Maritain on Common Good and Natural Rights in a Pluralistic World

Jason West, Ph.D., Full Professor of Philosophy, Newman Theological College

Jacques Maritain (1882-1973) was widely known for developing a political philosophy of Thomistic Personalism. I shall explore how he balances the common good and human rights in the context of his acknowledgement of pluralism and defence of democracy. Concerns arising from the controversy with the antipersonalist Charles De Koninck and that Maritain's theory of human rights is simply a reproachment with liberalism will also be addressed.