

**JOSEPH A. VARACALLI, CATHOLIC SOCIOLOGIST
EXTRAORDINAIRE: A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF HIS WRITINGS**

*Stephen M. Krason
Franciscan University of Steubenville*

Introduction

For a few years in the late 1980's and early 1990's, Dr. Joseph A. Varacalli pondered the words of Archbishop John J. Myers (then Bishop of Peoria) to him: "Where are the social scientists who stand with the Pope?" Then, in early 1992, he phoned this writer with the proposal to form the Society of Catholic Social Scientists and later that year the organization came into being and Varacalli served as its first Executive Secretary and Membership Chairman. Later, he was the first Editor-in-Chief of *The Catholic Social Science Review*. He has also served on the SCSS Board of Directors since the organization's inception. By the time he proposed the formation of the SCSS, the then recently-turned-forty-years-old Varacalli had already achieved preeminence among orthodox Catholic sociologists. Varacalli's publications, which focused on a sociological analysis of the decline of the Catholic Church in America and an examination of the woeful state of Catholic social science and the necessary elements for its renewal, were already substantial. Over the years, his learned reflections and penetrating analysis congealed into his major works thus far—*Bright Promise, Failed Community: Catholics and the American Public Order* (2000), and *The Catholic Experience in America* (2006). These publications; his co-founding of the SCSS; his founding of the Catholic Center at Nassau Community College (this is an almost unique entity at a state-supported college; Varacalli has taught at Nassau for almost a quarter century); his starting up of the SCSS's most ambitious single project to date, the compiling of the two-volume *Encyclopedia of Catholic Social Thought, Social Science, and Social Policy*, for which he was a co-editor; his substantial lecturing activity over the years to educate about the Faith and Catholic social science/thought; his active efforts within the Fellowship of Catholic Scholars (he has had two separate terms as a member of its Board); and, in general, his continuous, ardent, and courageous work in the Church's intellectual apostolate (often under very unfavorable circumstances) motivated the SCSS Board of Directors to bestow on Varacalli in 2004 the organization's highest award, the Pope Pius XI Award for Contributions toward the Building Up of a True Catholic Social Science.

Varacalli's writing has been prodigious and consistent. In recent years, he has carried on with it and his other apostolates despite troubling health problems. We present here a comprehensive bibliography of the writings of this SCSS co-founder and Pope Pius XI laureate. Its publication insures that such a compilation will not just remain on Varacalli's résumé, but will also be put into the public domain so that his important writings will become better known and more readily and widely accessible.

PUBLICATIONS

Joseph A. Varacalli, Ph.D.
S.U.N.Y.Distinguished Service Professor
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work
Director, Center for Catholic Studies
Nassau Community College-S.U.N.Y.
Garden City, New York

I. Monographs

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Bright Promise, Failed Community: Catholics and the American Public Order (Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2000; paperback edition, 2001)

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Book: *Vignettes from the Past: Memories Worth Reflecting On and Learning From*

Book: *Introduction to Catholic Studies: A Global and Historical Perspective*

Book: *A House in Repair or Further Dividing? The Catholic Church of the United States in the Decades Ahead*

Book: *Encyclopedia of Catholic Social Thought, Social Science, and Social Policy* (co-edited with Michael L. Coulter and Richard Myers), Volume III, Supplement One, (Lanham, Maryland: Scarecrow Press, forthcoming).