

Illuminations



Tuohy Chair Lecturer Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald

How does an English-born Irish Catholic priest wind up teaching young Muslims about the intricacies of Islam in Uganda? Archbishop Fitzgerald's circuitous journey from England through Scotland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Tunisia, Rome, London, Uganda, Egypt, and Jerusalem to JCU in Cleveland has been one of finding God in the faces of people living in many

different countries, speaking a variety of different languages and embracing God with diverse religious expressions. Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald is this year's Tuohy Chair lecturer. Fitzgerald joined the Missionaries of Africa at a very young age. After his novitiate, he was sent to Tunisia to study theology. He learned Arabic there, taught in Uganda and in Rome, and engaged in pastoral work in Sudan. He became well-versed in interreligious dialogue, and has worked in Egypt as the Apostolic Nuncio. He is widely published on issues relating to interfaith relations, and was living and writing in Jerusalem before coming to Cleveland this month. He will be residing at Schell House at John Carroll throughout the spring semester. *Illuminations* caught up with Archbishop Fitzgerald, in his office, Room 111, in Grasselli Library.

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Experience in Christian/Muslim Relations During his formation, and continuing after his ordination, Fitzgerald was sent to a variety of countries to pursue his own studies and to teach Christians and Muslims. During formation, he took classes that were taught in English, French (his favorite foreign language) and Latin. He also learned Arabic, which he says is very difficult to speak because each country has its own dialect. After handing in his dissertation for a Doctorate in Dogmatic Theology at the Gregorian Institute, he was assigned to teach at the Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies in Rome. So he went to study Arabic at the School of Oriental and African Studies, part of the University of London, where he was awarded a Bachelor's degree. His training enabled him to teach missionaries and women religious how to

Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald

be a Christian presence among the Muslim people, as well as to teach Islam to Muslim youth in Uganda. He was ordained bishop in 1992 and promoted to Archbishop ten years later. In 2006 he was appointed as Nuncio in Egypt. Fitzgerald has spent considerable time on various councils on interreligious dialogue. His varied experiences as student, teacher, and diplomat have afforded him opportunities to develop a deep appreciation for the value of Christian/Muslim relations.

Understanding the Qur'an: next semester at John Carroll Next spring, the Archbishop will be teaching a graduate level course to help students understand the Qur'an. He hopes students will develop an appreciation of the seventh century text, learn to see it with respect as a book of scripture, and learn why it is important to Muslims. There will be comparisons with the Bible, uncovering many echoes of biblical texts.

Lenten Lecture Series Archbishop Fitzgerald will be giving a 5-session lecture series during Lent on exploring the Most Beautiful 99 Names of Allah, and their meanings for Christians. Originally developed as a retreat series, the lectures will evoke a fresh look at Christian scripture.

A distinctive perspective on current events in the Middle East The Archbishop was the Apostolic Nuncio in Egypt during the Arab Spring which began in 2010. He witnessed the joy of the popular uprising and the demonstrations that led to President Mubarak's stepping down in 2011. He witnessed the disappointment of the Egyptian people when the Muslim Brotherhood appointed an unpopular president. After more demonstrations by the Egyptian people, the army stepped in to remove that president and is still running the country. According to the Archbishop, popular revolt is a sign of hope in that it is a form of democracy. He has seen that you cannot have real change without the support of the people. With regard to the current situation in Syria, Fitzgerald cautions that there are no easy answers. The ISIS caliphate won't listen to anyone. The Islamic religious authorities have condemned ISIS, but ISIS will not listen to its own religious authorities. He notes that there have been many examples throughout history of movements towards a stricter observance of Islam. In the past, these movements have been much localized and die out quickly. The ISIS movement is different: while it is localized, the movement is gaining support from all over the world due to the Internet's improved access and global dissemination of information. Fitzgerald finds hope in efforts to provide good training for Muslim youth so that they aren't attracted to extremist movements like ISIS. In evaluating the situation in the Middle East, it is important not to be taken in by slogans and inflammatory sound bites. We need to keep searching for the deeper truth, according to Fitzgerald. And be patient. The Archbishop's personal motto comes from Psalm 1: *Fructum Dabit*. "We are to be like trees planted by the streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season." Fitzgerald believes peace will come in due time, in God's time.

Introducing Our New Graduate Students

John Barrett is enrolled in the newly-established five year BA/MA program in Theology and Religious Studies. He is currently in his senior year, completing the final requirements for his undergraduate degree while beginning coursework for his graduate degree. While at JCU, John has worked in both the TRS Department and Campus Ministry and is serving as the Senior Resident Assistant in Pacelli Hall. He has chosen to pursue a Master's Degree at JCU because he desires to further his understanding, appreciation, and passion for this field of study. John has been more than pleased with his undergraduate experience and finds it to be very practical to stay here to pursue his graduate degree. Upon graduation, John would like to lead youth and young adults through either an educational or ministerial position. His dream job would be a high school theology teacher or a campus minister in either a high school or university setting. John lives in North Olmsted with his mother, father, and sister and hopes to stay in the Cleveland area after graduation.



Pam Chaney enters the TRS Department after completing her certification in spiritual direction in 2010 through John Carroll's Ignatian Spirituality Institute (ISI.) She currently serves as Spiritual Director and licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant in Rosary Hall at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center. Rosary Hall, founded by Sr. Ignatia Gavin, is the second oldest center for the treatment of chemical dependency. Pam is the founder of "MiddleWayMinistries" an organization which provides spiritual care and retreats to recovering women who are formerly or currently incarcerated. MiddleWay meets people at the intersection of Ignatian Spirituality and Twelve- Step wisdom. Pam will pursue higher state licensure in chemical dependency counseling upon completion of the MA program. The Shaker Heights resident is the mom of two college-aged children, and lives with her therapy cats, Lily Belle and Oscar Marshmallow. Pam is a graduate assistant for Dr. Saritoprak and Dr. Tobey.

A home-grown, Northeast Ohioan, **Tony Dipre** grew up and still currently lives in Twinsburg, Ohio. Prior to joining the John Carroll community, Tony received a B.A. in Religious Studies and Neuroscience from Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. He is in his second full-year of teaching theology at Walsh Jesuit High School in Cuyahoga Falls. Tony is a former Jesuit Volunteer, having served in East St. Louis as a college readiness coordinator in 2011-2012. Wanting to pursue the opportunity to further his growth as an aspiring theologian, and following his desire for professional development as an educator, Tony decided to enroll in the M.A. program. He is especially interested in the disciplines of ecclesiology and ethics, and hopes that his course work will make him a more competent teacher for his students at Walsh, as well deepen his own faith relationship. Tony hopes that the pursuit of the degree will aid in his discernment as to whether to strive for a future in post-secondary academia.

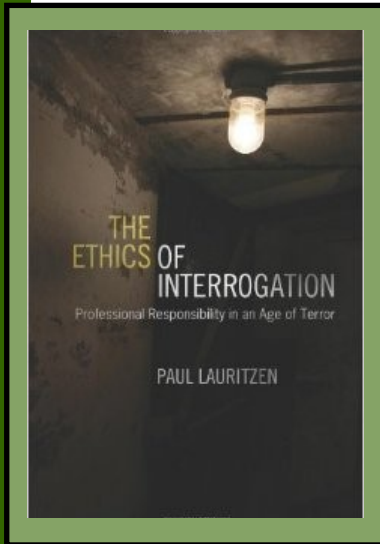


Joy Parker is a graduate of Case Western Reserve University and The Cleveland Institute of Music where she studied piano and cello with a minor concentration in voice. She holds a B.S. in Music Education and taught several years of high school choir, show choir and marching band before leaving public school teaching for full-time church ministry. Joy has been in music/worship ministry for over 15 years at such churches as First Congregational UCC in Hudson, Fairmount Presbyterian in Cleveland Heights and, most recently, Brecksville United Methodist Church. She currently serves as volunteer director of the South-Central Regional Community Chorus and Youth Chorus and has been known to take on the occasional music theatre production. Joy lives in Strongsville with her

husband, step-daughter, and awesome dog, Cooper. This year, Joy will complete her coursework in the TRS department and hopes to begin working on her thesis in the summer of 2015. She is also a graduate assistant, working primarily for Dr. McGinn, and in that role she has taken on assistant editorship of *Conversations with the Biblical World*, a publication of the Society of Biblical Literature that is published here at John Carroll.

Continued on page 7

Faculty Highlights



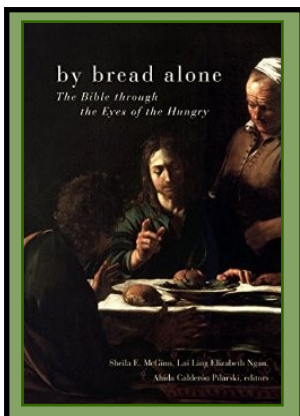
Dr. Lauritzen has received the 2014 Alpha Sigma Nu Jesuit Honor Society Ethics book award for his recent monograph, *The Ethics of Interrogation: Professional Responsibility in an Age of Terror* (Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, 2013). In his book, Lauritzen takes on ethical debates about counterterrorism techniques that are increasingly central to US foreign policy and discusses the ramifications for the future of interrogation. He examines how doctors, lawyers, psychologists, military officers, and other professionals addressed the issue of the appropriate limits in interrogating detainees. This volume argues that some of the techniques used at Guantánamo Bay were morally impermissible; nevertheless, the healthy debates that raged among professionals provide hope that we may safeguard human rights and the rule of law more effectively in the future.

Alpha Sigma Nu award-winning entries are judged according to the following criteria: serious and exact scholarship representing a significant contribution to the discipline; relevant topic of continuing importance to scholars across several disciplines; authority in interpretation; depth and breadth of expertise; spirit of objectivity; research findings handled with skill and assurance; accurate, thorough, clear cross-referencing and indexing; and well-written and readable writing style.

Congratulations, Dr. Lauritzen!

In addition, Dr. Lauritzen has had a chapter published in *Suffering and Bioethics*, edited by Ronald M. Green and Nathan J. Palpant, (Oxford Press, 2014). The title of his chapter is called “Reproductive Technology in Suffering’s Shadow,” and looks at whether medicine should be in the business of healing illness or eliminating suffering. According to Dr. Lauritzen, who focused on the field of reproductive technology, to the extent the medical profession is called upon to meet human desire, it loses its identity and turns health care into a commodity.

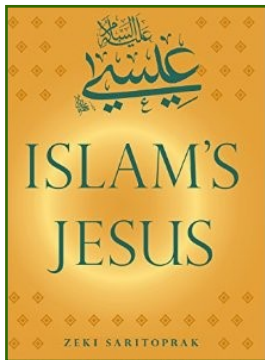
Also, look for an article by Dr. Lauritzen to be published in the next couple of months in *Commonweal* which evaluates the Just War Tradition, the use of drones, and US Counterterrorism Policy. The Just War Tradition, grounded in a deep, historical tradition in Christianity dating back to St. Augustine, is the central paradigm for evaluating warfare and the just use of force. In combatting terrorism, a new framework to assess the just use of force is desperately needed. If this article piques your curiosity, or if you want to evaluate governmental actions more intelligently with respect to warfare, sign up for Dr. Lauritzen’s class (TRS 569) next semester on Just and Unjust Wars. The class meets the religious ethics requirement for MA students.



Dr. McGinn’s latest contribution as editor and author is found in *By Bread Alone: The Bible through the Eyes of the Hungry*, coedited with Lai Ling Elizabeth Ngan, and Ahiday Calderon Pilarski. (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2014). This collection of essays on the hermeneutics of hunger grew out of the Feminist Biblical Hermeneutics Task Force of the Catholic Biblical Association of America. According to the introduction to the book, Christians need to rethink the biblical messages on the topic of hunger that have led so many to see their duty not as feeding the marginalized, but only bringing them the good news of the gospel. Interpreting “hungry” inclusively and expansively, the collection uses the hermeneutics of hunger to see if there is any good news for the hungry. Its goal is to interpret the Bible in a way that allows for a sense of hope.

More Faculty Highlights

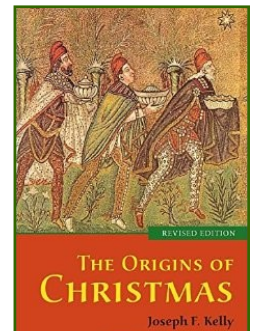
Dr. Nietupski has published an article in the current issue of the *Journal of the International Association of Buddhist Studies*. He analyzes a Tibetan monastic rule book from the 7th century which, surprisingly, includes the philosophical underpinning of those rules. It's unusual because most monastic books of rule deal with the mundane daily details of living in community. This book explains the reasoning behind the rules. One of the key points is the rule book's argument that unethical behavior, which includes delusional opinions about the nature of the self, results from incorrect assumptions about the permanence (or lack thereof) of self, and misplacing value on material objects. The habits of allowing undue attachments to self and to things, the text argues, cause human misery because they lead to unethical behavior. Interestingly, the text appears to suggest that the experience of Buddhist enlightenment is fully accessible to humans. The name of his article is "Atha niryānavṛttam: Reflections on the first sūtra and the opening passages of Guṇaprabā's *Vinayasūtra and Auto-commentary – With reference to Indian and Tibetan commentaries.*"



Who is Jesus for Muslims? How does the Qur'an speak of Jesus? What is the place of Jesus in Islamic theology? What do Muslims believe about the coming of Jesus at the end of time? Can beliefs about Jesus provide common ground for Muslims and Christians? What is the Islamic approach to dialogue between Christians and Muslims? **Dr. Saritoprak** answers these questions and more in his latest publication, *Islam's Jesus*, (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2014).

Visiting Professor **Dr. Tobey** is conducting a survey with visitors of websites aiming to provide resources/support for questioning of struggling Mormons, who feel distanced or entirely disconnected from the LDS church but, for a variety of reasons, do not wish to leave it. This is part of a larger study of hybrid religious identities that blend elements of belonging and non-belonging, affiliation and disaffiliation, which will provide a more complex way to think about religious identity than the polar model of "in or out."

Dr. Kelly has released a revised and expanded edition of his well-received *The Origins of Christmas*. (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2014). Much scholarly work has been done on the gospel infancy narratives and on the first centuries of Christmas in the past ten years since the original edition was published. Dr. Kelly decided it was time to freshen up the earlier edition to reflect this recent scholarship.



Where is Catholic Ecclesiology headed in the Third Millennium? Ask **Dr. Hahnenburg** who, along with Richard Gaillardetz, Steve Bevans and Vincent Miller, organized a symposium held last month at Boston College. Over forty theologians and graduate students attended "Catholic Ecclesiology in the Third Millennium," presenting papers and discussing present-day challenges and the future direction of the Catholic Ecclesiology. Hahnenburg and Gaillardetz will edit and publish a festschrift of the papers presented at the symposium, which was held as a tribute to the theological achievements of Dominican Fr. Thomas O'Meara. Gaillardetz said in addition to celebrating Fr. O'Meara's work, the symposium was an opportunity to reflect on the study of the church in light of the first 18 months of Francis' papacy. Dr. Hahnenburg's paper was entitled: *Learning From Experience: Attention to Anomalies in a Theology of Ministry*. Check it out at www.ecclesiology3m.org.



Gaudi's La Sagrada Familia (<http://www.sagradafamilia.cat/sf-eng/>) in Barcelona

Plan Your Courses for Next Semester

But first: Check in with your advisor! Your advisors would love to talk with you for about a half hour on how things are going for you. Make an appointment before you choose your courses for next semester. Wonderful advice and encouragement might come from such a meeting! Besides this can put a personal face on your educational journey.

Upcoming Courses Spring '15

TRS 430: Intro to Systematic Theology—Mon 6:30-9:15 Dr. Nuth

This course explores the meaning and interrelationship of important doctrines within the Catholic tradition, studying key concepts like revelation, faith, scripture, tradition, community, and method, and how these play out in the writings of a few significant theologians. **NB: This is a required course for MA students, and ideally should be taken before any other systematic theology course.**

TRS 402: Prophecy in Israel and the Ancient Near East—T 6:30-9:15 Dr. Spencer

This course studies prophecy and prophets in ancient Israel and its ancient Near Eastern context. The focus will be on such biblical prophets as Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, and Jeremiah.

TRS 549: Exploring the Qur'an—Wed 6:30-9:15 Archbishop Fitzgerald

Explore this seventh century text, learning how important the holy book of scripture is to Muslims, and how it compares with the Bible. **NB: This course satisfies the World Religion requirement for MA students.**

TRS 569: Just and Unjust Wars—Th 6:30-9:15 Dr. Lauritzen

This course is an introduction to the ethical issues posed by the use of violence. In the West, one moral framework for assessing the use of violence is the just war tradition, which can be traced back at least to Augustine, and it has significantly shaped contemporary international law and military ethics. Examine the canonical text of the just war tradition, explore the evolution of the tradition, and investigate how contemporary terrorism challenges the tradition. **NB: This course satisfies the Religious Ethics requirement for MA students.**

The Department of Theology and Religious Studies at John Carroll University

The Department of Theology and Religious Studies, with roots in the Jesuit and Catholic tradition, shares the mission of John Carroll University to reflect the value system of the Gospels. In particular, the Jesuit spirit brings to education a rationality balanced by human affection, an esteem for the individual as a unique person, training in discerning choice, openness to change, and a quest for God's greater glory in the use of the world's goods. The department offers courses that span a wide range of theological and religious thought and provide a context for ecumenical dialogue and study.

Dates to Remember

Spring 2015 Registration:

- ◆ Begins October 31, 2014

Due Dates for Winter Graduation

- ◆ **Past Due:** Graduation Application Late Fee \$25
- ◆ **November 17, 2013:** Thesis, essay, or project due.
- ◆ **November 24, 2013:** Comps deadline

Due Dates for Spring Graduation

- ◆ **April 6, 2014:** Thesis, essay, or project due
- ◆ **April 13 2014:** Comps deadline

Check us out on the web:

www.jcu.edu/religion

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Introducing Our New Graduate Students, continued



Mary Coffey is a Clevelander by choice, having moved here shortly after receiving her Juris Doctor from Washington University in St. Louis. Mary received a Certificate in Spiritual Direction from the Ignatian Spirituality Institute at JCU in 2013. That program piqued her interest in theology and she has decided to pursue a MA in Theology. She hopes to offer retreats that combine spirituality and creativity, which are her two main areas of interest. Mary lives in Chagrin Falls, with her husband and the youngest two of four children. The oldest two are also pursuing master's degrees. Mary is a graduate assistant this year for Dr. Lauitzen and Dr. Nuth.



They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. Psalm 1:1