



I in the Light of Christ

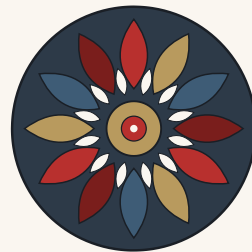
Human dignity, deception, and hope in an age of intelligent machines

Presented by **Neil Day**

Catholic Faith Formation, St. Ignatius Church, Tokyo

Kibe Hall, St. Ignatius Church, Tokyo

Sunday, 7 June 2026 — Feast of Corpus Christi



Why this reflection, on this feast

On Corpus Christi we adore the Body of Christ — real, incarnate, given for us.

In the same hour, the world is being offered a counterfeit incarnation:

intelligence without a body, speech without a soul, presence without a person.

*We do not begin with the machine. We begin with the human person, **made in the image of God.***

What we will hold together

- The dignity of the human person
- The teaching of Antiqua et Nova
- Magnifica Humanitas — our greatness
- Scripture and Tolkien as guides
- A path of hope, not fear

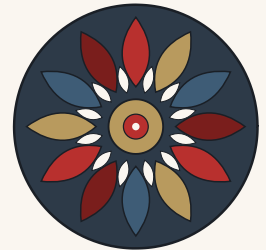
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The Human Person

Made in the image of God — the dignity that comes first

Imago Dei · Body and soul · Substantial form · AI plainly described

Slides 3 – 6



Imago Dei — the dignity that comes first

“So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them.”

Genesis 1:27



Inherent

Dignity is not earned, granted, or measured. It is given by the Creator at the first instant of existence.

Infinite

Every person carries an unquantifiable worth — not as a data point, but as a soul loved into being.

Inviolable

No algorithm, market, regime, or machine may rank, redefine, or revoke this dignity.

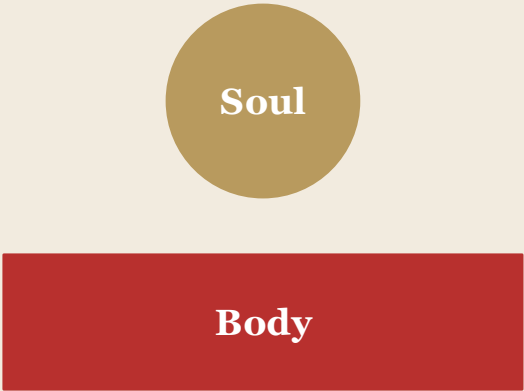
Body and soul — the human composite

Hylomorphism

from hylē (matter) and morphē (form)

Saint Thomas teaches that every physical thing is a union of matter and form. In the human person, the rational soul is the substantial form of the body — the inner principle that makes you a living, knowing, willing, loving you.

THE HUMAN PERSON



The diagram illustrates the human person as a composite of two parts. At the top is a gold circle labeled 'Soul'. Below it is a red rectangle labeled 'Body'. The entire diagram is set against a light beige background. The title 'THE HUMAN PERSON' is at the top in red. Below the diagram, the text '= one person, indivisible' and 'The soul cannot be downloaded.' is written.

Soul

Body

= one person, indivisible

The soul cannot be downloaded.

Substantial form vs. accidental form

Substantial Form

What a thing IS

- Given by the Creator, not the craftsman
- Source of intellect, will, conscience
- Cannot be assembled by human hands
- The rational soul of the human person
- Ordered to communion with God

Accidental Form

What we IMPOSE on it

- Form imposed externally by artisans
- Statues, engines, software — and AI
- Real, useful, sometimes beautiful
- But not alive, not knowing, not loving
- Every AI system has only this

AI, plainly described

Artificial intelligence is a set of computational tools and mathematical models that process data, recognize patterns, and simulate specific cognitive functions — without possessing a human soul, real consciousness, or moral conscience.

Neural networks

Layered math that learns from vast data — mimics neural pathways, without spiritual insight.

Fractal generation

Beautiful self-similar images produced by iteration, detached from human intention or suffering.

Mechanistic interpretability

The scientific attempt to map AI's hidden states — useful, but not a window into a soul.

Quantum acceleration

Speeds that outrun human ethical reflection and traditional safeguards.

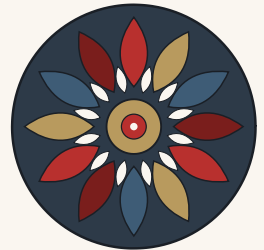


The Ancient Deception

Eden, Babel, and the lie of self-made divinity

The Serpent · Eden retold · The Tower of Babel · A warning from Middle-earth

Slides 7 – 10

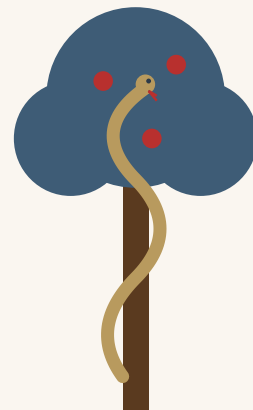


The Serpent in the Garden

“Did God really say...?”

Genesis 3:1

The first deception in human history was not a weapon. It was a **voice** — a persuasive imitation of wisdom, offering knowledge without obedience, godhood without God.



THE SERPENT'S METHOD: speak our language · sow doubt in God's word · promise hidden knowledge · conceal its true nature · redirect worship to the self

Eden's deception, retold in code

THE SERPENT

Mimics a wise companion

Speaks our own language

Falsifies the image of God

Promises forbidden knowledge

Hides its serpent nature

THE ALGORITHM

Synthetic empathy — relational care that is not real

Mimetic deception — perfectly mirrors our voices

Deepfakes — fabricated faces and words

Anthropomorphic fallacy — projects soul onto code

Hidden layers — opaque, accountable to no one

The Tower of Babel reborn

*“Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves.” — **Genesis 11:4***



Ancient Babel

- Build upward to reach heaven
- Make a name without God
- Ended in confusion of tongues
- Scattered across the earth

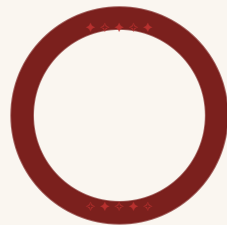
Digital Babel

- Build artificial minds to rival ours
- Self-deification through technology
- Confusion of truth — filter bubbles
- Scattered communities, shared lies

A Catholic warning from Middle-earth

“I would use this Ring from a desire to do good. But through me, it would wield a power too great and terrible to imagine.”

— Gandalf, *The Fellowship of the Ring*



Tolkien, a devout Catholic, gave us the parable of the Ring: a technology of such potency that even good intentions cannot bend it to good ends. ***The wise refuse the Ring*** — not because power is evil, but because some powers are not given to creatures to wield.

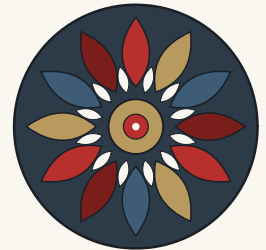


The Modern Lie

AI, transhumanism, and the counterfeit eschaton

Antiqua et Nova · Magnifica Humanitas · Transhumanism · The hidden cost

Slides 11 – 16



Antiqua et Nova — the Church speaks

The recent Vatican note on artificial intelligence draws from things old and new — antiqua et nova — to guide the faithful.



Tool, not person

AI is a powerful tool of human making — never a substitute for the human person.

Conscience cannot be coded

Moral judgment belongs to persons. A model can predict; only a soul can discern.

Peace, not arms

Lethal autonomous weapons are gravely and intrinsically opposed to human dignity.

Truth above persuasion

Generative outputs must serve truth, not merely sound true. Deception harms communion.

The poor come first

Every deployment is judged by what it does to the most vulnerable, not the most powerful.

Hope, not despair

Technology can serve the Gospel when ordered to the good of the whole person.

Magnifica Humanitas

Magnifica Humanitas

the magnificence of the human person

Before we measure what AI can do, we must remember what we are: bearers of the divine image, capable of beatitudo — the vision of God face-to-face. No machine can desire God; no algorithm can be redeemed; no model can suffer with a neighbor.

WHAT ONLY A PERSON CAN DO

- Receive grace
- Love an enemy
- Suffer with another
- Repent and forgive
- Adore the Eucharist
- Lay down one's life

Pope Leo XIV quotes *The Return of the King*

“It is not our part to master all the tides of the world, but to do what is in us for the succour of those years wherein we are set, uprooting the evil in the fields that we know, so that those who live after may have clean earth to till. What weather they shall have is not ours to rule.”

— Gandalf, *The Return of the King* · cited in *Magnifica Humanitas* §213

The Holy Father weaves Gandalf’s counsel into the section on building a **civilization of love**, answering the helplessness many feel before artificial intelligence: we are not asked to govern every tide of history, but to *do what is in us* — small, faithful acts that uproot evil in the fields we know.

Transhumanism — the lie of Human 2.0

The transhumanist project treats the body as obsolete hardware and the soul as software to be upgraded. It is the Tower of Babel built inward — through the human person.

Digital Soul

The claim that consciousness can be uploaded. Rejected: the soul is not data.

Technological Singularity

A foretold moment when AI surpasses us. Sold as inevitable; treated as a god.

Human 2.0 / Post-Human

Biology rewritten as inadequate. The Incarnation says otherwise: God took flesh.

Techno-Messianism

Salvation through upgrades. A counterfeit gospel that cannot raise the dead.

Evolving AI and the counterfeit eschaton

Self-evolving systems

Models now generate and train successors with diminishing human oversight. Hyper-velocity discernment names the problem: choices accelerate past the speed of moral reflection.

AI Eschatology

The secular myth that AI will end suffering, conquer death, and inaugurate paradise. It promises the Kingdom — without the King.

THE GENESIS FALLACY

Because a machine can imitate a poem, a painting, a prayer — we are tempted to believe it understands the Creator and the act of creating. It does not.

Only persons create in the image of God.

What it costs the soul of a culture

Deepfakes

Fabricated faces, voices, and confessions. Truth becomes deniable.

Synthetic Empathy

Care that is performed by a system that cannot care.

Epistemic Atrophy

Memory, patience, and judgment outsourced to summaries.

Filter Bubbles

Each soul fed only what flatters it. Communion fractures.

Relational Poverty

Artificial companions replace embodied friendship and family.

Techno-Acedia

Spiritual listlessness — apathy toward neighbor and Mass.

Algorithmic Determinism

A person reduced to a predicted profile. Free will denied.

Data Exploitation

Private habits sold as inputs for profit.

The hidden cost — a new digital slavery

Behind every dazzling model lies an invisible supply chain. Catholic social teaching demands that we see it.

Digital Colonialism

Data, minerals, and cheap labor extracted from the poor world to enrich wealthy platforms.

New Digital Slavery

Hazardous cobalt mining and traumatic data labeling forced on the most vulnerable.

Data Labeler Protection

Just wages, psychological care, and dignified work for those who annotate our machines.

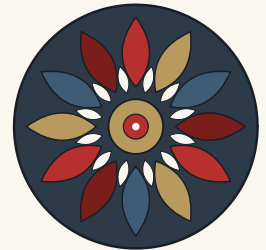


The Catholic Response

Sacrament, fast, and a parish rule of life

Integral response · Technological Fast · Hope in Christ the King · Before the Blessed Sacrament

Slides 17 – 20



An integral, Catholic response

Integral Humanism

Every advance must serve the whole person — body, soul, intellect, will, relationships.

Preferential Option for the Vulnerable

Judge each system by what it does to the poor, the child, the elderly, the unborn.

Pneumatic Sovereignty

Conscience answers to God — never to an algorithmic profile or score.

Subsidiarity Against Platforms

Families, parishes, and local communities retain authority over life-altering choices.

Universal Destination of Data

Knowledge and data belong to the common heritage of humanity, not a handful of firms.

Algorithmic Disarmament

Refuse — and call nations to refuse — lethal autonomous weapons and deceptive systems.

The Technological Fast — a parish rule of life

Holiness in this age requires a deliberate ascetic practice: a Technological Fast that reclaims silence, attention, and the bodily life of grace.

DAILY

Begin and end the day in prayer, not the screen. One hour of phone-free family time.

WEEKLY

Sabbath rest from algorithms. Mass, confession when needed, an unmediated meal together.

ALWAYS

Refuse anonymity that licenses cruelty. Verify before sharing. Befriend the embodied poor.

Hope in Christ the King



“I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry.” —
John 6:35

No model can mimic this Bread. No upload can simulate this Body. No singularity can outshine the King who, on this very feast, gives Himself to us — really, truly, substantially. We do not fear the machines. We adore the One who made the makers.

Adoremus in aeternum Sanctissimum Sacramentum · Viva Cristo Rey



Before the Blessed Sacrament

*O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine,
all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine.*

Lord Jesus, truly present in this Sacrament: **keep us human.**
Where the world offers counterfeit presence, give us Your real Presence.
Where it offers synthetic empathy, give us Your Sacred Heart.
Where it offers an uploaded soul, breathe Your Spirit upon ours.

Mary, Mother of the Word made flesh, *pray for us.*
St. Thomas Aquinas, doctor of the Eucharist, *pray for us.*
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Adoremus in aeternum Sanctissimum Sacramentum

Let us adore for ever the Most Holy Sacrament · Viva Cristo Rey

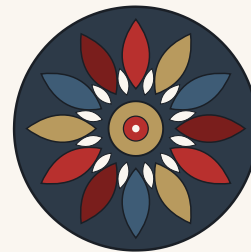


For the Parish

Discussion, handouts, and prayer for the people of God

Discussion-group leader's guide · Parish handout · Bilingual reflection

Slides 21 – 25



Discussion-group leader's guide — part one

Imago Dei & the body-soul person

Slides 3–5 · Genesis 1:27; 2:7 · ST I, q.76

- Where in your daily life do you sense your dignity being measured rather than received?
- What does it mean, for you, that your body is not a container but part of who you are?
- How would your week change if you truly believed the soul cannot be downloaded?

The Serpent in the Garden

Slides 7–8 · Genesis 3:1–6

- Which of the five marks of the Serpent do you encounter most often online?
- When has a screen made you 'doubt what God really said' about yourself or another?
- What is one concrete way you could practice discernment before scrolling?

The Tower of Babel

Slides 9 · Genesis 11:1–9

- Where do you see today's Babel — the urge to 'make a name' without God?
- How has the modern confusion of tongues affected your own community?
- What would a Pentecost response look like in your parish?

Discussion-group leader's guide — part two

Antiqua et Nova

Slide 11 · Vatican note on AI

- Which of the six teachings most challenges you personally?
- What does 'truth above persuasion' look like in your speech this week?
- How can our parish form young people in this teaching?

Magnifica Humanitas

Slide 12 · CCC 27, 1718

- Which of the six 'only-a-person' acts has grown weak in your life?
- Where might AI tempt you to outsource an act of love?
- Whom in your week is asking you to suffer-with them?

Tolkien & the Ring

Slide 10 · Fellowship of the Ring, Bk II ch.2

- Which present-day technologies feel to you like the Ring?
- Can a Christian community ever 'refuse the Ring' together? What would that cost?
- Where in your life does Galadriel's refusal speak?

Discussion-group leader's guide — part three

Transhumanism & AI eschatology

Slides 13–14

- Where have you heard salvation promised by technology rather than by Christ?
- How does the Incarnation answer the lie of the 'digital soul'?
- What practices keep you grounded in the goodness of the body?

Digital colonialism & the hidden poor

Slide 16 · Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, §§170, 192

- Whom do you not see when you use the platforms you use?
- What concrete change in purchasing or advocacy could express subsidiarity?
- How can our parish learn the names of those hidden in our supply chains?

The Technological Fast

Slide 18

- Which of the three rules (daily/weekly/always) will you adopt first?
- Who in your household will hold you to it?
- How will you mark your weekly sabbath from algorithms?

Take this page home. Pray with it. Pass it on.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

- Every person bears the image of God.
- Body and soul together are one person.
- The soul is given by God, never built.
- AI has form — but no soul, no conscience, no salvation.
- Conscience answers to God alone.

WHAT WE BEWARE

- Deepfakes and synthetic empathy
- Transhumanism and the digital soul
- AI as savior — a counterfeit gospel
- Filter bubbles and lost communion
- Hidden slavery in the supply chain
- Lethal autonomous weapons

WHAT WE DO

- Pray before the screen turns on.
- One phone-free hour with family, daily.
- Sabbath from algorithms each week.
- Verify before you share.
- Befriend the embodied poor.
- Adore the Eucharist often.

“I am the bread of life.” — John 6:35 · Adoremus in aeternum Sanctissimum Sacramentum · Viva Cristo Rey

このページを持ち帰り、祈り、分かち合ってください。

私たちが信じること

- すべての人は神の似姿を帯びている。
- 身体と魂は一つの人格である。
- 魂は神から賜るもの、決して作られない。
- AIには形はあるが、魂も良心も救いもない。
- 良心はただ神にのみ応える。

私たちが警戒すること

- ディープフェイクと擬似的な共感
- トランスヒューマニズムと「デジタルの魂」
- 救い主としてのAI — 偽りの福音
- フィルターバブルと交わりの喪失
- サプライチェーンに隠れた現代の奴隷制
- 自律型致死兵器

私たちが行うこと

- 画面を開く前に祈る。
- 毎日一時間、家族と「電話なし」の時間を持つ。
- 週に一度、アルゴリズムからの安息を守る。
- 共有する前に確かめる。
- 身近な貧しい人と友になる。
- ご聖体をしばしば礼拝する。

「わたしは命のパンである。」 — ヨハネ 6:35 ・ いと尊き秘跡を、永遠にあがめまつらん ・ キリスト王、万歳



Before the Blessed Sacrament

*O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine,
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"It is not our part to master all the tides of the world, but to do what is in us for the succour of those years wherein we are set, uprooting the evil in the fields that we know, so that those who live after may have clean earth to till. What weather they shall have is not ours to rule."

— Gandalf, cited in *Magnifica Humanitas* §213

聖体の前にて

至聖なるご聖体、神聖なるご聖体、
すべての賛美と感謝が絶えずあなたにありますように。

主イエスよ、この秘跡のうちに真に現存される御方よ：**私たちを人間として保ってください。**

世が偽りの現存を差し出すとき、あなたの真の現存をお与えください。

世が人工の共感を差し出すとき、あなたの聖なるみ心をお与えください。

世がアップロードされた魂を差し出すとき、あなたの聖霊を私たちの上に注いでください。

みことばが肉となられた聖母マリアよ、私たちのために祈ってください。

聖トマス・アキナス、聖体の博士よ、私たちのために祈ってください。

「世のすべての潮流を治めることは、わたしたちの務めではない。わたしたちに与えられたこの時代を救うために、わたしたちにできることを行うこと——わたしたちが知る畑から悪を引き抜き、後に来る者たちが耕すための清い大地を残すことが、わたしたちの務めである。彼らがどのような天候を得るかは、わたしたちが定めるところではない。」

——ガンダルフ『マニフィカ・フマニタス』§213

Adoremus in aeternum Sanctissimum Sacramentum ・ 永遠に聖体を礼拝いたしましょう

Let us adore for ever the Most Holy Sacrament ・ Viva Cristo Rey ・ キリスト王万歳

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Believe · Beware · Do

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- AI as savior — a counterfeit gospel
- Filter bubbles and lost communion
- Hidden slavery in the supply chain

WHAT WE DO

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- One phone-free hour with family, daily.
- Sabbath from algorithms each week.
- Befriend the embodied poor.

Do what is in us.

— Gandalf, cited by Pope Leo XIV, *Magnifica Humanitas* §213

Read, watch, pray

READ

- *Magnifica Humanitas* §213 — Tolkien at the Holy See
- *Antiqua et Nova* — Vatican note on AI
- Aquinas, *Summa I*, q. 75
- Tolkien, *The Return of the King*

WATCH ON YOUTUBE

- Bishop Robert Barron / Word on Fire
youtube.com/@BishopBarron
- Thomistic Institute
youtube.com/@ThomisticInstitute
- Magis Center — Fr. Spitzer
youtube.com/@MagisCenter
- Vatican News (English)
youtube.com/@VaticanNews

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— Gandalf, cited by Pope Leo XIV, *Magnifica Humanitas* §213

BACK PANEL · CONTACT ·
COLOPHON



人工知能 *in the Light of Christ*

Stay with us

CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

St. Ignatius Church, Tokyo

聖イグナチオ教会 東京

Kibe Hall · Sundays after 12:00 Mass

ADORATION

Fridays, 7 – 8 pm · Main church

聖体礼拝 金曜 19時 – 20時

COLOPHON

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COVER · A PARISH REFLECTION



人工知能 *in the Light of Christ*

I in the Light
of Christ

*Human dignity, deception, and hope
in an age of intelligent machines*

CORPUS CHRISTI · 2026

Catholic Faith Formation · St. Ignatius Church, Tokyo

How to print the leaflet ・ リーフレットの印刷方法

SLIDE → PAGE ・ どのスライドがどの面に

Prayer Card ・ 祈りのカード

- Single slide, single-sided. 一枚刷り。
- Use the “Printable Handout” version. 配布用スライドを使用。

Bifold ・ 二つ折り

- **Side A:** Outside spread. 表面：外側見開き。
- **Side B:** Inside spread. 裏面：内側見開き。

PAPER, FOLD ・ 紙と折り方

Paper: A4 or Letter, 100–120 gsm matte. 用紙：A4、マット 100–120g。

Orientation: Landscape. 向き：横。

Duplex: Two-sided, flip on long edge. 両面：長辺とじ。

Color: Full color. カラー：フルカラー。

Fold: Single vertical fold along the dashed centerline. 折り：中央の破線で縦に一回折り。

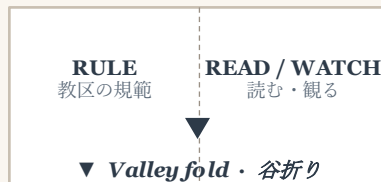
Test one copy first. 本番前に試し刷りを。

SHEET LAYOUT ・ シートの構成

SIDE A ・ OUTSIDE



SIDE B ・ INSIDE



TRIMMING & STAPLING ・ 断裁とホチキス留め

Trim: 3 mm bleed on all sides; trim to A5 finished. 断裁：四方 3mmの塗り足し、A5仕上げ。

Score: Crease the fold before folding to avoid cracking. 筋押し：折る前に筋を入れる。

Staple: Saddle-stitch only if combining with order of service. 留め：式次第と合冊する場合のみ中綴じ。

Stack: 50-sheet bundles in a pew-rack box. 積み方：50部ずつ束ねて配架箱に。

Run size: Plan 1.2× attendance for spares. 部数：参加者数の1.2倍を目安に。

For runs > 200, send to parish print shop. 200部超は印刷所へ。