

## Distinguished Lasallian Educator 2023-2024 Kevin Ahern, Ph.D.

Kevin Ahern is a professor whose students know where to find him at all hours and in all elements of their need. He counsels students who are sad, exhorts students who are searching for a path, and brings all his energy to bear in sharing his love of Catholic social teaching with his students. One nominator remarked, "Among the former issues, I know from long experience that students having troubles in other classes or troubles at home will come to Kevin for emotional support. His commitment to their overall well-being simply shines."

In his courses, Kevin consistently inserts the study of Lasallian principles in all aspects of Religious Studies or Peace Studies. He loves his teaching, and he wants to be in the classroom with his students to shine the light of academic excellence in the context of Catholic Social Teaching to them. Through his lessons, he brings them to an enthusiastic pursuit of justice.

However, he does not just speak about his passion. No, Kevin travels around the country as an expert lecturer on Dorothy Day. He created the Dorothy Day Center for the Study of Social Catholicism at Manhattan College, and he is steadfast in his research of the Catholic Worker Movement. Considering Dorothy Day's connection to Peter Maurin and Manhattan College, it is a natural fit for Kevin to merge his passion for her canonization with his Lasallian values.

Whether he is training in Lasallian formation programming, participating in Collegium, representing us on the Mission and Advisory Integration Council, writing Lasallian proposals, or participating in service projects, Kevin is at heart a real Lasallian educator.

Congratulations, Kevin. Your peers have named you as the Distinguished Lasallian Educator. May you continue to exhibit the faith and zeal as recommended by John Baptist De LaSalle so that we can all benefit from your goodness, generosity, enthusiasm and commitment to all things Lasallian.