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INTRODUCTION

Introduction

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The year 2025 marks what is often thought to be the 800th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Aquinas, a thinker whose influence on philosophy and theology has proved remarkably enduring. His writings have been studied, debated, and reinterpreted. Admired for their intellectual rigor by thinkers both Christian and non-Christian, they have also provoked disagreement and fresh inquiry.

This issue of *New Blackfriars* is a special one that is intended to commemorate the anniversary of Aquinas's birth by presenting articles from a group of thinkers who are known for their writings on Aquinas. The articles reflect the variety of contemporary engagement with Aquinas and also illustrate both the richness of Aquinas's work and its continuing capacity to inspire debate. In doing so, they honor his legacy not as a closed system but as a living source of reflection – one whose significance, eight centuries after his birth, remains of lasting relevance.

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