesuits* (30<sup>th</sup> September 2013).
- “Vatican II and its Reception in Ireland” in: *Doctrine & Life* 63:6 (July-August 2013): 32-45.
- “Pope Announces Resignation – Not a Joke” in: *Doctrine & Life* 63:3 (March 2013): 12-21.
- “Whither Catholicism in Ireland?” in: *Studies* 101:404 (Winter 2012): 387-396.
- “Reflection on the Theology of Joseph Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI)” in: *Acta Theologica* 2012 32(2): 17-34.
- “Speak Freely – but Watch Your Back! Dissent and Dissenters in the Catholic Church Today” in: *Doctrine & Life* 62:10 (December 2012): 10-22.
- “*Dei Verbum*: On the face of God ‘unveiled’” in: *Thinking Faith: Online Journal of the British Jesuits* (17 October 2012).
- “Accounting for Hope: Religious Life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” in: *Review for Religious* (January-February 2012).
- “The Catholic Church in Ireland: ‘what must we do?’ (Acts 2:37)” in: *Studies* 100: 398 (Summer 2011): 193-205.
- “Rahner and Ratzinger: A Complex Relationship” in: Pádraic Conway and Fáinche Ryan (eds.). *Karl Rahner: Theologian for the Twenty-first Century*. Bern: Peter Lang AG, International Academic Publishers, 2010, pp. 77-100.
- “Joseph Ratzinger on Liberation Theology: What Did He Say? Why Did He Say It? What Can Be Said About It?” in: Patrick Claffey and Joe Egan (eds.). *Movement or Moment? Assessing Liberation Theology Forty Years after Medellín*. Bern: Peter Lang AG, International Academic Publishers, 2009, pp. 183-202.
- “Europe: What is Pope Benedict Thinking?” in: *Working Notes* 61 (September 2009): 24-28. Reprinted in *Thinking Faith: Online Journal of the British Jesuits* (24 September 2009).
- “On Christian Hope: The New Encyclical of Pope Benedict XVI” in: *Thinking Faith: Online Journal of the British Jesuits* (18 January 2008).

“Joseph Ratzinger’s Theological Ideas 7 – Wise Cautions and Legitimate Hopes” in: *Doctrine & Life* 57:9 (November 2007): 2-21.

“Joseph Ratzinger’s Theological Ideas 6 – Resisting the ‘Dictatorship of Relativism’” in: *Doctrine & Life* 57:6 (July/August 2007): 2-20.

“Joseph Ratzinger’s Theological Ideas 5 – *Quaestiones Disputatae* 2: Theological Dissent” in: *Doctrine & Life* 57:1 (January 2007): 35-48.

“Joseph Ratzinger’s Theological Ideas 4 – *Quaestiones Disputatae* 1” in: *Doctrine & Life* 56:10 (December 2006): 12-24.

“Joseph Ratzinger’s Theological Ideas 3 – On Being Human” in: *Doctrine & Life* 56:7 (September 2006): 7-24.

“Joseph Ratzinger’s Theological Ideas 2 – The Facial Features of a Theological *Corpus*” in: *Doctrine & Life* 56:4 (April 2006): 2-12.

“Joseph Ratzinger’s Theological Ideas 1 – Origins: A Theologian Emerges” in: *Doctrine & Life* 56:2 (February 2006): 6-14.

“An Accidental Theologian” in: *Theology in the Making: Biography, Contexts, Methods*. Edited by Gesa E. Thiessen and Declan Marmion. Dublin: Veritas Publications, 2005, pp. 45-55.

“Spirituality and Culture” in: *The New SCM Dictionary of Christian Spirituality*. Edited by Philip Sheldrake. London: SCM Press, 2005, pp. 26-31.

“A Vision To Live By” in: Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice, *Catholic Social Teaching in Action*. Edited by Cathy Molloy. Dublin: The Columba Press, 2005, pp. 11-21.

“Does Technology Squeeze Out Transcendence – or What?” in: Michael Breen, Eamonn Conway and Barry McMillan (eds.), *Technology and Transcendence*. Dublin: The Columba Press, 2003, pp. 11-21. [Republished, in slightly abridged form, in: *The Furrow* (February 2004): 97-106].

“Unripened Fruits” in: Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice, *Windows on Social Spirituality*. Dublin: The Columba Press, 2003, pp. 28-38.

“Continuing to Think about Faith and Culture....” in: *Studies* 92:365 (Spring 2003): 19-26.

“Apparitions and Experience” in: *The Way Supplement* (2000/99): 88-97.

“Cultural Change and Theology in Ireland” in: *Studies* 88:352 (Winter 1999): 371-380.

“One Christ, Many Religions: Speaking of Christ in the Context of a Plurality of Religions” in: *Milltown Studies* 40 (Winter 1997): 5-30.

“The Communion of Saints” in: *The Way* 36:4 (October 1996): 285-293.

“John Macken, S.J.: In Appreciation” in: *Milltown Studies* 38 (Autumn 1996): 5-10.

“The Social Dimensions of Grace and ‘Dis-grace’ in the Theology of Leonardo Boff” in: *Bobolanum* 6 (1995): 92-119.

“The Idea of Europe According to Joseph Ratzinger” in: *Milltown Studies* 31 (Spring 1993): 91-111.

### **Book Reviews**

Moloney, Francis J. *The Resurrection of the Messiah: A Narrative Commentary on the Resurrection Accounts in the Four Gospels* (NY/Mahwah NJ, Paulist Press, 2013). Reviewed in *Theological Studies* 75:4 (December 2015): 900-901.

Ivereigh, Austen. *The Great Reformer: Francis and the Making of a Radical Pope* (London: Allen and Unwin, 2014). Reviewed in *Studies: An Irish Quarterly Review* 104: 415 (Autumn 2015): 332-337.

Kilby, Karen. *Balthasar: A (Very) Critical Introduction* (Grand Rapids, MI and Cambridge, UK: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2012). Reviewed in: *Doctrine & Life* 65:2 (February 2015): 56-62.

Joseph Redfield Palmisano SJ. *Beyond the Walls: Abraham Joshua Heschel and Edith Stein on the Significance of Empathy for Jewish-Christian Dialogue* (UK: Oxford University Press, 2012). Talk given by J. Corkery at the launch of this book was published in *One in Christ* 47:1 (2013): 130-134.

Waters, John. *Beyond Consolation*. Reviewed in *The Way* (October 2012).

Hederman, Mark Patrick. *Underground Cathedrals*. Reviewed in *The Way* (January 2012).

Williams, Roy. *God Actually: Why God probably exists, Why Jesus was probably divine, and Why the ‘rational’ objections to religion are unconvincing* (Oxford, UK and Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA, 2009 (first published in Australia by ABC Books in 2008). Reviewed in *The Furrow* (2010).

Twomey, D. Vincent. *Das Gewissen unserer Zeit: Ein theologisches Portrait*. Translated by Peter Paul Bornhausen (Augsburg: Sankt Ulrich Verlag GmbH, 2006); and Verweyen, Hansjürgen, *Joseph Ratzinger – Benedikt XVI: Die Entwicklung seines Denkens* (Darmstadt: Primus Verlag, 2007), in: *Irish Theological Quarterly* 74 (2009): 434-439.

Hubert Irsigler and Godehard Ruppert (editors), *Ein Gott der Leiden schafft? Leidens-erfahrungen im 20. Jahrhundert und die Frage nach Gott* (Frankfurt-am-Main: Peter Lang, 1995), in: *Milltown Studies* 38 (Autumn 1996): 139-141.

*The Role of the University in Society*. Proceedings of the Conference held in Dublin Castle on 20-21 May 1994 by the National University of Ireland, in: *Milltown Studies* 38 (Autumn 1996): 138-139.

Stephen J. Duffy, *The Dynamics of Grace: Perspectives in Theological Anthropology* (Collegeville, Minnesota: The Liturgical Press, 1993) and F. Ocariz, L.F. Mateo-Seco and J.A. Riestra, *The Mystery of Jesus Christ: A Christology and Soteriology Textbook*. Translated by Michael Adams and James Gavigan (Dublin: Four Courts Press, Ltd., 1994). Reviewed together in: *Studies* 84:334 (Summer 1995): 212-216.

Irish Inter-Church Meeting, *Ecumenical Principles and Salvation and Grace* (Dublin: Veritas, 1993). Reviewed together in: *Milltown Studies* 35 (Spring 1995): 145-146.

Francis Schüssler-Fiorenza and John P. Galvin (eds.), *Systematic Theology: Roman Catholic Perspectives* (Dublin: Gill & Macmillan, 1992), *Milltown Studies* 32 (Autumn 1993): 145-53.

Avery Dulles, *The Craft of Theology: From Symbol to System* (Dublin: Gill and Macmillan, 1992), in: *Studies* 83:325 (Spring 1993): 197-100.

### **External Examiner of Doctoral Dissertations:**

St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Ireland.  
University of Wales (Lampeter, U.K.).  
Queen's University Belfast (twice).  
Heythrop College, University of London.  
*Katholieke Universiteit* Leuven, Belgium.  
University of Helsinki, Finland.  
Pontificia Facoltà Teologica – Pontificio Istituto di Spiritualità *Teresianum*, Rome.  
Australian Catholic University.

### **Winter Living Theology, South Africa, 2011:**

*Winter Living Theology 2011*: Nine lectures (in CD form) on “The Church in the Modern World: From Trent to Vatican II,” by James Corkery SJ (The Jesuit Institute South Africa [Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, Durban, Port Elizabeth, Capetown], [www.jesuitinstitute.org.za](http://www.jesuitinstitute.org.za), July/August 2011).

### **Webinar (India):**

One of the key speakers at the International Webinar held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2020 at St. Aloysius College, Mangalore, entitled *Finding Purpose and Meaning in Times of Hopelessness*. Title of contribution: “Marching with Hope in Times of Crisis.” Event reported by Dr. Shalini Aiyappa, Head, Dept. of Psychology, St. Aloysius College [www.mangalorean.com/finding-purpose-meaning-in-times-of-hopelessness-discussed-during-international-webinar/]; last accessed on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2025).

### **Interviews/Podcasts:**

Vittoria Prisciandaro interviews James Corkery SJ: text available in her “Ecco perché ora serve una Teologia anti-abusi” in: *Jesus: Inchieste e Dibattiti sull'Attualità Religiosa* 9 (sett. 2015): 56-61.

Diverse interviste in TV nazionale irlandese in relazione ai Papi Benedetto XVI e Francesco. Anche numerose partecipazioni a dibattiti radiofonici (in Irlanda) in relazione a temi teologici ed ecclesiali nel mio ruolo di professore di teologia.

Sito di web dei gesuiti irlandesi ([www.jesuit.ie](http://www.jesuit.ie)): Interviste diverse con signora Patricia Coyle sui Papi recenti, Benedetto XVI (2005-2013) e Francesco (2013-2025); sul tema: “Peccato, salvezza e la Crisi degli abusi sessuali nella Chiesa Cattolica”; su una serie di lezioni sul Concilio Vaticano II; sul Padre Generale Pedro Arrupe SJ; e su Congregazioni Generali della Compagnia di Gesù.