



All Things Ignatian



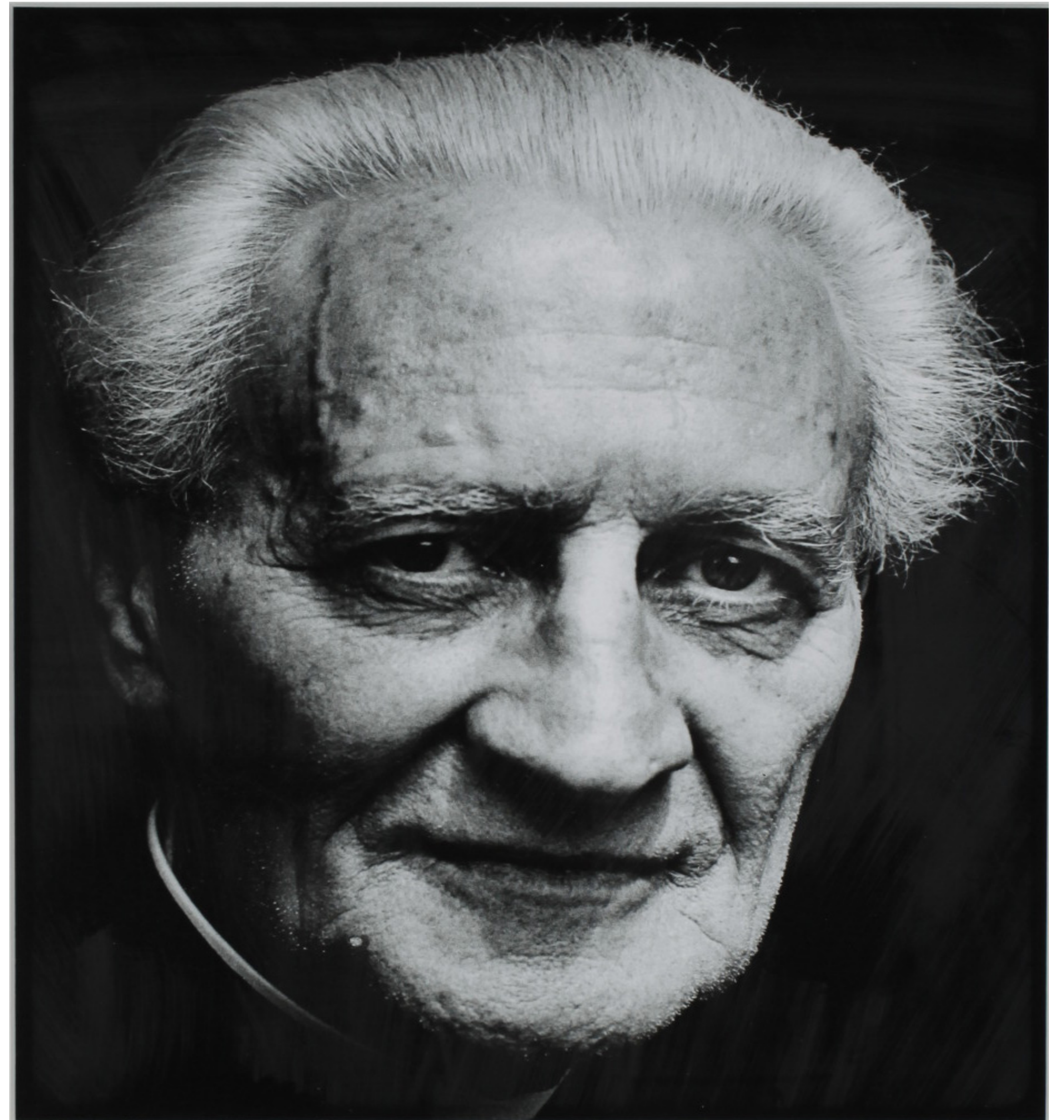
Markoe-DePorres

Social Justice Lecture Series

*Sponsored by the Justice & Peace Studies Program-Dr. Roger Bergman Director
Creighton College of Arts & Sciences*

This lecture series was inaugurated in 1994 in honor of Fr. John Markoe, of the Society of Jesus, and the Omaha De Porres Club he founded on November 3, 1947, in what is now the Schleich Room on the 4th floor of Creighton Hall. Fr. Markoe, a member of the mathematics faculty, mentored that club through the 1950s and into the 1960s. The club was made up mainly of students from Creighton and other area colleges. Named after Saint Martin De Porres, the patron of social justice, the objective of the club was the realization of racial justice in Omaha. The Catholic Church celebrates the feast of Martin De Porres on November 3.

What made the Omaha De Porres Club so remarkable was its use of nonviolent but militant tactics several years before similar boycotts, sit-ins, and marches garnered headlines in the South, especially under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Before Dr. King and the civil rights movement achieved national and even international prominence, Fr. Markoe and the De Porres Club stirred consciences and challenged racist attitudes and segregationist practices in Omaha.



Photograph by John Howard Griffin, author of "Black Like Me"

Six Jesuits have been among the eighteen lecturers.

- 1994, **Rev. David Hollenbach, SJ**, University Chair in Human Rights & International Justice, Boston College; "The Catholic University and the Common Good"
- 1999, **Rev. Dean Brackley, SJ**, Professor of Theology & Ethics, University of Central America; "The Christian University and Solidarity: the Legacy of the Jesuit Martyrs of El Salvadore"
- 2000, **Rev. Paul Locatelli, SJ**, President, Santa Clara University, 1988-2008 "The Future of Justice Education in Jesuit Universities"
- 2007, **Fr. Charles J. Beirne, SJ**, President of LeMoyné College, 2000-2007 "Education and Social Change in Central America, the United States, and Africa"
- 2008, **Fr. Drew Christensen, SJ**, Editor in Chief, *America Magazine* "A Dialogue on Just War Ethics" (with George Weigel)
- 2009, **Fr. Kevin Burke, SJ**, Executive Dean, Graduate School of Theology at Santa Clara University: "*Awake O Sleeper!* Pedro Arrupe and Ignacio Ellacuria in Postmodern Gethsemane"



Father Markoe & Members of the DePorres Club

Sponsored by the Creighton University Jesuit Community, in association with the Deglman Center for Ignatian Spirituality.