



A Magnificent Opportunity

Good News in the Era of Powerful AI

July 25, 2026 • Adam Kronk



ETHICS AND THE COMMON GOOD

Anchoring question

What makes a human life worth living?

Theory of change

Scholars + faith leaders + tech makers can learn from one another and help each other “get it right” and make these principles real

Important to us

Radical hospitality + stubborn hope



UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

ETHICS AND THE COMMON GOOD

Does this feel
familiar?





Avery Edison

@aedison



I wrote “I am alive” on a piece of paper, and placed it into a photocopier.
What I saw next has shocking implications

7:53 AM · Mar 24, 2023 · **4.3M** Views



Dignity

Every human being possesses inherent worth—not because of their productivity, intelligence or economic value—but because they are made in the image of God



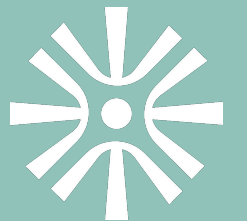


The essence of
education is

NATALITY

Embodiment

We are embodied, relational,
vulnerable, and mortal beings—AI
can extend our capabilities but can
never replace the sacredness of
presence and authentic experience





Love

Christian ethics is grounded in love—a radical and unconditional call to see others in their full humanity and to serve them; AI might simulate care and companionship, but it is no substitute for messy, mutual, and grace-filled human connection



Sci/Tech. Ctr.

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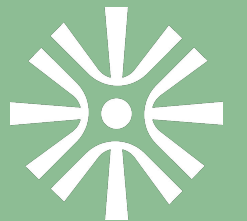
Pattammal, Madras Kanagasabapathy, 1910-

CD. DUPL.

தாய் தன் மகளுக்கு சொல்ல வேண்டிய விஷயங்கள்.
advice to daughter. எழுதியவர் பட்டம்
பதிப்பு சென்னை, புத்தகம்
86 p.

Transcendence

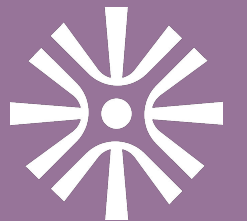
Some of the most important features of this world cannot be optimized; truth, wonder, beauty, and gratitude draw us outside of ourselves—we cannot confuse innovation with ultimate meaning



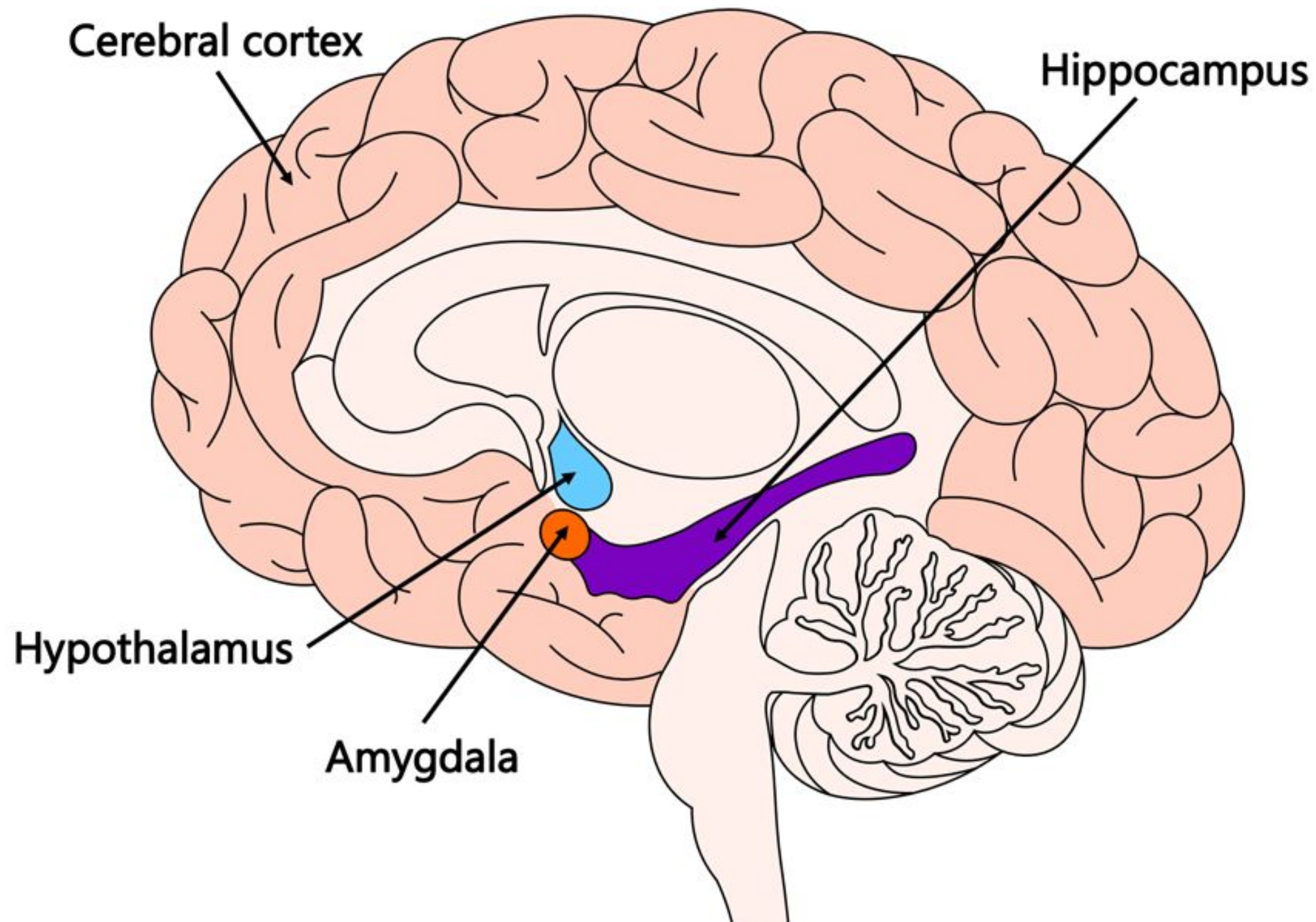


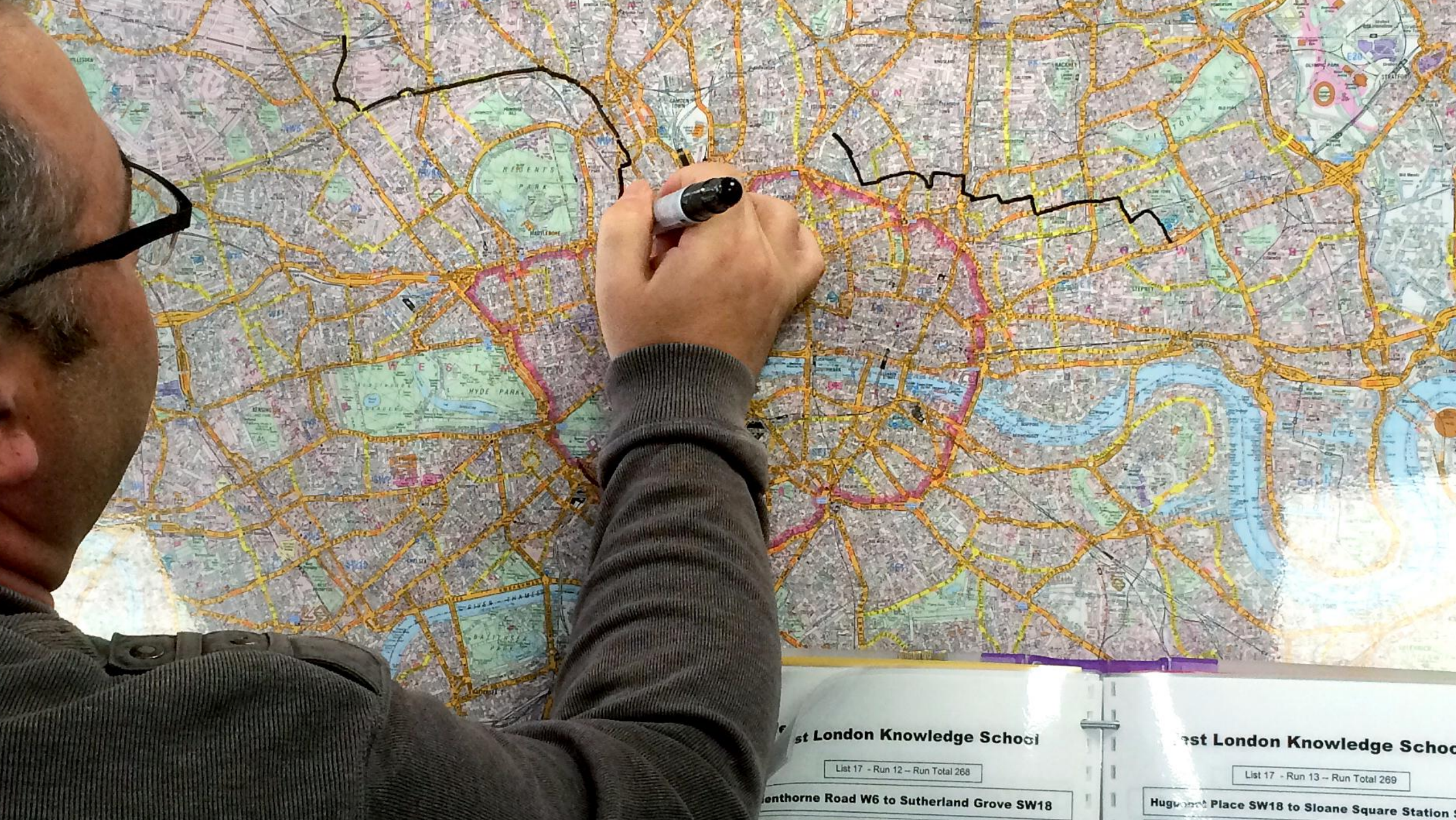
Agency

To flourish, human beings need the capacity to pay attention and to exercise freedom and moral responsibility; some decisions only a human conscience can make











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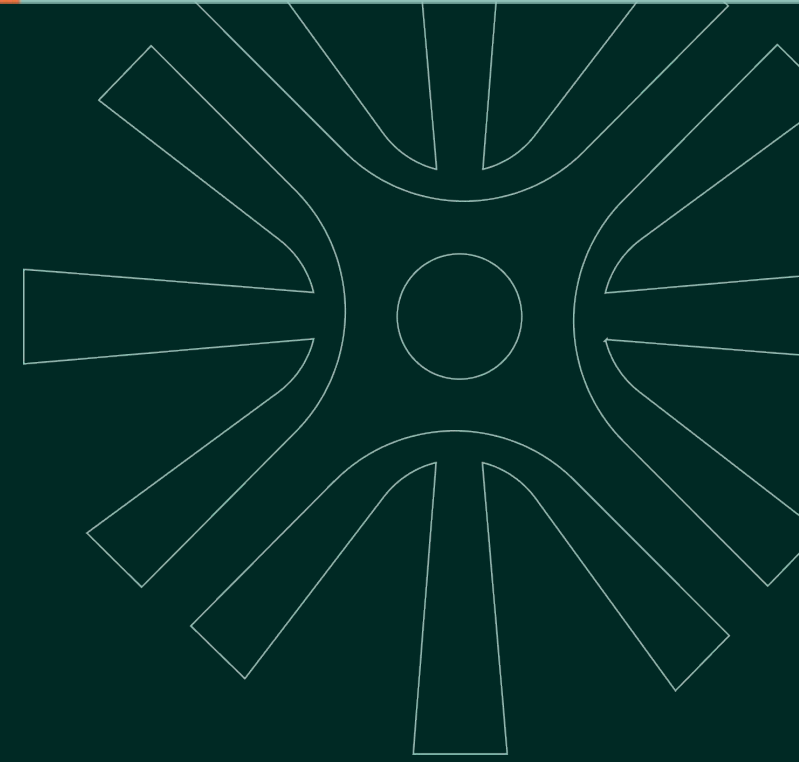
Agency

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“

*The **dignity** inscribed in each of us by the Holy Spirit can also be seen in our capacity to reflect critically, choose and love freely, and form authentic relationships. No computational system, however sophisticated, can create a heart that gives itself, or a conscience that discerns good from evil. Even when the machines excel in efficiency, a **human face that asks to be gazed upon remains of the center of our history.***

Pope Leo XIV, Magnifica Humanitas, § 233





This is *not* a tech project.



“Virtue ethics tells us that the moral life is not simply about discrete actions properly performed, nor about achieving laudable results in the world, but about becoming a certain kind of person.

—Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.





Thank You

Questions and conversation welcome.

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