



PONTIFICAL
FACULTY
— OF —
THEOLOGY

Spring 2026 Semester Course

DT840: Theology of Pope Benedict XVI (3cr)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In the person of Joseph Ratzinger, a man has become Pope at the beginning of the 21st century who had already shaped the Catholic Church in the second half of the 20th century more than any other single person, save John Paul II. As university professor he directed over fifty doctoral candidates, as a scholar he authored over 1,600 titles, as peritus he contributed in central ways to the II. Vatican Council, as archbishop he pastored a major see, and as prefect of the CDF he gave Catholic faith in her dialogue with the world a distinctive theological profile. This course will examine the origins and the gravitational centers in Pope Benedict XVI's Christology and understanding of liturgy. It will explore his staurocentric view and its attendant ramifications on his understanding of the nature of the Church.



**REV. EMERY
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Fr. de Gaal is a Professor of Dogmatic Theology at USML.

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