

Anita & Antonio Gotto Lecture Series presents

SHANNON VALLOR

The AI Mirror: How to Reclaim Our
Humanity in an Age of Machine Thinking



2 pm · Sunday, September 28, 2025

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church
708 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10019

Program

Please silence all electronic devices. Photos and video recordings are not permitted during the lecture.

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston

The AI Mirror: How to Reclaim Our Humanity in an Age of Machine Thinking

Shannon Vallor

Q & A



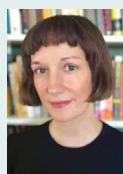
*Scan this QR code before the Q&A segment begins
to submit your question.*

You can purchase Shannon Vallor's book, *The AI Mirror: How to Reclaim Our Humanity in an Age of Machine Thinking*, in the Narthex.

Welcome to Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church!

We invite you to attend our other exciting programs.

You can learn more at fapc.org/events.



They Will Know You by Your Love (of Robots)

Sunday, Oct. 5 • 12:45 pm, Jones Auditorium

Dr. Kathryn Reklis

Drawing on scientific speculation, philosophy, and pop culture, this talk will explore different ways we imagine human relationship with AI: Is AI our child/servant/tool, our friend and companion, an inhuman “other” that threatens our existence? Dr. Reklis is a theologian and cultural historian who teaches at Fordham University, where she explores the intersections of theology, aesthetics, and modernity.



Faith in the Age of AI

Sunday, Oct. 19 • 12:45 pm, Jones Auditorium

Dr. Isaac Sharp

Building on our exploration of AI and ethics, Dr. Isaac Sharp invites us to reflect on how our faith traditions speak to the promises and perils of artificial intelligence. From questions of justice and human dignity to power, agency, and moral responsibility, we'll consider how Christian ethics can help us navigate the ethical terrain of emerging technologies. Dr. Sharp recently joined the faculty of Princeton Theological Seminary from Union Theological Seminary where he explored AI, ethics, and social justice.



Encoded Inequity: Race, Faith, and Power in the Age of AI

Sunday, Nov. 2 • 7 pm, Zoom Webinar

Dr. Grace Y. Kao

As artificial intelligence becomes more deeply woven into our daily lives, the systems we build increasingly reflect the same racial injustices and power imbalances present in our society. Join us as we explore how Christian communities can respond to these challenges with clarity, courage, and a commitment to equity. Dr. Grace Y. Kao is a Christian ethicist and a professor at Claremont School of Theology, engaging emerging questions in the ethics of artificial intelligence through the lens of justice, faith, and public responsibility. Register at fapc.org/adulted.

A Faith and AI Panel: Reflections from Our Community

Sunday, Nov. 9 • 12:45 pm, Jones Auditorium & Livestream

After weeks of exploring artificial intelligence through the lenses of ethics, theology, and culture, a panel of Fifth Avenue members whose professional lives intersect with AI—from medicine and education to the arts and technology—will reflect on what they've heard and how it resonates in their fields. Together, we'll consider how faith might help us respond to the challenges and possibilities of AI with wisdom, integrity, and hope.

Faith and AI: Where Do We Go from Here?

Sunday, Nov. 16 • 7 pm, Zoom

Join Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike and Jaime Staehle for a closing conversation on our *Faith & AI* series. We'll consider the questions raised throughout the series—from how AI reflects cultural hopes and fears to what theology says about power, justice, and human dignity in a technological age. Tis is a space to share insights, ask questions, and imagine faithful ways forward. All are welcome! Register at fapc.org/adulted.

About the Anita & Antonio Gotto Lecture Series

The Anita and Antonio Gotto Lecture Series offers compelling talks and presentations by renowned theologians and preachers, writers, and scholars, across a range of faith traditions and academic disciplines.

Inaugurated in October 2018, the Gotto Lecture Series is made possible through a generous contribution from Anita and Antonio Gotto, longtime members of the congregation.

Anita and Antonio Gotto are natives of Nashville, Tennessee, and attended Vanderbilt University. They lived in Houston for twenty-five years, where they raised their family. Tony Gotto was chair of internal medicine at the Baylor College of Medicine. Anita, a former teacher, served on a number of community boards. The Gottos moved to New York in 1997 when Tony became the dean of Weill Cornell Medical College. They joined Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in 1998, where Tony has served on the Board of Trustees and Anita on the Session.

The Gotto Lecture Series builds on the success of Fifth Avenue's visiting authors program, created by Senior Pastor Scott Black Johnston in 2010. This program has featured such acclaimed writers as James Carroll, Thomas Long, Marilynne Robinson, Barbara Brown Taylor, and Christian Wiman.

Building Hours

Monday,
Wednesday – Friday
9 am – 6 pm

Tuesday
9 am – 9 pm

Saturday
8 am – 1 pm

Sunday
8 am – 2:30 pm



7 West 55th Street • New York, NY 10019