

Curriculum vitae

Shannon M. McAlister

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Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education
Fordham University
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CURRENT POSITION

Associate Professor of Spirituality, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, September 2018-present; Assistant Professor of Spirituality, 2012-2018.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Systematic Theology, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, May 12, 2012. Areas of Concentration: Theology of God; Spirituality; Moral Theology and Ethics.

Certificate, Spiritual Direction Institute: Art and Practice of Spiritual Direction, Mercy Center, Burlingame, California, November 9, 2019.

M.A., Historical and Systematic Theology, The Catholic University of America, January 31, 2008.

Summer Patristic Studies Program, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, Massachusetts, 2007.

B.A., Liberal Arts (Great Books Curriculum), Thomas Aquinas College, Santa Paula, California, 2000.

Languages: Reading knowledge in Latin, French, German, and Ancient Greek (including Attic).

PUBLICATIONS

“From Whose Womb Did the Ice Come Forth?: Augustine of Hippo, Gregory the Great, and Thomas Aquinas on Job 38:29,” *Irish Theological Quarterly* 83, no. 4 (November 2018): 291-309.

“Christ as the Woman Seeking Her Lost Coin: Luke 15:8-10 and Divine Sophia in the Latin West,” *Theological Studies* 79, no. 1 (March 2018): 7-35. For an editor’s correction, see “Errata,” *Theological Studies* 79, no. 2 (May 2018): 478.

“Born of the Father: Psalm 109:3 and the Divine Womb in Latin Nicene Theology,” *Worship* 91 (May 2017): 204-223.

Review of *The Thirst of God: Contemplating God's Love with Three Women Mystics*, by Wendy Farley. *Spiritus: A Journal of Christian Spirituality* 17, no. 1 (Spring 2017): 136-38.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

God the Mother? God the Daughter?: The Medieval Question, under contract with University of Notre Dame Press.

Article: “Resting in the Womb of God: Job 38:29 in Gregory the Great’s Contemplative Spirituality”

Article: “‘Our Father’ is a Metaphor: YHWH as the Primary Name for God in Early and Medieval Christianity”

Book Project: *Female Imagery for God in the Christian Tradition: A Liturgical Sourcebook*

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS OF ACADEMIC RESEARCH

“Female Images of God in Christian Traditions,” Deepening Engagement with the Spiritual Exercises: A Symposium for Ignatian Spiritual Directors, Co-hosted by the Office of Ignatian Spirituality and the Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education at Fordham University, Rose Hill Campus, June 28, 2019.

Invited Speaker on “Wholeness in Community,” ACU Summit 2018: Wholeness in a Broken World, Together through the Power of the Spirit, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, Texas, September 18, 2018.

“Resting in the Womb of God: Job 38:29 in Gregory the Great’s Contemplative Spirituality,” Bi-annual International Conference of the Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality (SSCS)—*Pray Without Ceasing: Perspectives in Spirituality Studies*—organized in conjunction with the

Center for the Study of Christian Spirituality of the University of Zürich (CSCS), Kappel, Switzerland, June 28, 2017.

“Bonaventure in the Classroom: Lady Wisdom and Women’s Spirituality,” The Disciplines of Wonder: Bonaventure and Theological Method, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, November 22, 2014.

“Jesus as Woman in the Fathers and Doctors of the Church,” Public Lecture for the “Fridays at Fordham” Fall Lecture Series of the Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education; Fordham Lincoln Center Campus, Sept. 26, 2014; Fordham Westchester Campus, Oct. 3, 2014.

“‘Born of the Father’: The Spirituality of the Divine Womb in Scripture, Creed, and the Words of the Saints,” Public Lecture for the Fall Lecture Series on “New Directions in Spirituality” of the Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham Westchester, Oct. 16, 2012.

“From Whose Womb Did the Ice Come Forth?: The Reception of Job 38:29 in the Early and Medieval Latin West,” Society of Biblical Literature Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting, New Brunswick, New Jersey, March 15, 2012.

“Jesus the Woman: Wisdom’s Gender-Bender in the Patristic and Medieval Interpretation of Luke 15:8-10,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Francisco, November 21, 2011.

“Rethinking Bynum: Exploring Anselm’s Argument Against Calling God the Father ‘Mother,’” “Anselm of Canterbury: Life and Work” Session (Sponsored by the Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Bristol), 46th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 14, 2011.

“Jesus, Lady Wisdom, and the Woman of Luke 15: Thomas Aquinas and Bonaventure of Bagnoregio on Divine Sophia,” International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Tartu, Estonia, July 28, 2010.

“A Father Who Conceives and Gives Birth: Trinitarian Interpretations of Pr. 8:24-25, Ps. 109:3, Is. 66:9, and Gen. 49:25,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, New Orleans, November 22, 2009.

“Fecundity in the Trinity in Bonaventure’s *Commentaria in quatuor libros Sententiarum Magistri Petri Lombardi*,” American Academy of Religion Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting, Baltimore, March 26, 2009.

“Aquinas on the Naming of God: A Different Foundation for Feminine God-Talk?,” American Academy of Religion Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting, Baltimore, March 16, 2006.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:
CLASSES TAUGHT

Contemporary Christian Spirituality—online (SPGR 6792 and 7792), Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Spring 2015; Fall 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019. (This is a new online course that I designed and developed.)

Theology of the Human Person—online (REGR 6031), Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Spring 2018; Fall 2018 and 2019. (This is a new online course that I designed and developed.)

Theology of Spiritual Direction—on campus (REGR 6881), Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Fall 2012, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018, and 2019.

Christian Contemplation and Action—on campus (SPGR 6752), Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Spring 2019.

Sacramental Spirituality—on campus (REGR 6148), Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Fall 2012, 2013, and 2014; Spring 2017 and 2019.

Theology of the Human Person—on campus (REGR 6351), Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Spring 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2019; Summer 2019; Fall 2017.

Women Mystics—on campus (REGR 6835), Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Spring 2013, Fall 2014, Spring 2018. (Course newly introduced, on my initiative.)

History of Christian Spirituality I—online (SPGR 6702), Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Spring 2014 and 2017.

Theology of Spiritual Direction—online (SPGR 7870), Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Fall 2015, Sessions A and B; Spring 2017. (This is a new online course that I designed and developed.)

Special Topics: Spirituality—on campus (SPGR 7888), Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Fall 2016.

Contemporary Christian Spirituality—on campus (SPGR 6792), Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Spring 2014.

Guest Lecturer for Dr. Tom Beaudoin's *Research Seminar: Pastoral Theology and Practice* (REGR 8059): "**Spirituality: Definitions and Research Methodologies**," Spring 2013 and 2014.

Faith Seeking Understanding (TRS 201), School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, and Spring 2012.

The Triune God (TRS 365), School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Fall 2009.

Enduring Questions in Catholic Theology—online (TRS 261), School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Summer 2009.

Abelard, Aquinas, Dante: Theology of the Middle Ages (TRS 367), School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Fall 2007.

Christianity and Culture (TRS 260), School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Spring 2007.

Tutor, High School Latin, The Enrichment Centers, Inc., Bethesda, Maryland, 2006.

Guest Instructor, ***The Dynamics of Christian Spirituality***, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, April 18, 2006.

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Susan Wessel, ***Women in the Christian Tradition***, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Spring 2005.

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Joseph Capizzi, ***Character, Choice, and Community***, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Fall 2004.

Teaching Assistant to Dr. William Barbieri, ***The Religious Quest***, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Spring 2004.

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Joseph Capizzi, ***Character, Choice, and Community***, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Fall 2003.

Teaching Assistant, High School Latin, Mother of Divine Grace School, Ojai, California, 2000-2001.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:
DEVELOPMENT OF NEW ONLINE COURSES

Debuted Spring 2018: *Theology of the Human Person.*

Debuted Fall 2015: *Theology of Spiritual Direction.*

Debuted Spring 2015: *Contemporary Christian Spirituality.*

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Attended 16 Online-Course-Production Training Meetings, Fordham University, 2013-2017.

Attended the monthly New Faculty Seminar on The Fordham University Mission, led by Prof. Dominic Balestra, Fordham University, 2012-2013.

Mentoring Group (by invitation only) with Dr. David Bosworth, Director of the Teaching and Learning Program, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, 2011-2012.

Mentored by Msgr. Paul McPartlan, Mentoring Program for Teaching Fellows, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, 2009-2010.

How to Teach an Online Course, Dr. Donald Heet, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, April 23, 2008.

Mentored by Dr. Lucinda Nolan, Mentoring Program for Teaching Fellows, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Fall 2007.

Mentored by Fr. James Wiseman, O.S.B., Mentoring Program for Teaching Fellows, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Spring 2007.

Teaching & Learning: Focus on Religious Education and Catechetics (TRS 751A), Dr. Catherine Dooley, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Spring 2004.

Wabash Grant Project for Teaching and Learning in Theology, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, 2004-2007.

SERVICE

Editorial Board, *Offerings: A Journal of Christian Spirituality and Practical Theology*, August 2018-present.

Area Coordinator, Christian Spirituality and Pastoral Studies, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, August 2018-present.

Member of the Pedagogy Advisory Council of the Special Advisor to the Provost for Faculty Development, Fordham University, November 2018-present.

Member of the Faculty Senate Technology Committee, Fordham University, Fall 2017-present.

Secretary, Curriculum and Assessment Committee, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, September 2018-present.

Member of the D.Min. Faculty Committee, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Fall 2017-present.

Spiritual Director, *pro bono*, 2018-present.

Coordinator of Comprehensive Exams for the MA in Christian Spirituality, Fall 2017-December 2019.

Member of the Planning Task Force for Friday Events at the AAR (2018 & 2019), Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality, Summer 2018-Fall 2019.

Chair, Ad Hoc Committee for the Revision of Merit Norms, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Spring and Fall 2019.

Manuscript Reviewer, *Theological Studies*, Spring 2019.

Member of the Faculty Search Committee, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Fall 2018-Spring 2019.

Coordinator, Emerging Scholars Group, Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality, November 2015-November 2018.

Chair of the Financial Aid, Admissions and Enrollment Committee, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Fall 2013-Spring 2014; Fall 2016-Spring 2017.

Chair, Christian History and Theology Section, Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Academy of Religion, 2012-2015; **Co-Chair**, 2009-2012.

Interviewed for “‘In the Name of the Mother?’: Theologian Unearths Female Language for God in Traditional Interpretations of Scripture,” *Fordham News*, 23 March 2015.

Chair of the Budget Committee, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Fall 2014-Spring 2015.

Secretary of the Financial Aid, Admissions and Enrollment Committee, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Fall 2014-Spring 2015.

Intellectual Property Subcommittee, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Spring 2013.

Secretary, Pastoral Ministry and Spirituality Area Meetings, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, 2012-2013.

Faculty Marshall at Fordham University Commencement, May 2013, 2015, and 2019.

Lecturer at the GSRRE New Student Orientation: “Plagiarism: Definition and Consequences,” August 24, 2013.

Interviewed in connection with my October 16, 2012 Public Lecture at Fordham Westchester. I was featured along with Fr. McAloon, S.J., in “**GRE Spreads the Word about Spirituality**,” in *Inside Fordham: Top Stories—October 15, 2012*.

Dean Search Committee, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, 2011-2012.

Assistant to the Religious of the Sacred Heart (RSCJ) at The Center for Educational Design and Communication—“Social Justice by Design,” Washington, D.C., 2009-2012.

Liaison to Jean Porter and Kathryn Tanner, Center for Law, Philosophy and Culture, The Catholic University of America: “A Common Morality for the Global Age: In Gratitude for What We Are Given. An International Symposium,” March 27-30, 2008.

Graduate Host, Graduate Open House, The Catholic University of America, Spring and Fall 2007.

Chair, Washington Theological Consortium Student Board, Washington, D.C., 2006-2007.

Liaison to Prospective Students, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, 2006-2007.

Program Area Representative, Systematic and Historical Theology, School of Theology and Religious Studies Students’ Association, The Catholic University of America, 2006-2007.

Standing Committee on Failing Grades, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, 2005-2007.

Publicity Chair, School of Theology and Religious Studies Students’ Association, The Catholic University of America, 2005-2006.

Representative to the Ecumenical Student Board of the Washington Theological Consortium from the School of Theology and Religious Studies Students’ Association, The Catholic University of America, 2004-2006.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Nominated and Selected for the New Voices Seminar of the Madeleva Lecture, with expenses paid, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana (Invited for Spring 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020; attended Spring 2017 and 2018; will attend Spring 2020).

Invited Speaker on "Female Images of God in Christian Traditions," with a stipend, Deepening Engagement with the Spiritual Exercises: A Symposium for Ignatian Spiritual Directors, Co-hosted by the Office of Ignatian Spirituality and the Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education at Fordham University, Rose Hill Campus, June 28, 2019.

Invited Speaker on "Wholeness in Community," with expenses paid, ACU Summit 2018: Wholeness in a Broken World, Together through the Power of the Spirit, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, Texas, September 18, 2018.

Faculty Fellowship, Fordham University, Spring 2016.

Selected as One of 50 Theologians to Dialogue on *The Intellectual Tasks of the New Evangelization* with 14 U.S. Catholic Bishops and Cardinals. Hosted by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Doctrine, in Collaboration with the Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis. Washington, D.C., September 12-14, 2013.

Provost Award: First Year Experience Teaching Fellowship (Full Tuition and Living Stipend), School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, 2009-2012.

Teaching Fellowship, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Summer 2009.

Greeted Pope Benedict XVI in representation of all graduate, professional, and doctoral students of The Catholic University of America, April 17, 2008.

Virgil S. Crisafulli Fund Scholarship, Summer Program in the Ancient Languages, Department of Greek and Latin, The Catholic University of America, 2008.

Andrew Mellon Grant, The Catholic University of America, 2008.

John and Gertrude Hubbard Scholarship (Full Tuition), School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, 2008-2009.

Teaching Fellowship, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Spring and Fall 2007.

Research Assistantship with Fr. Regis Armstrong, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, 2006-2007.

Dean's Office Graduate Assistantship (Full Tuition), School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Fall 2006.

Research Assistantship with Dr. John Grabowski, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Spring 2006.

Research Assistantship with Fr. Regis Armstrong, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, Fall 2005.

Johannes Quasten Scholarship (Full Tuition), School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, 2003-2006.

Teaching Assistantship, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America, 2003-2005.

Zeiter Scholarship, Thomas Aquinas College, 1998-2000.

ADVISING EXPERIENCE

Academic Advisor, Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University, Fall 2012-Fall 2015; Fall 2016-present.

Academic Advisor to Exploratory Majors, Center for Academic Success, The Catholic University of America, Summer and Fall, 2010 and 2011.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Member, Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality, 2012-present.

Member, Catholic Theological Society of America, 2012-present.

Member, College Theology Society, 2011-present.

Member, Society of Biblical Literature, 2008-present.

Member, American Academy of Religion, 2006-present.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Provost Office Assistant, The Catholic University of America, 2007-2012.

Assistant Director of Admissions, Thomas Aquinas College, 2000-2003.

Admissions Office Manager, Thomas Aquinas College, 1997-2000.

Admissions Assistant, Thomas Aquinas College, 1996-1997.