

St. Thomas Aquinas and Aristotle

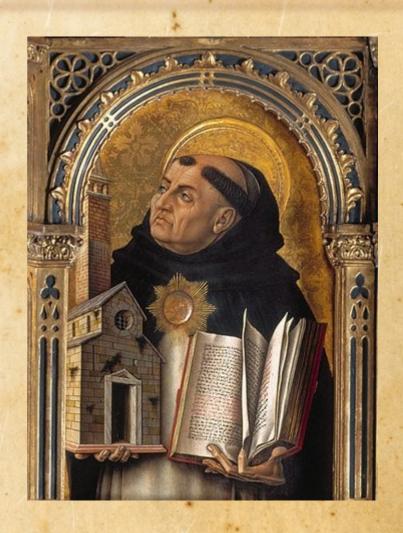
Presented by

Veronica Vicherek

March 19th, 2019 A.D.

St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)

- Born to a wealthy, noble Italian family
- ◆ Age 5: Sent to study at Monte Cassino
- ◆ Age 19: Decides to join the Order of Preachers, O.P., ie. the Dominicans
- ◆ Pupil of St. Albert the Great at University of Paris, where he earns his theological Master's Degree
- Died in Fossanova Abbey, on the way to the Council of Lyons



Major Works

- Summa contra Gentiles
 - Defending and explaining Catholic teaching to non-Christian cultures
- 11 commentaries on Aristotle
- 7 systematic disputations on Truth
- Numerous articles, letters and discourses written in his lifetime

Summa Theologiae

4 Parts; 614 Questions; 3,125 Articles

<u>Prima Pars:</u> nature of objective reality; the existence and nature of God; creation of the universe; nature of man

<u>Prima Secundae:</u> happiness or <u>eudaimonia</u>; general principles of morality; natural law; human and divine government

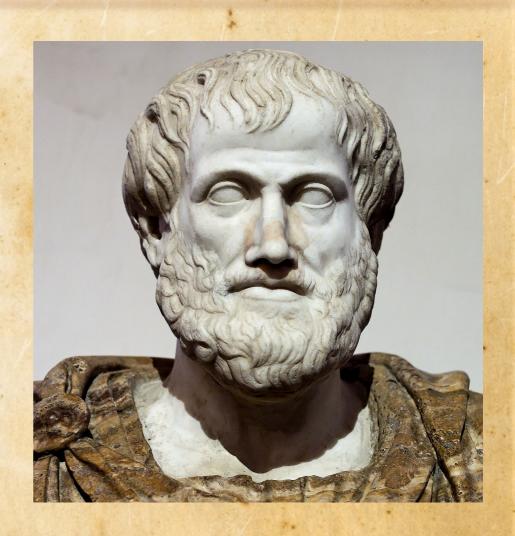
Secunda Secundae: virtues and vices: various states of life

<u>Tertia Pars:</u> the Person and work of Jesus Christ; Sacraments of the Catholic Church



Aristotle (384-322 BC)

- Born in Stagira, Chaldice. His name means "the best purpose"
- Student of Plato in Athens, teacher of Alexander the Great in Macedonia
- "Father of Western Philosophy" and one of the first recognized scientists
- Wrote about natural philosophy (physics, psychology, biology etc.) and practical philosophy (Ethics, Politics, Economics, etc.)
- Studied formal logic, and established virtue ethics





What is Philosophy?

What is Theology?

Can they reasonably co-exist?

Is human reason a reliable means of obtaining knowledge?

What is revelation?

Can they co-exist?

How is this relevant to today?



Additional Reading

- 1) https://dhspriory.org/thomas/ Collected works in Latin and English
- 2) "Influence of Aquinas- Oxford Handbooks" by Christopher Upham (found using Google Search)
- 3) https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/aristotle-ethics/ Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy Aristotle's "Ethics"
- 4) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Summa_Theologica
- 5) https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/aquinas/ Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy Thomas Aquinas
- 6) http://www.quebecoislibre.org/06/060122-5.htm Summary of St.Thomas Aquinas's philosophy and cultural influence
- 7) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_works_by_Thomas_Aquinas