



CATHOLICITY VHI 2019

# CATHOLICITY AND HISTORY: Jacques Maritain, the Democratic Crisis and the Promise and Perils of a Global Catholic History

## John McGreevy

Jacques Maritain was the most important Catholic intellectual of the mid-twentieth century. His most important project was convincing Catholics around the world that their faith entailed support of political democracy. Maritain's successes—and failures—are of interest at a moment when democracy seems more fragile than at any point since World War II and also reveal the possibilities and perils of a more global approach to the history of modern Catholicism.

**John McGreevy** is Francis A. McAnaney Professor of History at the University of Notre Dame. He is the author of *Parish Boundaries: The Catholic Encounter with Race in the Twentieth Century Urban North* (1996), *Catholicism and American Freedom: A History* (2003) and *American Jesuits and the World: How an Embattled Religious Order Made Modern Catholicism Global* (2016). A fourth book on global Catholicism is under contract. He has received fellowships from the Mellon Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, the Louisville Institute, and the Erasmus Institute, and has published in the *Journal of American History*, *New York Review of Books*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, and other venues.



Friday  
3 May  
4 pm

Garden Room  
St Edmund's College  
Cambridge

ALL WELCOME  
REFRESHMENTS

NOV HÜGEL  
INSTITUTE | critical  
catholic  
inquiry



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