MARIA GWYN MCDOWELL

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EDUCATION

PhD Theological Ethics, 2010

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Dissertation: "The Joy of Enacted Virtue: Toward the Ordination of Women to the

Eastern Orthodox Priesthood"

Director: Dr. Francine Cardman, Boston College, School of Theology and Ministry

Readers: Dr. Lisa Sowle Cahill, Boston College

Dr. Aristotle Papanikolaou, Fordham University

Dr. John Behr, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary

MDiv Theology, 1999

Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California

BA Religion, 1994

Pitzer College, Claremont, California

PUBLICATIONS

MAJOR ARTICLES

"Seeing Gender: Orthodox Liturgy, Orthodox Personhood" in *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*, 343(2), Fall/Winter 2013.

"The Iconicity of Priesthood: Male Bodies or Embodied Virtue?" in *Modes of Godly Being: Reflections on the Virtues from the Christian East*, eds. Aristotle Papanikolaou and Perry Hamalis. Special Issue of *Studies In Christian Ethics*, 26(3), August 2013.

EDITED VOLUMES

The Church Has Left the Building, eds. Michael Plekon, Maria Gwyn McDowell, Elizabeth Schroeder (Wipf & Stock, 2016).

BOOK CHAPTERS

"Fragile Repentances." In "I am Wonderfully Made": Texts on Eastern Orthodoxy and LGBT Inclusion, edited by Misha Cherniak, Olga Gerassimenko, and Michael Brinkschröder, 236-243. n.p.: European Forum of LGBT Christian Groups, 2016.

"The Home that Joy Built," in *The Church Has Left the Building*, eds. Michael Plekon, Maria Gwvn McDowell, Elizabeth Schroeder (Wipf & Stock, 2016).

"The Hands of a Woman': Person, Image and Ordination," in *A Communion Lived in Faith and Love: Reflections on Elisabeth Behr-Sigel's Ecclesiology*, Doxa and Praxis, eds. Eleni Kasselouri and Sarah Wilson (WCC and Volos Academy, forthcoming, 2015). To be published in English, French (in *Contacts*), and Arabic.

ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

"Life Bearing Love: A Too Risky Vision." In *Public Orthodoxy*, edited by Nathaniel Wood. New York: Orthodox Christian Studies Center of Fordham University, 2016. (original link)

"Response to the Pre-Conciliar Document 'On Marriage and its Impediments." In *Public Orthodoxy*, edited by Nathaniel Wood. New York: Orthodox Christian Studies Center of Fordham University, 2016. (original link)

"Marriage, Family, and Scripture." In *Public Orthodoxy*, edited by Nathaniel Wood. New York: Orthodox Christian Studies Center of Fordham University, 2016. (original link)

"Defending Human Dignity: A Response to the Pre-Conciliar Document 'The Mission of the Orthodox Church in Today's World." In *Public Orthodoxy*, edited by Nathaniel Wood. New York: Orthodox Christian Studies Center of Fordham University, 2016. (original link)

BOOK REVIEWS

Johannes Miroslav Oravecz, *God as Love: The Concept and Spiritual Aspect of Agape in Modern Russian Religious Thought* (Eerdmans, 2014), in Theological Studies (June 2015), p. 393-394.

Olga Lossky, *Toward the Endless Day: The Life of Elizabeth Behr-Sigel* (Notre Dame Press, 2010), in Anglican Theological Review (Fall 2010), p. 863.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

Standard articles: "Sexual Ethics," "Deaconess," "Communion of the Saints"; Notations: "Virgins," "Widows," "Mystery," "Nicholas the Wonderworker"; Short notices: "Archdeacon," "Protodeacon," "Elder," "Catechumen," "Iconostasis," "Pantocrator Icon," "Pentecost," "Metanie," in *The Encyclopedia of Eastern Orthodox Christianity*, John McGuckin, ed. (Wiley-Blackwell, 2011).

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

"Embodied Virtue: Male and Female Priests," in *Women in the Eastern Christian Tradition*. Papers of the Sophia Institute (Academic Conference, New York, December 2, 2008), ed. J. Lasser (Edward Brothers, 2009): 158-167.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Variations on a Theme by Mary Shelley. Co-authored with Mark O'Connor, Director of the Honors Program, Boston College, 2007. Description available online at: http://idesweb.bc.edu/ides/website/projects/shelley_project

Updated: Spring 2017

"The Newness of the Spirit: the Ordination of Men and Women," *The Word: a Publication of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese*, May 2004, pp. 9-11. (Not peer reviewed). Available online at: http://www.stnina.org/online-journal/feature-articles/newness-spirit-ordination-men-and-women

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

PAPERS PRESENTED

"Common Particularity: Theodore the Studite and Symeon the New Theologian on the Diversity of Embodiment." Annual American Academy of Religion Meeting, Eastern Orthodox Studies/Religion and Sexuality Group, Atlanta, GA, 2015.

"Unique Bodies, Unique Gifts: Towards a Liturgy that Deifies." Conference: Deaconesses, Ordination of Women and Orthodox Theology, Center of Ecumenical, Missiological and Environmental Studies "Metropolitan Panteleimon Papageorgiou" (CEMES), 22-24 January 2015. Available online at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EU1DISg-1Bc.

"Seeing Virtue: Orthodox liturgy, Orthodox women, UnOrthodox exclusion." Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, 2013.

"The Hands of a Woman': Person, Image and Ordination." Becoming Human, Becoming Divine: Elisabeth Behr-Sigel's Contributions to the Church, Ecumenical Institute/WCC, Strasbourg, France, September 2011.

"Persuasion or Compulsion: Eastern Orthodoxy and Religious Freedom." Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, January 2011.

"Virtuous Icons: Unique Persons or Gender Stereotypes?" Conference: "Women and Church, East and West." The Huffington Ecumenical Institute, Loyola Marymount College, Los Angeles, CA March 5-6, 2010. Available online at: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL53FA3B792C7BC29C.

"Orthodox Human Rights?" Panel presentation: 'American' Orthodox Ethics in Western Public Life: Human Rights, Reconciliation, and War." Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, January 2009.

"Embodied Virtue: Male and Female Priests," Conference: Women in Orthodoxy: Past Roles -- Future Paradigms, The Sophia Institute, Union Seminary, New York City, NY December 2008, 158-167.

"Gender and Priesthood in Gregory of Nazianzus," Orthodox Theological Society in America Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, June 2008.

"Seeing is Becoming: 'Icon' and Ethics," Annual American Academy of Religion Meeting, Eastern Orthodox Studies Section, San Diego, CA, November 2007.

Updated: Spring 2017

"Tradition, Change, and the Life of the Faithful in Fr. Dumitru Staniloae," Annual American Academy of Religion Meeting, Eastern Orthodox Studies Section, Philadelphia, PA, November 2005.

OTHER ADDRESSES AND PRESENTATIONS

"Praying our Visions: Story, Gender, and Icons of the Theotokos," Spiritual Formation Series, Trinity Cathedral, Portland, OR, Spring 2015; Advent Series, All Saints Church, Advent 2015.

"Whose Liberation? Liberation Theology, Gender, and the Magnificat," Spiritual Formation Series, Trinity Cathedral, Portland, OR, Jan 2015.

"Christian Interpretations of Exodus 3: The Burning Bush," Guest Lecturer for *Religious Quest*, Boston College, 2006. Assignment and images available online at: http://mariagwyn.com/lectures/burning_bush/bb-00.htm.

"Justice as Asceticism," St. Mary Orthodox Church Lenten Lecture Series, Cambridge, MA, March, 2004. Available online at: http://www.antiochian.org/justice-asceticism, PDF: http://www.antiochian.org/sites/default/files/assets/asset_manager/db6eebc85eda0a65fb55f9a66bcd2c0e.pdf.

"Ambiguity and Mystery: The 'More' of God," St. Mary Orthodox Church Lenten Lecture Series, Cambridge, MA, March, 2003.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Exploring communal and ritually shaped ethical formation, drawing connections between Eastern Christian theological trajectories and contemporary concerns regarding sex, gender, and theological ethics. I am particularly interested in the possible intersections of gender theory, liberation theologies and Easter Christian spirituality and sacramental theology in the formation of theories of justice, human rights and the common good.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

University Fellowship, Boston College, 2002-2005

James F. and Barbara Beré Merit Scholarship, Fuller Theological Seminary, 1996-1999

Lowell W. Berry Fellowship, Fuller Theological Seminary, 1995

Katie Lawson Memorial Award, Pitzer College, 1993

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society of Christian Ethics

American Academy of Religion

SELECTED SERVICE AND EXPERIENCE

Secretary, Orthodox Theological Society in America, 2009-2011

Editorial Board, The St. Nina Quarterly, 2007-2014

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