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In, Not Of, the Library: Queer Library/Archives Workers and Catholic Collections

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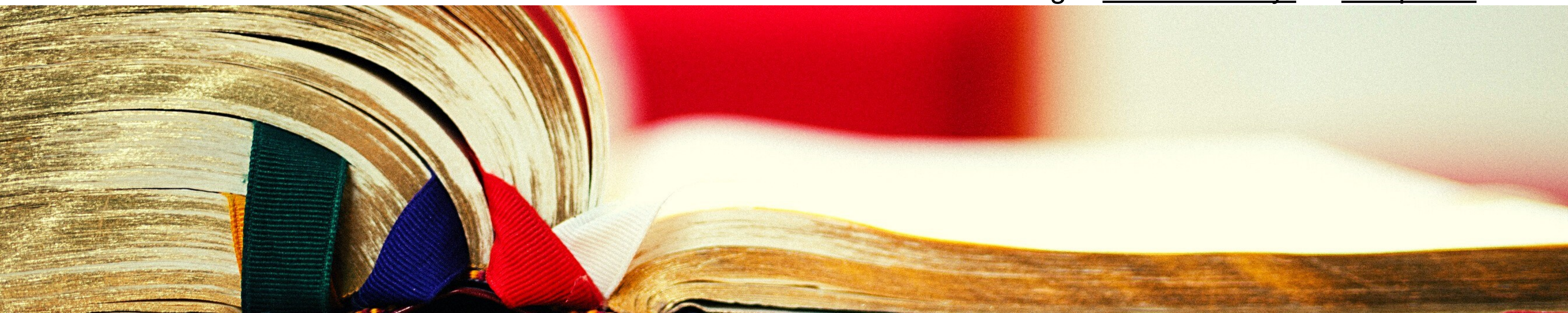
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Cataloging
Queer
Library
Issues

In, not of, the library

Queer library/archives workers
and Catholic collections

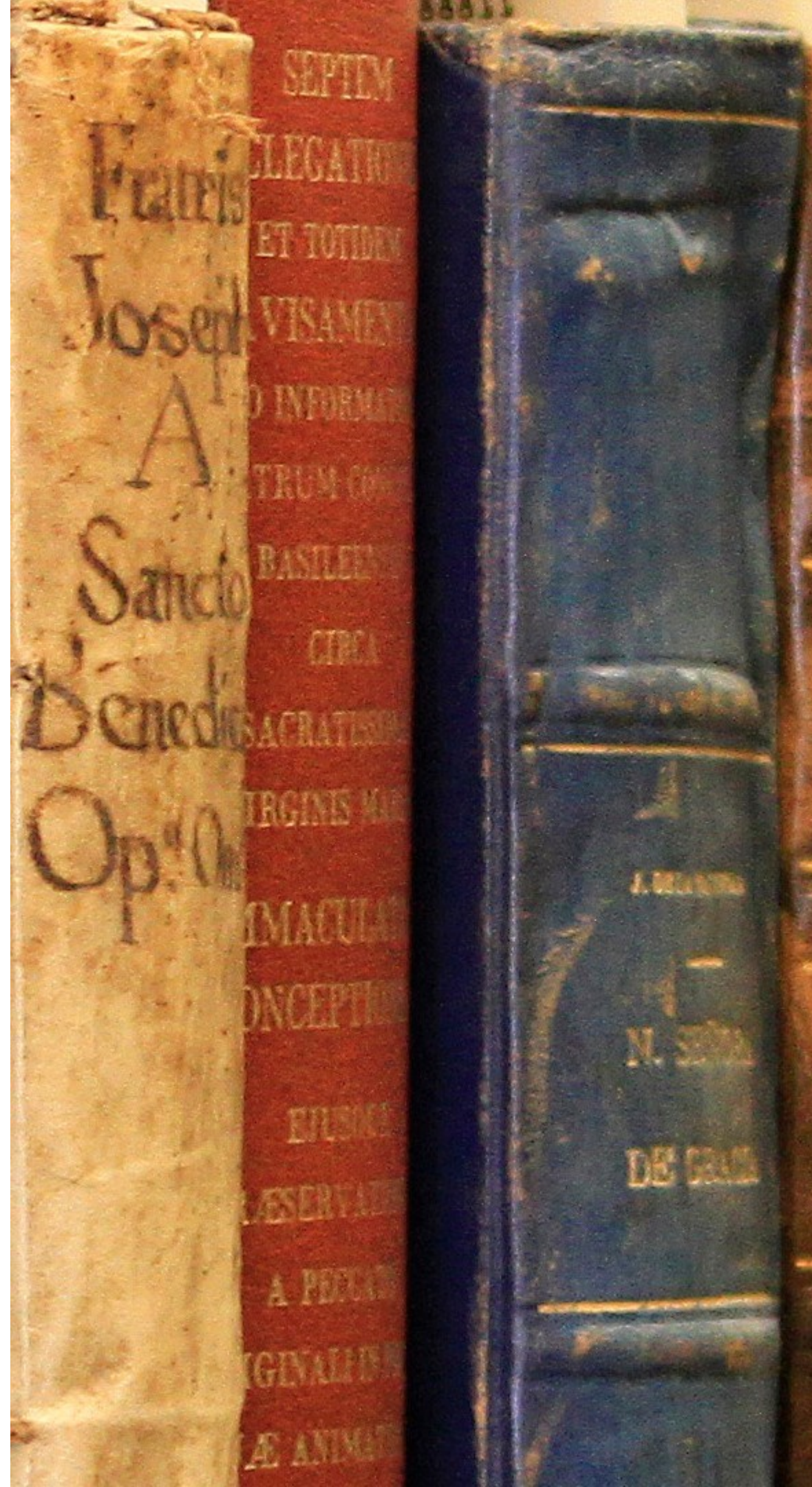
Image: [Grant Whitty](#) on [Unsplash](#)



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Queer
Library
Issues

Image:
rare books
on the
shelves of
the Marian
Library at the
University of
Dayton.



Catholic libraries are academic libraries

- Catholic professional organizations & resources parallel secular orgs and resources for libraries, archives
- Catholic special collections can represent the core of a Catholic institution's identity

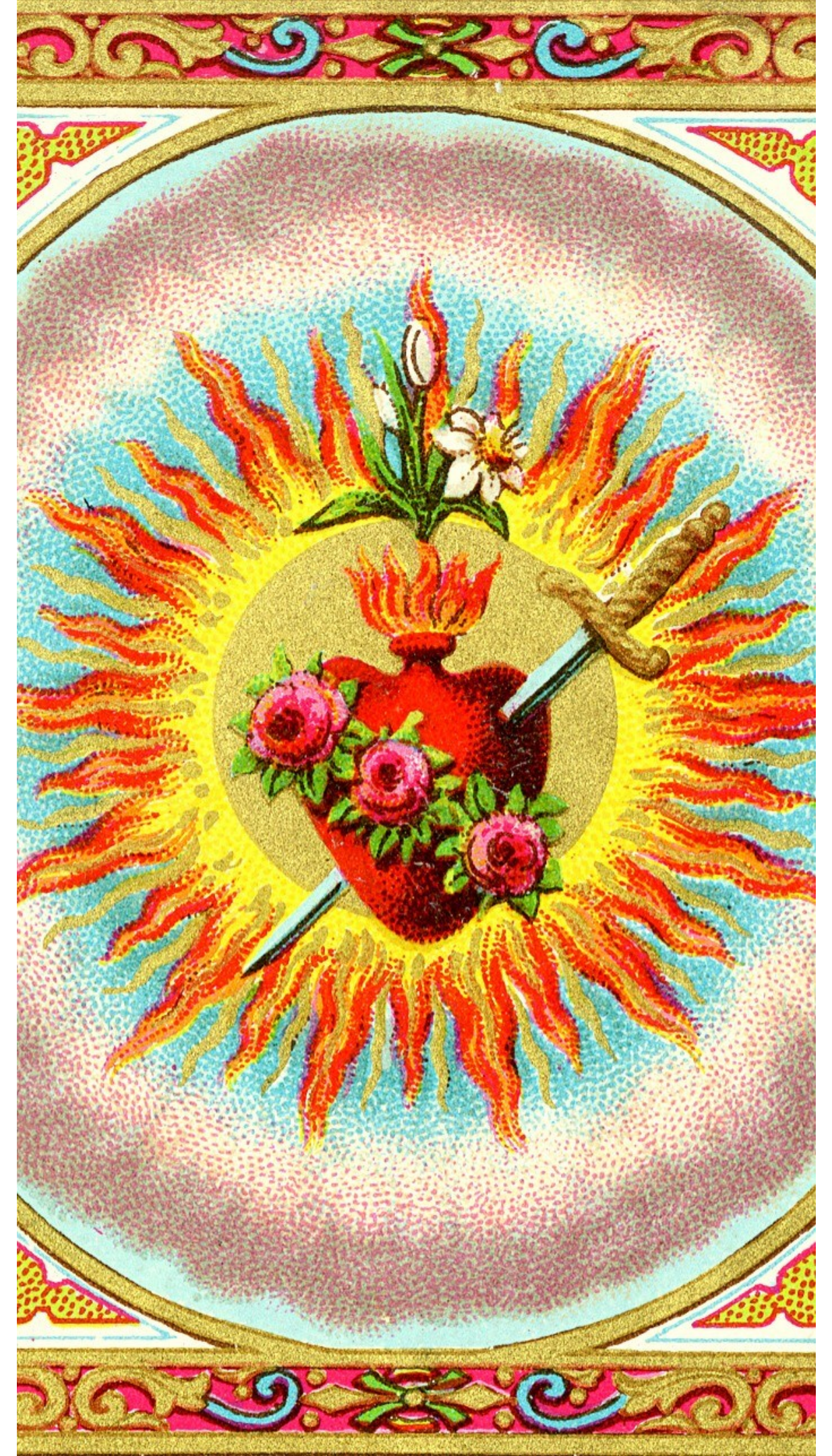
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Vocational awe in Catholic libraries

- Amplified expectations
- Can be a legacy practice for new library/archives workers to contend with
- Connected to institutional identity, religious understandings of service and sacrifice

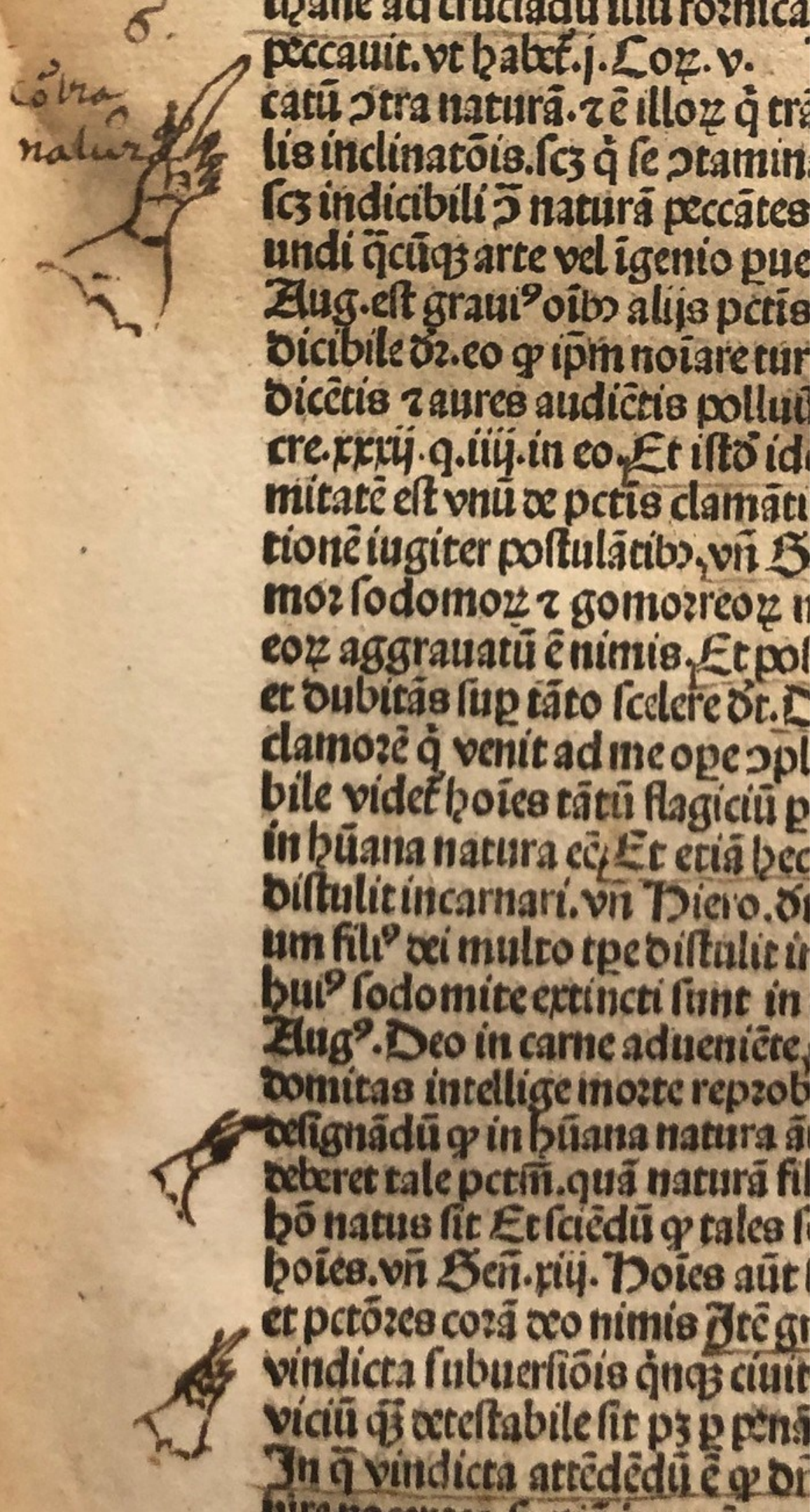
Image: German holy card depicting the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Marian Library. https://ecommons.udayton.edu/ul_holy_cards/213/



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Cataloging Queer Library Issues

Image:
manicules
pointing out
fornication
and sodomy
in Johann
Herolt,
*Sermones
Discipuli*,
1504, Marian
Library.



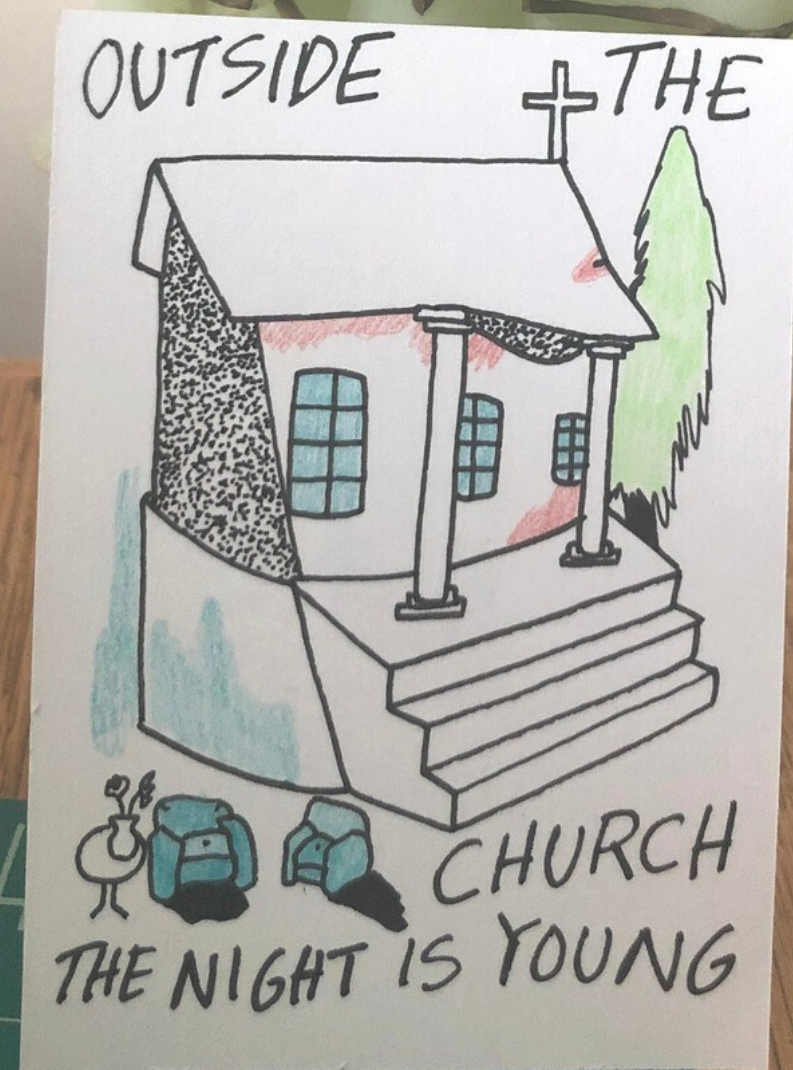
Queering Catholic collections

- Collecting, describing, reinterpreting queer presence and silence
- Pick your battles, pick your beliefs
- Queer vocation versus vows and vocational awe

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Library
Issues

Image: non-
binary prayer
card by
Jonah
Welch,
Our Lady of
Fatima
statue



Toward queer, Catholic library/archival practice

- Critical
- Trauma-informed
- Beyond patron/librarian binaries
- Acknowledges spiritual/emotional ties, timelines
- Being accomplices, not allies

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Thank you!

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