

News and Events: February 2025



Center for
LGBTQ and Gender Studies
in Religion
at Pacific School of Religion



Fighting The Overwhelm

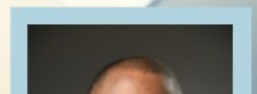


Dear CLGS ,

"The presidential election, the anti-trans executive orders, the pardons to the rioters of January 6, the cabinet appointments, and the ICE raids have paralyzed many of us with confusion, despair, and rage. We are feeling the effects of 'The Overwhelm.'

I personally wonder: where does a queer Puerto Rican Catholic professor of theology turn to when he is assailed by a political climate that is seeking to erase queerness, banish Latinidad, dismantle Catholic social justice efforts, and discredit the critical thinking skills we teach in our universities?"

[Click here to read Prof. Ish Ruiz's reflection!](#)



James Baldwin and Black Queer Prophetic Lament (and Hope?)



Bryan Massingale

The 18th Annual CLGS John E. Boswell Lecture
Thursday, 8 May 2025 @ 4pm (Pacific Time) | ONLINE

Join us ONLINE – **8 May 2025** – for our **18th Annual CLGS John E. Boswell Lecture** with Professor **Bryan Massingale** of Fordham University!

Click [HERE](#) to register for this online CLGS lecture!



Check out our **Spring 2025 Programming Calendar!**

We have planned an extensive, diverse, and exciting set of online programs for Spring 2025, including our 18th Annual CLGS Boswell Lecture; four Lavender Lunches; African American Roundtable events; a series of Latinx programs; new workshops in our CLGS *Sacred Texts* series; Transgender Roundtable programming — and more!

Click [HERE](#) to download the CLGS Spring 2025 Programming Calendar



Queer Latinx Spirituality: Identity, Liminality, and Activism

In this *CLGS Latinx Roundtable Event* **Dr. Ish Ruiz** explores the vibrant intersections of faith, identity, and activism by delving into **the unique experiences of queer Latinx individuals** navigating spirituality within cultural and societal contexts.

By examining themes of liminality, resilience, and social justice, we will consider how spirituality becomes a space for both personal empowerment and collective action.

ONLINE: Tuesday, 11 February 2025 @ 4:30pm (Pacific Time)

Click [HERE](#) to join this online CLGS Latinx Roundtable Event

Our Trans Religious Leadership Cohort

CLGS is a proud co-sponsor of the **Trans Religious Leadership Cohort**, which is a collaborative partnership between CLGS, the Freedom Center for Social Justice, and the National LGBTQ Task Force.

This month we celebrate **Ben Luks-Morgan** (he/they), a fifth-year (out of five) Rabbinical student at Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, on the New York Campus. He lives in Alexandria, Virginia, with his wife, Sasha, and loves the pre-dawn/post-sunset train rides between the two locations. Ben has led a varied life that has included organizing symposiums on Queer life in Utah, leading High Holiday services at Rikers Island, and teaching courses in Judaism to the full spectrum of ages. They will be spending this year writing a capstone project on the philosophical intersection between comforting mourners and human dignity. In Ben's (highly limited) free time he enjoys winning trivia games, playing music, and pursuing his lifelong quest to eat as many pickles as humanly possible.



Click [HERE](#) for more information on our Trans Religious Leadership Cohort!

Trans Religious Leadership in Challenging Times with Rev. Jakob Hero-Shaw



A CLGS Transgender Roundtable Event | Thursday, 27 Feb 2025 @ 12pm | **ONLINE**

In this CLGS Transgender Roundtable Workshop, we will consider methods of connection, affirmation, and empowerment for trans, nonbinary, and otherwise gender-creative people in religious leadership. We will also give specific attention to the needs of trans leaders who are serving in non-trans spaces, including strategizing together about caring for others and others – even as our own lives, legal identities, and bodily autonomy are under attack.

Thursday, 27 February 2025 at 12 noon (Pacific Time)

Click [HERE](#) to join the **ONLINE CLGS Trans Roundtable Event**



A Call to Holy Troublemaking with **Rev. Redeem Robinson**

In this online *CLGS African American Roundtable* workshop **Rev. Redeem Robinson** will explore with us the theological and practical foundations of holy resistance to systems of oppression.

26 February 2025 @ 1pm (Pacific)

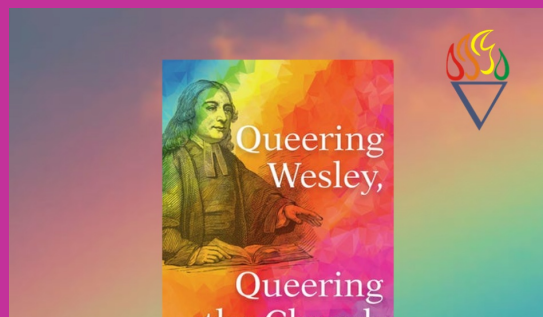
Click [HERE](#) to join this online CLGS Event via Zoom

Check Out These CLGS Resources!



The **CLGS Catholic Roundtable**, LGBTQ-RAN, and DignityUSA co-sponsored this webinar which features an exploration of recent (and confusing!) statements by Roman Catholic leaders on homosexuality, Transgender persons, and same-sex relationships.

Click [HERE](#) to access this **ONLINE** resource!



In this CLGS *Lavender Lunch* theologian **Keegan Osinski** discusses her book *Queering Wesley*, *Queering the Church*, and she explores Wesleyan holiness as an expansive openness to the love and grace of God in queer Christian lives.

Click [HERE](#) to view a **videorecording!**



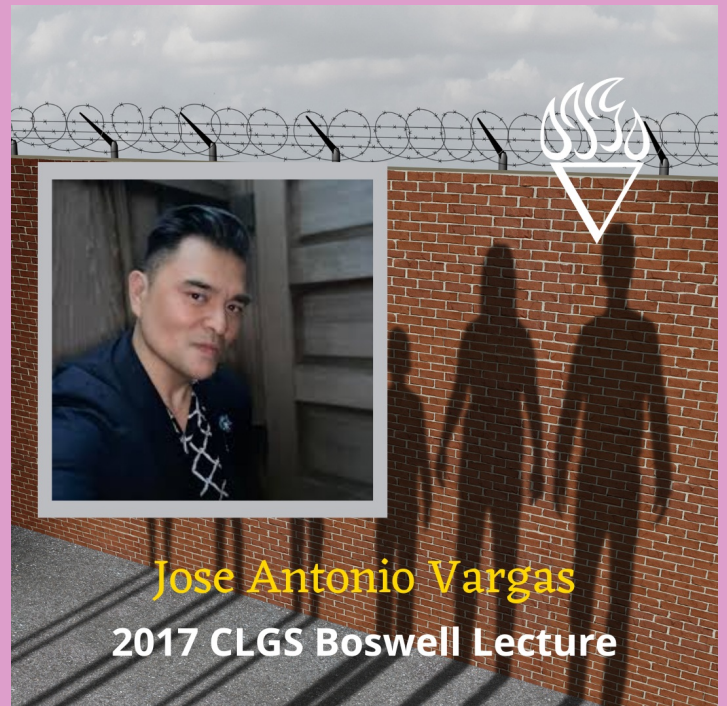
Engendering Solidarity and Defiant Spirituality Among Church Leaders

The 11th Annual CLGS Georgia
Harkness Lecture with
Rev. Dr. Traci C. West



Engendering Solidarity and Defiant
Spirituality Among Church Leaders
was the title of our CLGS 2020 Harkness
Lecture with theologian **Dr. Traci W.
West**.

[Click HERE for the Video
Recording!](#)



Jose Antonio Vargas
2017 CLGS Boswell Lecture

In our CLGS 2017 Boswell Lecture,
Jose Antonio Vargas, Pulitzer Prize-
winning journalist, filmmaker,
immigration activist, and founder of
Define American, spoke on **Borders
and Identity**.

[Click HERE for the Video
Recording!](#)

CLGS: Shaping A New Public Discourse on Religion, Gender, and Sexuality

Your financial support makes it possible for us to offer
innovative programming that supports LGBTQ people of faith,
our families, and our spiritual communities. Together, we are

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Today**

our families, and our spiritual communities. Together, we are shaping a new and progressive public discourse on religion, gender, and sexuality.

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