

# SCHOLASTIC METAPHYSICS:

## THE NINETEEN (19) CONCEPTS THAT EMBRACE ALL REALITY

### FIVE (5) TRANSCENDENTALS<sup>1</sup>

**Unitas Unity**

**Verum True**

Being in regard to intellect.

**Bonum Good**

Being in regard to will or nature.

**Bellum Beauty**

Metaphysical beauty deals with proper proportion necessary for being.

**Aliquid Something**

As distinguished from nothing.

As distinguished from other things. i.e. what makes a thing unique

### FOUR (4) CAUSES

**Material - out of which**

Is that cause which contributes to the production of an effect by communicating itself as the determinable constituent of the effect. i.e. a piece of cloth lends itself to be fashioned into a garment.

**Formal - what**

Is that cause which contributes to the production of an effect by communicating itself to the effects as the determining constituent. i.e. the shape of the garment into which a piece of cloth is to be formed.

It is that by which something is *determined*.

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<sup>1</sup> Father Haladus does not recognize these three in these forms: *Unum* / One; *Ens* / Being; *Res* / Thing.

**Efficient – how**

Is that cause which contributes to the production of an effect by exercising an activity which gives existences to the effect. i.e. a seamstress who sews a piece of cloth into a garment.

It is that by which something is *done*.

Its activity is called efficiency.

**Final - to which**

Is that on account of which something is done. i.e. the purpose or goal.

### TEN (10) CATEGORIES

**Substance** (who or what a thing is)

Substance exists in itself, it subsists.

Substance is spoken of first as that to which accidents adhere.

*Substance, essence* and *nature* are synonyms. The only distinction is one of logical classification.

**The Nine (9) Accidents**

Accidents exist in another

1. Quantity (how much or how big?)
2. Quality (what sort of thing is it?)
3. Relation (to what or whom does it refer?)
4. Action (what does it do to another?)
5. Passion (what is done to it?)
6. Time (when is it?)
7. Place (where is it?)
8. Posture (in what attitude?)
9. Covering (or possession) (how surrounded, equipped; how conditioned?)