Jesuit Kaddish: Jesuits, Jews, and Holocaust Remembrance

James Bernauer, S.J.

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020
4:00-5:15 pm
Click here for Zoom registration.

While much has been written about the Catholic Church and the Holocaust, little has been published about the hostile role of priests, in particular Jesuits, toward Jews and Judaism. Jesuit Kaddish is a long overdue study that looks at Jesuit hostility toward Judaism before the Shoah, and then examines the development of a new understanding of the Catholic Church’s relation to Judaism that culminated with Vatican II’s landmark decree Nostra Aetate. James Bernauer’s study is historically accurate and spiritually ambitious in its desire to have this story of the Jesuits’ relation to Jews and Judaism contribute to interreligious reconciliation.

Respondents
Susannah Heschel, Eli Black Professor of Jewish Studies at Dartmouth College
Brett McLaughlin, S.J., Ph.D. student in Theology at Boston College

“This book is a uniquely forceful attempt by a scholar belonging to the Jesuit Order to reflect upon the anti-Jewish past of his own institution. It is a must-read for everyone interested in the relations between the Roman Catholic Church and Judaism.” (David Lebovitch Dahl, University of Copenhagen)

“This is an important addition to the fields of Catholic-Jewish history, Catholicism and Nazism, and anti-Semitism in Europe.” (Lauren Faulkner Rossi, author of Wehrmacht Priests)

James Bernauer, S.J., is the Kraft Family Professor of Philosophy emeritus and former director of the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College. He is the author, editor, and co-editor of a number of books, including The Tragic Couple: Encounters Between Jews and Jesuits.

Please email discussion questions to cjlearning@bc.edu.
This event will be recorded and made available publicly through the Center’s website and social media.
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