

COLLEEN M. GRIFFITH
Faculty Director of Spirituality Studies
Professor of the Practice of Theology

I. EDUCATION

- Th.D. Harvard Divinity School
Cambridge, MA.
Doctorate in Theology
Major Advisor: Margaret R. Miles
- M.Ed. Boston College, IREPM
Chestnut Hill, MA.
Masters in Religious Education
- B.A. St. Joseph University
West Hartford, CT.
B.A. Double Major- Religious Studies
and Interdisciplinary Arts
- Spiritual Direction Training Mercy Center School of Formative Spirituality
Madison, CT.
Certification in Spiritual Direction and Internship in Supervision
1996-1998

II. PRESENT POSITION

- 1998 - present Boston College
Professor of the Practice of Theology and Spirituality Studies
(specializations in theological anthropology, practical theological
method, historical and contemporary spirituality)
Faculty Director of Spirituality Studies
- Summer, 1999 -present Boston College, IREPM, STM
Director of the Post Master's Certificate Program
in Spiritual Formation Ministry

III. TEACHING

STM COURSES: *Foundations of Theology in Practical Perspective*
Historical Spiritual Classics in Theological Perspective

TEACHING, cont'd
Theological Anthropology and the Body
Spirituality and Justice
Practical Theology Seminar
Seminar on the Theology of Elizabeth Johnson

Post Master's Program Teaching
Ways of Prayer and Discernment
Issues in Spiritual Direction Practice
Fostering Contemplation, Community, and Creativity

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP: Program Designer for Post Master's Program in
 Spiritual Formation Ministry

Program Designer for 19th Annotation Intensive

Creator of the Advanced Seminar Syllabus in
 Spirituality Studies for students with concentration
 in Spirituality in ThM and STL degrees

Oversight of the six part comprehensive Spirituality
 Studies Initiative at STM

IV. PUBLICATIONS, FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS, WORK UNDER REVIEW

December, 2022 "Truth in a Wintry Season" – 37 page essay presently under review,
Theological Studies

Forthcoming Manuscript, Paulist Press, Spring 2023
FORMATIVE THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION, co-editor with Hosffman Ospino
 Griffith Essay – "Formative Education: Bringing a Vision Into Focus" (Chpt. One)

Praticas Espirituais Catholicus, eds. Colleen Griffith and Thomas Groome.
 Braga, Portugal: National Secretariat for the Apostolate, 2022.

Prophetic Witness: Catholic Women's Strategies for Reform . New York:

Crossroad Herder and Herder, ed., 2017 (second edition), 2009.
1st Place Catholic Press Association Award

“The Spirit and the Nearness of God” in The Holy Spirit: Setting the World on Fire, eds. Richard Lennan and Nancy Pineda-Madrid (Mahwah, New Jersey, 2017), 3-12.

“Heeding Merton in the Digital Age” *Boston College Magazine*, Winter, 2016.

“Practice as Embodied Knowing: Epistemological and Theological Considerations” in Invitation to Practical Theology: Catholic Voices and Visions, ed. Claire E. Wolfteich. Mahwah, New Jersey: Paulist Press, 2014, 52-69.

“Underhill’s Practical Mysticism: One Hundred Years Later” in *New Theology Review*, vol. 27, no. 1 (2014), 25-32.

“Elizabeth Ann Seton: An Example of Holy Dexterity” in All Holy Men and Women, ed. Thomas A. Kane. Mahwah, New Jersey: Paulist Press, 2014, 1-11.

“Spirituality and the Body,” in Readings in Moral Theology No. 17: Ethics and Spirituality, eds. Charles Curran and Lisa Fullam. Mahwah, New Jersey: Paulist Press, 2014, 229-248.

“Christian Hope: A Grace and a Choice” in Hope: Promise, Possibility and Fulfillment, eds. Richard Lennan and Nancy Pineda-Madrid. Mahwah, New Jersey: Paulist Press, 2013, 3-15.

Catholic Spiritual Practices: A Treasury Old and New, eds. Colleen Griffith and Thomas Groome (Paraclete Press), 2012, 2014. In third printing.

“Dialogue: The Pearl of Price” in Women, Wisdom and Witness: Engaging Contexts in Conversation eds. Rosemary Carbine and Kathleen Dolphin. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2012.

Catholic Spirituality in Practice, ed. Colleen M. Griffith (Boston College: C21 Resources), 2009.

“The Soulful Minister” Contracted Columnist, Today’s Parish Minister (Twenty-Third Publications), 2008 and 2009 seasons (14 issues total).

“Up Front and Physical: Jesuit Education and the Body,” Lead essay in Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education, Spring 2008, Number 33, 3-5.

“Evelyn Underhill: The Communicator,” in Boston College Magazine, Spring, 2008.

“What is Spirituality?” in Richard Miller, ed. Spirituality for the 21st Century (St. Louis: Liguori Press, 2006), 1-12.

“Spirituality and Education” in Philip Sheldrake, ed. Dictionary of Christian Spirituality (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2005).

“Spirituality and Religious Education: Fostering a Closer Connection,” in Harold Horell and Thomas Groome, eds. Horizons and Hopes: The Future of Religious Education (New York: Paulist Press, February, 2003), 51-62.

“Human Bodiliness: Sameness as Starting Point” in Elizabeth Johnson, ed. The Church Women Want (New York: Crossroad, 2002), 60-67.

Journey of the Heart, FADICA monograph publication, 2000, 3-30

“Spirituality and the Body” in Bruce T. Morrill, ed. Bodies at Worship: Explorations in Pastoral Theology, (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1999).

“Body and Spirituality” entry in the HarperCollins Encyclopedia of Catholicism. Richard P. McBrien, general ed. San Francisco: Harper Collins, 1995.

IV. RESEARCH INTERESTS AND PRESENT WORKS IN PROGRESS

Research Interests: Constructive and Practical Theology, Historical and Contemporary Spirituality, Theological Anthropology with a particular interest in Theologies of the Body

Works in Progress: *Theology and Human Bodiliness* (Major Manuscript)

Practical Theology: The Methodological Contours of a Discipline (monograph begun)

“On Listening: Insights from Philosopher Jean-Luc Nancy” (in process)

“Practical Theology’s Corporeal Turn” (ready for submission)

V. AWARDS AND MEMBERSHIP IN SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

2022 Spring Faculty Research Grant, Boston College

2021 Formative Education Project Grant, Boston College

2021 AAAS/DoSer Science for Seminaries Grant (Doyle -Lead, Daly, Griffith, Harkins, Kelley)

2021, August 9-12, the STM Faculty Representative for the Science for Seminaries Retreat/Conference for theologians and scientists

2012 Fall Faculty Fellowship, Boston College

2010 First Place Book Award for Prophetic Witness: Catholic Women's Strategies for Reform, Catholic Press Association, Gender Category

2004 Nomination for Teaching Award, Northeastern Graduate Schools

Membership in the Catholic Theological Society of America; Administrative Leadership Team for Theological Anthropology (2009, 2010, 2011) and for Practical Theology (2012, 2013, 2014)

Membership in the International Academy of Practical Theology

Membership in Spiritual Directors International

VI. SAMPLING OF LECTURES, KEYNOTES, AND WEBINARS

2022 Presentation to Ignatian Fellows, "Contemplative Envisioning in A New Season of Life"

2021 "Pulled Up Short" Podcast, Commentator in response to philosopher Richard Kearney with Stanton Wortham as host

Global Webinar, “Spiritual Practices for Busy People,” Boston College Alumni Association, December 12, 2019.

B.C. Faculty Seminar Presentation, “Discernment of Spirits: The Second Week,” Ignatian Center for Spirituality, October, 2019.

Presentation of the Spirituality Studies Initiative, Launch: “Faith for the Heart: A Catholic Spirituality,” October 1, 2019.

“Theological Education: The Next Ten Years,” 10th Anniversary STM Five Member Faculty Panel,” Heights Room, Boston College, April 11, 2019.

“Spirit and Truth: No Alternative Facts,” 10th Anniversary Faculty Lecture, Heights Room, Boston College, October, 2018.

“The Artist as Theologian: Meinrad Craighead and Ruth St. Dennis,” Imago Dei Conference, Boston Theological Institute, October 2018.

“Exploring the Body in Practice,” International Academy of Practical Theology, Oslo, Norway, April 2017.

“Tending Your Own Garden: A Spirituality for Active Ministry,” Annual Ministry Renewal Day, November 4, 2016, Boston College.

“Thomas Merton: Prophet for Our Time,” Boston College, October 29, 2015.

“In the Footsteps of Mary Magdalene,” Annual Magdalene Lecture, STM, Yawkey Center, Boston College, July, 2012.

“Revivifying a Theology of Church,” Keynote for the International Assembly of Women Provincials hosted by the Sisters of Mary of Namur, October 6-7, 2011.

“Underhill’s Practical Mysticism: One Hundred Years Later,” Underhill Lecture delivered on July 9th, 2011 at the Robsham Theater, Boston College.

“Refining the Journey: Spirituality of Women at Midlife” Boston College Advancement Office, November, 2010 and repeated as requested by the Council for Women at the Colony Club, New York City in 2011

“Creative Fidelity in Challenging Ecclesial Times,” LCWR Region One Address, October, 2010.

“Sustaining the Work of Justice: A Practical Mysticism,” Campus Ministers of the Northeast, Boston College, October, 2010.

“Beyond the Impasse between the Human and the Earth: A More Adequate Theology of Human Bodiliness,” Catholic Theological Society of America 2009 Convention in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

“Prophetic Witness: Catholic Women and the Church,” L.A. Religious Education Congress, Los Angeles, CA., February, 2009.

“Christian Spiritual Practices: Drawing from the Storeroom both the Old and the New,” Boston College Public Lecture, February, 2009.

“The Contribution of Catholic Women Theologians,” Loyola Colloquium, Public Lecture, University of Connecticut, November, 2008.

“Resurrecting the Body: Reflections on the Physicality of Spirituality,” Spirituality Convocation Keynote Address, College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, New Jersey, April, 2008.

“On Hope” Boston College Panel presentation in response to Take Heart, ed. Ben Birnbaum, February, 2008.

“Foremothers in Faith: Historic Women for Our Time” (Cahill, Langer, Copeland, DeLeeuw, Griffith), Boston College Public Lecture, February, 2008.

“The Practice of Resurrection: Eschatological Hope for Human Bodily Being,” CTSA Paper/Selected Session presented at the 2005 Convention, June 10, 2005.

“What is Spirituality?” Kansas City Catholic Community Foundation Keynote, June, 2005.

“The Women Changing the Face of Christianity: Contributions of Catholic Women,” Boisi Center, December 3, 2004.

“Reconciling Body and Soul: The Mandate for a Christian Spirituality,” CTSA Paper, 2004 Convention, June 11, 2004.

Response to Susan Ross, Madeleva New Voices Seminar, April 20 – 22, 2004 at St. Mary’s College, Indiana.

“The Women Changing the Face of Christianity,” Church 21, Boston College, March 20, 2004.

“A Spirituality for the Church in the 21st Century” – Church 21, Boston College
April 9, 2003.

“Women Who Are Changing the Face of Christianity” – L.A. Religious Education
Congress, February, 2003. (available on audiocassette)

“Woman, Body, Church,” Boston College Panel Presentation, February 23, 2003.

“A Spirituality for the Church Today” - Seminar Presentation at
Regis College’s Symposium on Women, Church, Society: The Heart of the
Matter, October 3-4, 2002.

“Women Theologians Changing the Face of Christianity,” Keynote for the
Province Assembly of the Holy Union Sisters, Mont Marie Conference Center,
Holyoke, Ma., August 7-11, 2002.

“Incarnational Spirituality,” Keynote for the Province Assembly of the Holy
Union Sisters, Mont Marie Conference Center, Holyoke, MA, August 7-11, 2002.

“Woman to Woman: Historical Resources for a Contemporary Spirituality,”
Keynote, Worcester Diocesan Conference, Worcester Centrum Center,
April 6th, 2002.

VII. SERVICE

STM Spirituality Studies Initiative, 2019 – present – oversight of a 6-pronged
major STM Initiative. Responsible for the design and implementation of the
various elements of the initiative, organization of its ten-member core faculty

STM Educational Policy Committee, Chair, 2018-19, 2019-20
STM Educational Policy Committee, Dean’s Rep Member, 2020, 2021.
STM Educational Policy Committee, Elected Member, 2013-14, 2014-15.
Faculty Director of Spirituality Studies, 2018 – present.

Convenor for the Practical Area, STM

Dual Degree Faculty Representative, 2018-19, 2019-20.

10th Anniversary Committee on the Arts, 2018.

Lumen et Vita Faculty Evaluator, various semesters

STM Admissions Committee, 2017- 2020

Director, STM Post Master's Program in Spiritual Formation Ministry, ongoing.

Monthly Faculty Mentor for STM Women Student Group, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2018-19, 2019-2020.

Th.M. Proposal Ad Hoc Committee, 2014.

Provost's Faculty Advisory Council, elected 2010, 2011.

University Council on Teaching, 2010, 2011.

STM Academic Council, elected chair 2010-2012

STM Formation Committee, 2014

STM Committee on Advisement, 2010 – 2011

STM Strategic Planning Committee on Intellectual, Spiritual and Ministerial Formation, 2010-2011.

STM ATS Governance Committee, spring 2009

STM Coordinator for BTI Certificate Program in Science and Religion, 2009

STM S.T.D. Admissions Committee, 2008-2009

Intersections Halftime Sweep or Emcee, 2003 – 2005, 2008

Intersections Mentoring Program, 2002-2004

Church Internship Program, Boston College's Intersections Project, 2001-2002

VIII. Development of New Courses/Programs

I have prepared three new courses in the past five years, all doctoral/advanced degree level that have been taught at the STM.

Advanced Spirituality Studies Seminar for ThM and STL/Doctoral Students to be taught in Spring, 2024.

Doctoral Level Seminar on The Theology of Elizabeth Johnson, prepared in Fall

2018 and taught in Spring, 2019, Spring, 2021, Spring 2023.

Doctoral Level Seminar in Practical Theology: Foundations and Methodology, prepared in Fall 2019 and taught in Spring, 2020 and Fall, 2022.

Development of New Program Design in Spirituality, Supervision and Continuing Education for Spiritual Directors, initiated in Fall, 2019.