

**THE REV. FRANCIS WADE, S.J.,
PUBLIC LECTURE**

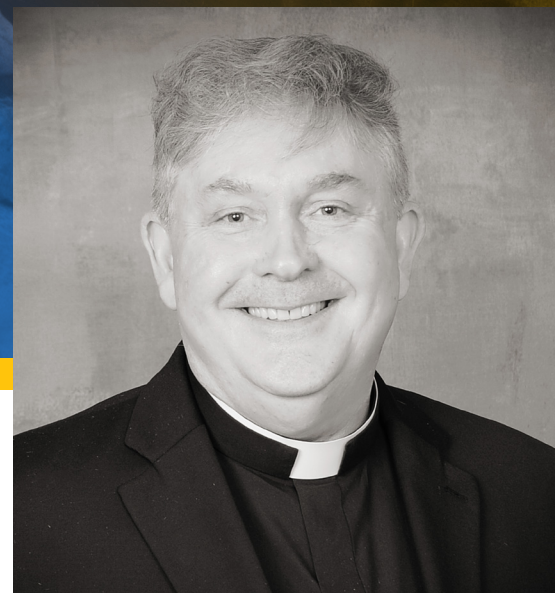
Catholicism & Espionage: The FBI, Wartime Anxieties and the Strange Case of the “Flying Priest” in America

**Wednesday, February 26 | 4 p.m.
Beaumier Suites BC | Raynor Library**

Reception immediately following

This lecture aims to reveal publicly for the first time the alleged Nazi espionage work of a German priest, Rev. Paul A. Schulte, O.M.I., who during the 1930s and 1940s was known as “the Flying Priest.” An aviator during WWI, Schulte later became a priest and missionary. He entered the United States in 1936 as a chaplain aboard the maiden voyage of the Hindenburg. He conducted his first imagery intelligence operations aboard the Hindenburg, and later along the U.S. East Coast and Canadian Maritimes.

The lecture will focus on the fragile relationship between U.S. national security officials and the Roman Catholic hierarchy over the prospect of prosecuting Schulte for spying. Gallagher will argue that the Schulte case presented a heretofore unknown crisis for American church-state relations during World War II. The lecture will review the resolution of the case, a madcap effort to recruit Schulte as a double agent, and the possible use of Schulte by the CIA during the early Cold War. Gallagher’s work as the Francis C. Wade, S.J., Chair proposes to shed new light on the understudied nexus between religion and espionage.



Rev. Charles R. Gallagher, S.J.

2025 holder of the Rev. Francis Wade, S.J.,
Chair, Marquette University



**Learn more about
Rev. Gallagher**

If you are an external guest or require special accommodations, please register with the Office of the Provost by calling 414.288.7511 or emailing provost@marquette.edu.



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