

Mark Edward Wedig, OP

Fr. Mark Edward Wedig, OP, is a Dominican friar of the US Southern Province of St. Martin de Porres. During his almost forty years in the Order of Preachers, his ministerial service has been focused on theological education in the context of the Order's intellectual life through teaching, research and administration in university and academic settings.

From 1998 until 2017, Wedig served as Chair of the Department of Theology and Philosophy at Barry University in Miami Shores, a Catholic and Dominican institution, sponsored by the Adrian Dominican sisters. He now currently serves at Barry as a Professor of Theology and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences. While serving as Chair of the Theology Department, Fr. Wedig's administrative responsibilities included fostering the department's mission effectiveness, hiring and evaluation of faculty and support staff, curriculum development, program review and assessment, budget management, enrollment marketing, and fund-raising for scholarships and departmental initiatives.

His tenure at Barry is marked by many noted accomplishments including hiring twenty-six faculty members, increasing the number of graduate students five-fold, and initiating multiple new programs including building a nationally recognized Doctor of Ministry program with a strong emphasis on practical theological methods and specializations in Hispanic/Latino Theology and Ministry and Institutional Ministries. Under Wedig's leadership, Barry developed a strong scholarship program for graduate theological studies creating three endowed scholarships which enabled the Department to attract ministerial leaders from across the United States. To further support and expand the University's Dominican mission, Wedig founded the Center for Dominican Studies and the Institute for Hispanic/Latino Theology and Ministry.

Serving as the Department of Theology's chief academic officer for graduate theological programs, Wedig oversaw Barry's initial accreditation with the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) and subsequent re-affirmations of its accreditation. In addition, Wedig has served the national theological community by participating on numerous accreditation teams for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and ATS, and as a consultant for theological education through external program review and institutional effectiveness assessment.

Fr. Wedig holds the PhD in Liturgical Studies from the Catholic University of America, the MDiv from the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology in Berkeley; the MA in Systematic Theology from the Graduate Theological Union; and the BA in history (medieval studies) from Southern Methodist University. A widely published scholar, frequent visiting lecturer and keynote speaker, his scholarly interests lie at the intersection between culture studies, liturgy, and the hermeneutics of the visual arts.

Throughout his academic career, Wedig has remained active in the North American Academy of Liturgy, the Catholic Academy of Liturgy, the Academy of Hispanic Theologians in the US, and the Catholic Theological Society of America. He is a Past-President of the Catholic Academy of Liturgy, and serves or has served on editorial boards for a number of publishers and journals, including the Catholic University of America Press, Liturgical Press, *Liturgical Ministry*, and

Parable. Among his awards and fellowships are the Magi Endowment Scholarship for the Study of Liturgy and the Arts at the Catholic University of America, and a Menil Research Fellowship from Yale Divinity School.

Born and raised in New Orleans, Wedig was baptized and grew up in St. Dominic parish, and entered the novitiate of the Province of St. Albert the Great in 1979. Throughout his Dominican life, he has served in numerous internal ministries within his Province including Regent of Studies from 2009 to 2017, four terms on the Provincial Council, and has twice been Prior of the St. Dominic community in Miami.