It isn't just for Catholics: Pope Francis and the Future of Catholic Social Ethics

Prof. Dennis McCann

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- Retired from the faculty of Agnes Scott College in 2011 where he is Wallace M. Alston Professor Emeritus of Bible and Religion.
- Co-author of Christ and Business Culture (2012), co-editor of In Search of the Common Good (2005) and many other publications.

Abstract:
The Catholic Church’s newly elected Pope is unusual for many reasons. He is the first Pope in more than a thousand years not to have been born in Europe, and he is the first Pope to choose the name Francis, in honor of the universally admired St. Francis of Assisi. His many symbolic gestures, both as archbishop of Buenos Aires, and now as bishop of Rome, suggest a personal style that gives real meaning to the idea of “solidarity with the oppressed,” including not only the impoverished masses living in the slums of major Latin American cities, but also atheists, sexual minorities and others who have been marginalized or ostracized by attitudes and practices previously sanctioned in traditionally Catholic cultures. Prof. McCann will discuss Pope Francis’ approach to the Papacy, and attempt to place it in the context of ongoing developments in the history of Catholic social teaching initiated by his predecessors, beginning with “good Pope” John XXIII who tried to bring some fresh air (aggiornamento) into the church by convening the Second Vatican Council (1963-1965).

Date:  Friday, 4 October 2013
Time:  4:30 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.
Venue:  AAB303, Academic and Administration Building, Baptist University Road, Kowloon Tong

*****All are welcome (Reservation by email only)*****

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