

# The Ethics Of Aquinas

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The Ethics of St. Thomas Aquinas  
Aquinas's Ethics  
Moral Values and the Moral Life  
Ethica Thomistica  
Recovery of Virtue  
Aquinas's Philosophical Commentary on the Ethics  
Aquinas and Natural Law  
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Aquinas, Ethics, and Philosophy of Religion  
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The Primacy of Love  
Aquinas's Moral Theory  
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Studies in Ethics and the Philosophy of Religion  
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Contingency and Fortune in Aquinas's Ethics  
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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 while there has been a revival of interest in recent years in the ethics of st thomas no single work has yet fully examined the basic moral arguments and content of aquinas major moral work the second part of the *summa theologiae* this work fills that lacuna the first chapters of the ethics of aquinas introduce readers to the sources methods and major themes of aquinas's ethics the second part 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 aspects of thomistic ethics in the twentieth century and beyond 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 this volume is aimed at scholars

students clergy and all those who continue to find aquinas a rich source of moral insight

the far reaching changes in man s social and personal life taking place in our lifetime underline the need for a sound ethical evaluation of our rights and duties and of human behaviour both on the individual level and in the political society on many issues judgments of value vary widely and a consultation of the thought of thomas aquinas on the basic questions will be helpful the more since he is not only one of the greatest philosophers but also succeeded in integrating in his moral philosophy the wisdom of the ancients in particular of aristotle and the stoic this book presents aquinas s thought on such central questions as man s happiness how to determine the morality of our actions the natural law and the main virtues as well as on the common good war human labour love and friendship throughout the book the intellectual character of this moral philosophy is pointed out and problems are set in a historical perspective

this element provides an account of thomas aquinas s moral philosophy that emphasizes the intrinsic connection between happiness and the human good human virtue and the precepts of practical reason human beings by nature have an end to which they are directed and concerning which they do not deliberate namely happiness humans achieve this end by performing good human acts which are produced by the intellect and the will and perfected by the relevant virtues these virtuous acts require that the agent grasps the relevant moral principles and uses them in particular cases

first published fifteen years ago *ethica thomistica* is widely recognized as one of the finest introductions to st thomas s moral philosophy though the book has been out of print for several years scholars and students still refer to it as the standard resource on thomistic ethics in this much anticipated revised edition ralph mcinerny revisits the basics of thomas s teachings and offers a brief intelligible and persuasive summary chapters morality and human life the good for man ultimate end and moral principles the structure of the human act good and evil action character and decision prudence and conscience religion and morality about the author ralph mcinerny is michael p grace professor of medieval studies and director of the jacques maritain center at the university of notre dame where he has taught since 1955 he is founder and publisher of catholic dossier magazine cofounder of crisis magazine and author of several books published by cua press including aquinas on human action 1992 the question of christian ethics 1993 and aquinas and analogy 1996 praise for the book remarkable for its moderation and common sense mcinerny rapidly sketches selected themes from thomistic moral thinking what distinguishes the moral activities of man what is distinctive of moral goodness in aristotle and in aquinas an analysis of practical reason in relation to natural law the bases for judging good and evil moral actions the roles of intellect and will in voluntary activity the work of virtues as components of moral character the functions of prudence and conscience and finally the relation of ethics to religious belief for the person who desires a quick and understandable introduction to this subject this little book can be recommended as readable and reliable vernon j bourke *speculum* an important contribution both to moral philosophy and to its teaching mcinerny has put us all in his debt by writing it alasdaire macintyre teaching philosophy a clear thorough and readable introduction to the thought of one of the intellectual giants of the catholic moral tradition national catholic register

by developing a philosophical reconstruction of the moral philosophy that underlies the secunda pars of the *summa theologiae* of thomas aquinas jean porter

illuminates aquinas theory of morality and shows its relevance to contemporary christian ethics

is aquinas s *sententia libri ethicorum* an interpretation of aristotle based on principles of christian ethics or do we have in that work a presentation of the foundation of aquinas s moral philosophy professor doig answers these questions through an examination of the historical context within which the *sententia* was composed in chapters 1 2 the work s role as a corrective of earlier commentaries is established chapter 3 by examining philosophy at paris between 1215 and 1283 reveals that the proposal by aquinas of a moral philosophy would have been unexceptional chapter 4 s investigation of the principles underlying the moral theory of the *sententia* makes apparent that they were regarded by aquinas as both philosophical and aristotelian the date to be assigned the composition of the *sententia* is studied in chapter 5 and the conclusion is drawn that with some probability the *sententia* is its author s final proposal of moral doctrines the closing chapter offers a summary of that moral philosophy against the historical background brought out earlier

in aquinas ethics and philosophy of religion thomas hibbs recovers the notion of practice to develop a more descriptive account of human action and knowing grounded in the venerable vocabulary of virtue and vice drawing on aquinas who believed that all good works originate from virtue hibbs postulates how epistemology ethics metaphysics and theology combine into a set of contemporary philosophical practices that remain open to metaphysics hibbs brings aquinas into conversation with analytic and continental philosophy and suggests how a more nuanced appreciation of his thought enriches contemporary debates this book offers readers a new appreciation of aquinas and articulates a metaphysics integrally related to ethical practice

thomas aquinas was a man with a strategy not a strategy to assist us in good decision making or a strategy to help us resolve our problems of conscience but a strategy to work toward our personal transformation in light of god s love for us aquinas has traditionally been represented as a man whose ethics are overly rational excessively formal and too scholarly to be of much use in contemporary society the primacy of love gives us a fresh look at his ethical thought and invites us to become part of his vision of the moral life as partners in god s perfect love author paul wadell gives special attention to the role of the passions affections and emotions in our moral life and creates a richly humane and compelling study written in a clear and accessible style the primacy of love is a modern map for our own moral journey that is not so much something to study but a way of life in which to participate to follow this journey is to take up an adventure that will involve you from the center of your being and will change you forever

this volume explores the ethical dimensions of a wide selection of philosophical and theological topics in aquinas s texts it covers topics central to ethics such as happiness moral virtue and natural law as well as related topics pertaining to the metaphysical basis of aquinas s account of goodness the ramifications of his ethical concerns for his philosophy of language and the significance of his philosophical psychology for his ethics

thomas aquinas devoted a substantial proportion of his greatest works to the virtues yet despite the availability of these texts and centuries of commentary aquinas s virtue ethics remains mysterious leaving readers with many unanswered questions in this book pinsent argues that the key to understanding aquinas s approach is to be found in an association between a attributes he appends to the virtues and b interpersonal capacities investigated by the science

of social cognition especially in the context of autistic spectrum disorder the book uses this research to argue that aquinas s approach to the virtues is radically non aristotelian and founded on the concept of second person relatedness to demonstrate the explanatory power of this principle pinsent shows how the second person perspective gives interpretation to aquinas s descriptions of the virtues and offers a key to long standing problems such as the reconciliation of magnanimity and humility the principle of second person relatedness also interprets acts that aquinas describes as the fruition of the virtues pinsent concludes by considering how this approach may shape future developments in virtue ethics

first published in 2003 this is volume v of nine in the studies in ethics and the philosophy of religion collection the series is meant to provide an opportunity for philosophical discussions of a limited length which pursue in some detail specific topics in ethics or the philosophy of religion or topics which belong to both fields a draft of this book was delivered as a lecture course at oxford over the terms of 1967 8

in this study john bowlin argues that aquinas s moral theology receives much of its character and content from an assumption about our common lot the good we desire is difficult to know and to will in particular because of contingencies of various kinds within ourselves in the ends and objects we pursue and in the circumstances of choice since contingencies are fortune s effects aquinas insists that it is fortune that makes good choice difficult bowlin then explicates aquinas s treatment of a number of topics in light of this difficulty the moral and theological virtues the first precepts of the natural law the voluntariness of virtuous action and the happiness available to us in this life by noting that aquinas proceeds with an eye on fortune s threats to virtue agency and happiness bowlin places him more precisely in the history of ethics among aristotle augustine and the stoics

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