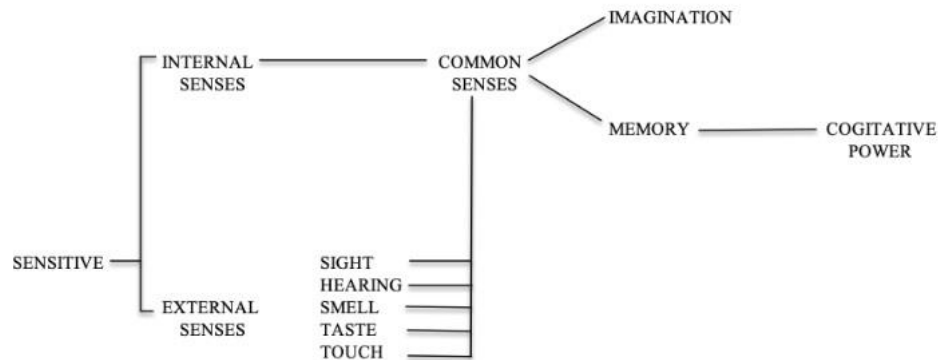


## Class Outline

### The Sensitive Faculties

- I. The five exterior senses
  - Touch, taste, smell, hearing & sight
- II. The four interior senses or the passive intellect:
  - A. Common sense power
    - Grasps what is seen, heard & smelt as one thing
  - B. Memory
    - Associates objects of sense perception with past time
  - C. Imagination
    - Retains impressions made on external senses long after stimulation has ceased
  - D. Cogitative power
    - Collates sense impression & achieves judgments that are concrete and individual

## SENSITIVE FACULTIES



- A. Common sense power

## THOMISTIC COUNSELING

### COURSE 1: THOMISTIC PERSPECTIVES – THE NATURE OF MAN CLASS 4: EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR SENSES/PASSIVE INTELLECT

- 1 Its function is to unify the sense species from the five exterior senses; it is the terminus of these senses
- 2 It is the medium between the five sense and the other 3 interior sensitive powers
- 3 Common sense power will something in the appetite
- 4 It is the root to imagination and memory because its function is to unify the data and make it available for the other powers.

#### B. Memory

The faculty itself

- 1 Retains sensitive species (called storehouse of data)
- 2 Concerns the past, so recalls information
  - a. For the operation of imagination & cogitative powers
  - b. Distinguishes past and present
- 3 Is a habit-can be increased & trained
- 4 Effected by
  - a. age
  - b. suffering of the passions or emotions
  - c. chemical variances in bodily organ
  - d. physical actions upon the organ
- 5 Forgetfulness - Incapacity to recall previously stored species  
Causes
  - a. Time
  - b. Passion – increased passion - forgets consequences
  - c. Physical damage – brain injury
  - d. Memory – or when corrupt knowledge confuses; one forgets what they once knew
- 6 Reminiscence - A syllogism inquiring into memory of the past according to individual intentions
  - a. Re-finding what was received but not retained
  - b. Reconstruction
  - c. False reminiscing can lead the interior senses to make judgments that are erroneous, which disorders the passions.

#### C. Imagination – maintains the presence of an image

- 1 The power itself and operations - maintains presence of image (or phantasm) in the knower
  - a. Comes directly from common sense power which gathers information from the five exterior senses
  - b. Can be introduced from memory
  - c. Impacts the operations of the cogitative power
- 2 Relation to other powers

## THOMISTIC COUNSELING

### COURSE 1: THOMISTIC PERSPECTIVES – THE NATURE OF MAN CLASS 4: EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR SENSES/PASSIVE INTELLECT

- a. Makes it possible to know something which is absent
  - b. Makes it possible to continually use knowledge
  - c. From it, the *agent intellect* abstracts concept so that the intellect can make judgement
  - d. Affected by the *disposition* of the bodily organs
  - e. Presents images to the *will*
  - f. *Memory* can cause previous images to be present
  - g. *Appetites and passions* are moved by image
- 3 Forming a new image / Modifying the image
- a. We can come to the understanding of something better by modifying the image from which we abstract & thereby modify our understanding.
    - True understanding is congruent with reality,
      - The image must produce the right concept in abstraction.
  - b. St. Thomas also notes that the possible intellect can reformulate the image & thereby affect the motions of the appetites.
  - c. The possible intellect can cause changes in the image in the various ways & thereby formulate a phantasm/image which will affect the appetites.

#### D. Cogitative Power: 3 Acts

Highest power of the passive intellect / Concerns only particulars, not universals

It's acts:

##### 1 Composes & divides intentions

Physical or natural judgment

- a. Places two things side by side and compares them - so present image/phantasm compared with image of past
  - b. Composes – declares them the same or similar
  - c. Divides – denies that they are the same or similar
  - d. Composing can be a form of merging 2 images and division can be a form of dissecting them
- 2 Assessment of harm, good, use
- a. Assessment of harmfulness, goodness or usefulness of some thing
  - b. Capacity to ascertain whether a given sensible species is harmful or suitable
- 3 Prepares the phantasm for abstraction
- a. Prepares phantasms/images for the operations of the agent intellect
  - b. The cogitative power is dependent on memory, imagination and its own virtues

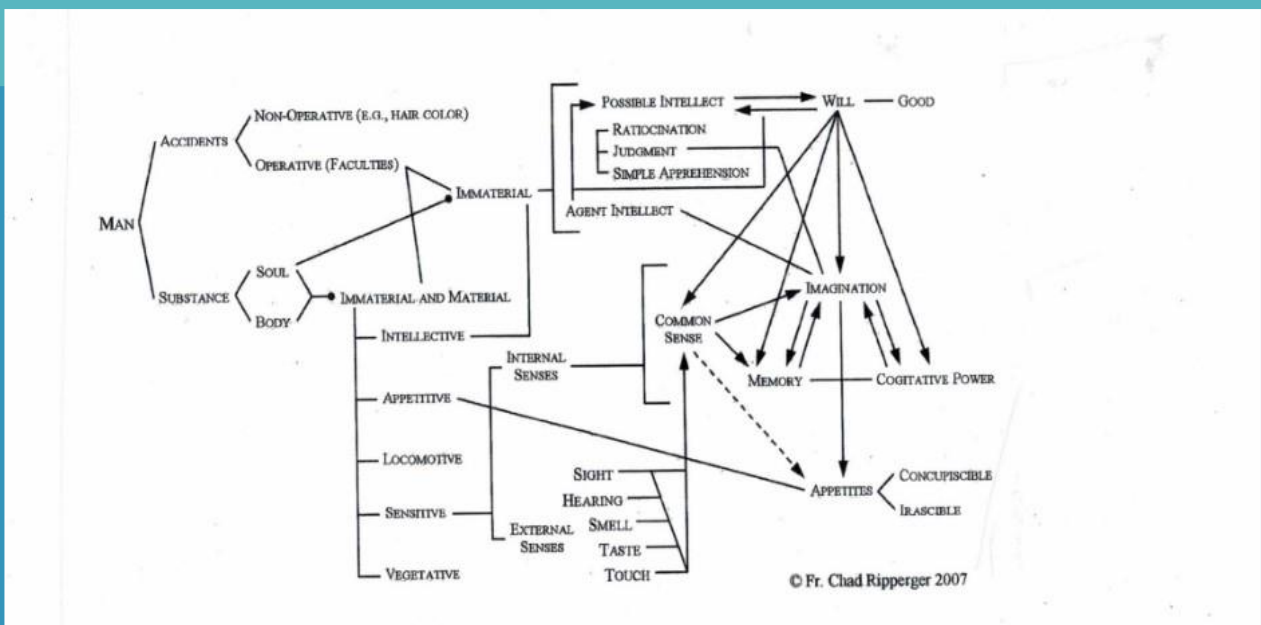
# THOMISTIC COUNSELING

## COURSE 1: THOMISTIC PERSPECTIVES – THE NATURE OF MAN CLASS 4: EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR SENSES/PASSIVE INTELLECT

### Observations

- 1 Cogitative power effected by dispositions – since it acts through bodily organ
  - If good – person is apt mentally. If bad or ill, the cogitative power is impeded.
- 2 Capable of habituation-can be trained
- 3 The possible intellect directs cogitative power
  - If possible intellect and will move the cogitative power repeatedly, it becomes disposed to that action

### DIAGRAM: ONTOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF MAN



### Notes

*Introduction to the Science of Mental Health*, Chapter 3: The Cognitive Faculties – Section I, pp 19-50

Diagram: Ontological Structure of Man, p. 799 Ripperger, Fr. Chad. *Introduction to the Science of Mental Health*. Sensus Traditionis Press, 2013

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