Final question from a SLU med student: we find ourselves in a pluralistic society, not familiar with Catholic tradition - except from media.

Dr. Lysaught: an escalator approach to healthcare ... do we know how to stop the process once we've agreed to start it?

Question: Are we not always tempted to answer "yes" when we're asked "should we do everything we can?"

Dr. Lysaught: "As cultures get richer, we get farther & farther away from our bodies ..."

Question from Dr. Ginther: for Thomas & his ilk, justice & the virtues are always embodied - they are never virtual!

Dr. Lysaught: "Charity: it's one of the three theological virtues - it's not just bad debt!"

Dr. Tobias Winright highlighting Benedict's identification of palliative care as a "right" and the implications in terms of justice.
Dr. Lysaught: "Where do you find meaning? I don't 'find meaning!' I go to Mass!"

A conversation developing on the experiences of patients & doctors talking - and not talking - about faith

Dr. Lysaught: an expression of a broader cultural dynamic which tells us we're not supposed to talk about that stuff!

Question: the history of medicine is linked with religious communities, but it is often uncomfortable today to mention faith in this context

Dr. Lysaught: That may even be beyond heresy - it's idolatry: and has very little roots in the Christian tradition

Dr. Grant Kaplan now asking a question about the heresy of vitalism

Dr. Lysaught: There is a responsibility for Christian communities to pick up a piece of this

Dr. Lysaught: I think your question is primarily an indictment of the Church

Question: But one problem is that palliative care is generally located in secular institutions - it is situated "outside the church..."

And so the lecture comes to its end... and now for questions and conversation!

Dr. Lysaught: palliative care not only consistent with Catholic identity, but a hallmark thereof

Dr. Lysaught: Pope Benedict identified palliative care as the antidote to euthanasia, countering earlier suspicions in Catholic community

Dr. Lysaught: Benedict XVI coined for palliative care the term "loving care" - linked to his foundational theological principle of caritas

Dr. Lysaught: Pope Benedict XVI suggested - because palliative care provides integral care - it is an intrinsic human right

Dr. Lysaught: quoting the Rule of St. Benedict - the sick are to be taken care of "as if they were Christ in person"

Dr. Lysaught: It is important to note that, for most of Christian history, tending to the sick was not highly curative
Dr. Lysaught: “...in the third century, in order to be baptized, you had to regularly visit sick people ...”

Dr. Lysaught: Throughout the gospel’s, Jesus - compassionately, tactfully - attends to the sick's total pain

Dr. Lysaught: the Church has always tended to and cared for those who were sick - especially those in "total pain"

Dr. Lysaught: following Evangelium Vitae, the Catechism discusses palliative care under the heading of Euthanasia

Dr. Lysaught: discussing first magisterial references to palliative care in John Paul II's encyclical Evangelium Vitae

Dr. Lysaught: some Catholics oppose palliative care as the beginning of a slippery slope towards euthanasia.

Dr. Lysaught: Seeing dying as a normal process runs counter-intuitive to modern medicine.

Dr. Lysaught: "We no longer have a realistic sense of medical limits." Our culture's approach to medicine & to dying.

Dr. Lysaught: our culture, many physicians, & some Catholics - 3 barriers to palliative care

Dr. Lysaught: Palliative care may also positively influence the course of illness ... "we'll come back to that at the end of the lecture"

Dr. Lysaught: "Love is the way through" - describing Cicely Saunders' philosophy at St Christopher's

Dr. Lysaught: now tracing the development of the field of palliative care out of the modern hospice movement

Dr. Lysaught: “Today, some Catholics treat palliative care as if it is morally suspect, at best ...”

Dr. Lysaught: discussing "our troubling denial of death in our society ... we need to think more about 'letting go' ..."

Dr. Lysaught: “It's really great to be here to talk theology!”
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The Human Powered Nebulizer Project - now there's something I haven't heard of before! marquette.edu/engineering/bi...
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Dr. Tobias Winright is now introducing Dr. Lysaught, recalling their graduate days together in Duke University.
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Here we are, ready to tweet from Dr M. Therese Lysaught's Bioethics Lecture: the Wool Ballroom is already filling up!
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