

ROGER BURGGRAEVE CURRICULUM VITAE



Prof. em. Dr. Roger Burggraeve, SDB was born in Passendale, Flanders (Belgium), in 1942. He is a member of the Religious Congregation of the Salesians of Don Bosco since 1961, and was ordained priest in 1970. He obtained an M.A. in Philosophy (1966) at the Salesian University in Rome, an M.A (1972) and a Ph.D. in Moral Theology (1980) at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Catholic University of Leuven). He was appointed research and teaching assistant of Prof. Magister Dr. Louis Janssens in moral theology (Faculty of Theology, KU Leuven). His doctoral dissertation on “Levinas’ metaphysical and ethical redefinition of the human subject, from the perspective of his Jewish and philosophical backgrounds” (5 vols., 1876 p.) was awarded in 1984 with the prestigious Msgr. Arthur Janssen Award for Moral Theology (KU Leuven).

He was appointed Associate Professor at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, KU Leuven (1980-1988). He was promoted to Professor Ordinarius in 1980. He has taught at the Faculties of Theology & Religious Studies, Philosophy, Canon Law, Pharmacy, and Medicine (Dentistry, Sexuality and Family Sciences) courses on Fundamental Theological Ethics; Sexual and Relational Ethics; Faith, Biblical Thought, and Ethics; Faith, Values, and Ethics: on Emmanuel Levinas’ Ethical and Metaphysical Thinking; Perspectives on Religion and Meaning; Pharmaceutical Ethics.

As an academic, he was for 37 years part-time collaborator and team member of the Salesian Pastoral Youth Centre ‘Eigentijdse Jeugd’ (‘Youth Today’) in Dilbeek (Brussels). Based on this expertise, he developed an ethics of growth for difficult pastoral and educational situations in his book **An Ethics of Mercy: On the Way to Meaningful Living and Loving**, 2016. In October 2007, he was admitted to the rank of Prof. Dr. Emeritus retirement with an assignment until 2010 to teach courses on Bible and Ethics; Christian Sexual and Conjugal Ethics; and An Ethics of Growth for Difficult Pastoral and Educational Situations at the Faculty of Theology & Religious Studies, KU Leuven. He has been Visiting Professor at the international Jesuit institute Lumen Vitae, Centre International d’Études de la Formation Religieuse, in Namur, Belgium.

Since 1987, he has been the Co-founder and Chair, and is now the Honorary Chair of the Centre for Peace Ethics at the KU Leuven. He was a member of several national and local Ethical Committees of Social Welfare and Health Care. As Professor Emeritus, he is currently Spiritual Director at the Holy Spirit College in Leuven, where 50 priests from Asia and Africa reside for studies in philosophy, theology, and canon law. Last but not least, he is an internationally renowned scholar on Levinas who knew him well personally for many years. He published a comprehensive Levinas Bibliography (1977, 1982, 1985, 1990). He has published numerous books, articles, and contributions on Levinas’ ethical and metaphysical thinking in English, French, German, Dutch, Italian, and Japanese.