FACULTY IN THE MEDIA

Faith & Mission

June 03, 2026

At Ave Maria University, our faculty continue to make important contributions to the national conversation on faith, reason, and the critical issues of our time. Recently, two beloved professors, Dr. Gabriel Martinez and Dr. Lendmen, have stepped into the media spotlight to help Catholics understand Pope Leo XIV's inaugural encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas, and what it truly teaches about artificial intelligence and human dignity.

When many anticipated a technical document focused on AI itself, the Holy Father delivered something far more profound: a masterwork of theological anthropology that explores what it means to be human in light of God's revelation. Dr. Martinez and Dr. Lendmen have been instrumental in helping the broader Catholic community grasp this deeper message. Dr. Martinez recently appeared on Catholic Connections with Teresa Tomeo to discuss the encyclical and his free online "Pursuit of Wisdom" course, while Dr. Lendmen has emphasized that Magnifica Humanitas establishes the fundamental principles by which we must evaluate artificial intelligence's role in our lives.

In another engaging appearance, Dr. Martinez sat down with Archbishop Hicks on All Good Things to explore the intersection of economics and Catholicism through the lens of Saint Thomas Aquinas's teachings on private property. Dr. Martinez articulated a vital insight: both economics and theology fundamentally concern the human person and the decisions people make within their particular contexts. He identified a critical challenge facing modern society, the troubling separation of faith from daily life, and demonstrated how Catholic teaching offers wisdom for bridging that gap.

These media appearances reflect the very mission of Ave Maria University: to integrate faith and reason in service of truth and human flourishing. Our alumni can take pride in the fact that our faculty are not simply teaching in the classroom but actively engaged in forming the Catholic conscience and helping families understand how their faith speaks to the most pressing questions of our age.

Read online for photos and videos:

https://alumni.avemaria.edu/news/faculty-in-the-media-1780510246034