

## **KATHLEEN M. O'CONNOR**

William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament, Emerita  
Columbia Theological Seminary  
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### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament  
Columbia Theological Seminary, 2005-10, emerita, 2011.

Professor of Old Testament Language, Literature, and Exegesis,  
Columbia Theological Seminary, January, 1995-2004.

Professor of Biblical Studies, Maryknoll School of Theology, January 1982 to December, 1994. Appointed professor, September 1992.

Teaching Fellow, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1978-1981.

Hebrew Instructor, Princeton Summer School Intensive Language Program, 1979.

Lecturer, Biblical Studies, and Assistant Chaplin, Providence College, 1974-1977.

### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Member of the Board of Trustees, Catholic Biblical Association of America 2010-

President, Catholic Biblical Association of America 2008-09

Vice President, Catholic Biblical Association of America, 2007-8

Council Member, Society of Biblical Literature, 2004-2009.

Program Committee, Society of Biblical Literature, 2008-2010.

Editor and contributor, *Feasting on the Word*, Westminster John Knox Press, 12 volumes, 2008-11.

Editorial Board, *Journal of Biblical Literature*, 2001-07.

Editorial Board, Abingdon Old Testament Commentary series, 1997-.

Academic Review Board, Hispanic Theological Initiative, 1999-2001.

Associate Editor, *Horizons in Biblical Theology*, 1999-2003.

Associate Editor, *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly*, 1991-98.

Associate Editor, *Old Testament Abstracts*, 1991-.

Steering Committee, Women in the Biblical World Section, Society of Biblical Literature, 1991-94.

Co-Chair, Composition of the Book of Jeremiah Group, Society of Biblical Literature, 1991-98.

Co-Convener, Feminist Hermeneutics Task Force, Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meetings, 1990-94.

Academic Coordinator and instructor, "Reading the Bible In Context and Across Cultures", Maryknoll Summer Institute, July 10-30, 1993.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **BOOKS**

*Jeremiah: Pain and Promise.* Minneapolis: Fortress Press, forthcoming Sept. 1, 2011.

*Lamentations and the Tears of the World.* Maryknoll: Orbis Press, 2002. Recipient of first place award for Scripture from the Catholic Press Association, 2003.

*Shaking Heaven and Earth: Essays in Honor of Walter Brueggemann and Charles B. Cousar,* co-edited with Christine Yoder, E. Elizabeth Johnson, and Stanley P. Saunders (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2005).

*Troubling Jeremiah,* coeditor with L. Stulman and A. R. Diamond. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999.

*The Wisdom Literature.* Message of Biblical Spirituality 5. Michael Glazier; Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1988.

*The Confessions of Jeremiah: Their Interpretation and Role in Chapters 1-25.* Society of Biblical Literature Dissertation Series 94. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1988.

The Book of Job, Collegeville Bible Study Guide. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, forthcoming.

Genesis, Smith & Helwys Commentary, in preparation .

### **SELECTED ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS IN BOOKS**

"The Mystery of Meaning," *Theological Education*, (46/1, 2010) 55-66.

"Terror All Around: Confusion as Meaning Making," *Jeremiah (Dis)placed: New Directions in Writing/Reading Jeremiah*, ed., A. R. Pete Diamond and Louis Stulman (New York: T & T Clark, 2011) 67-79.

"Reclaiming Jeremiah's Violence," *The Aesthetics of Violence*, ed., Chris Franke and Julia O'Brien, (London: T & T Clarke, 2010) 37-49.

"Let All the People Praise You: Biblical Studies and a Hermeneutics of Hunger," *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly* (2010) 1-14.

- “Take and Read: Old Testament,” *Christian Century*, May issues 2005-2010.
- “Building Hope upon the Ruins in Jeremiah,” *The Bible and the American Future*, edited by Robert Jewett with Wayne L. Alloway and John G. Lacey (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2009) 146-61.
- “Teaching Jeremiah” Teaching the Prophets, James Nogalski, ed., *Perspectives in Religious Studies*, Fall 2009) 273-87.
- “Lamenting Back to Life,” *Interpretation* (January, 2008) 36-49.
- “A Family Comes Undone (Jer 2:1-4:2),” *Review & Expositor* (Spring 2008) 201-12.
- “Genesis” *New Interpreters Dictionary of the Bible*, edited by Katherine Doob Sakenfield, (Nashville: Abingdon).
- “Feminism Meets the Old Testament: One Woman’s Perspective,” *Feminist Introduction to the Old Testament: Essays in Honor of Katherine Doob Sakenfield*, edited by Linda Day and Carolyn Pressler. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2007.
- “Acts 27: Reflections of Shipwrecks, Survival, and Cultural Diversity,” *Horizons, Theology and Sacred Scripture*, edited by C. J. Dempsey and W.P. Lowe, College Theology Society Annual Volume (2001) 3-11.
- “Humor, Turnabouts and Survival in the Book of Esther,” *Are we Amused?: Women and Humour in the Bible*, edited by Athalaya Brenner, (Sheffield Academic Press) forthcoming.
- "Lamentations," *The New Interpreters' Bible*, vol. VI, edited by Leander Keck (Nashville: Abingdon, 2001).
- "Jeremiah," *Oxford Bible Commentary*, edited by John Barton and Robert Muddiman, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001).
- “Wild Raging Creativity: The Scene in the Whirlwind,” *A God So Near: Essays on Old Testament Theology in Honor of Patrick Miller*, edited by Nancy Bowens and Brent Strawn. (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2003.
- “Jeremiah,” *Oxford Access Study Bible*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999).
- “Jeremiah,” *The New Interpreter’s Study Bible*, Abingdon Press, 2003.
- “‘Speak Tenderly to Jerusalem:’ Second Isaiah’s Reception and Use of Daughter Zion,” *Princeton Seminary Bulletin*, November, 1999, 281-94.
- "The Tears of God and the Divine Character in Jeremiah 2-9," *God in the Fray: Divine Ambivalence in the Hebrew Bible: Festschrift in Honor of Walter Brueggemann*. Edited by Tod Linafelt and Timothy Beal (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1998) 172-185 .
- "Crossing Borders: Biblical Studies in a Transcultural World," *Teaching the Bible: The Discourses and Politics of Biblical Pedagogy*. Edited by Fernando F. Segovia and Maryann Tolbert (Maryknoll: Orbis, 1998) 322-37.
- "Unfaithful Passions: Coding Women, Coding Men in Jeremiah 2-3," A. R. Pete Diamond, *Biblical*

*Interpretation* 4 (1996) 288-310.

"Wisdom and Experience of the Divine," *Problems and Prospects in Biblical Theology: A Festschrift in Honor of J. Christian Beker*, Edited by Stephen Kraftchick, et al. Nashville: Abingdon, 1995, 183-95.

"The Bible and Liberation: A Review Article," *The Indian Theological Studies* (December 1993), 352-58.

Articles on "Shaddai," "Time," "Sun," "Land," and "Sabbath" for *The Collegeville Pastoral Dictionary of Biblical Theology*. Edited by Carroll Stuhlmueller. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1996.

"Jeremiah" and "Lamentations," commentary articles in *The Women's Bible Commentary*. Edited by Carol Newsom and Sharon Ringe. Louisville: John Knox/Westminster, 1992, 169-77, 178-82.

"Wisdom Literature, Women's Culture and Peace: A Hermeneutical Reflection." *Blessed Are the Peacemakers: Biblical and Social Foundations for Peace*. Edited by Anthony Tambasco. New York: Paulist, 1989, 40-61.

"Baruch, The Letter of Jeremiah, The Prayer of Manasseh," *The Books of the Bible*. Edited by Bernhard W. Anderson. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1989, 87-92.

"Do Not Trim A Word: The Role of Chapter 26 in the Book of Jeremiah." *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly* (October, 1989) 617-30.

#### **PROFESSIONAL PAPERS**

"The Mystery of Meaning," presentation invited by the Association of Theological Schools, Society of Biblical Literature, Annual Meeting 2010, Atlanta, GA.

"Let All the People Praise You: Biblical Studies and a Hermeneutics of Hunger," Presidential Address, Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting, Creighton University, Omaha, NE, Aug 1 2009.

Numerous essays on Jeremiah and trauma and disaster studies were presented at Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meetings from 2004-2010 and now appear in revised form as chapters in *Jeremiah: Pain and Promise*.

"The Book of Jeremiah: Rebuilding Community After Disaster," invited paper, Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, 2003.

'Execute Justice in the Morning:' Jeremiah and Moral Character Formation of the Community, The Bible and Moral Character Formation Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, Toronto, November 24, 2002

Response to W. Bellinger, C. Exum, and D. Clines in Bible and Literary Criticism Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, Denver, Co., November 17, 2001

"Women and Debt in the Old Testament, Catholic Biblical Association—Feminist Hermeneutics Task Force, Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, 2000.

Voices in the Book of Lamentations, Society of Biblical Literature—Lamentations Group, annual meeting, Boston, 1999.

"Radical Creativity in Job," Catholic Biblical Association—Feminist Hermeneutics Task Force, Annual Meeting, South Bend, 1999.

'Speak Tenderly to Jerusalem: Second Isaiah's Reception and Use of Daughter Zion,' The Alexander Thompson Annual Lecture, Princeton Theological Seminary, 15 March 1999.

"The Broken Family Mended? Jeremiah 31:1-36. Composition of the Book of Jeremiah Group. Society of Biblical Literature Annual meeting, New Orleans, November 1996.

"The Geber in Lamentations Three," a paper presented at The Old Testament Colloquium, Conception Abbey, Conception MO, February 5, 1995 and at the Atlanta Old Testament Colloquium, March 27, 1995.

"Biblical Studies in a Trans-cultural World," Invited Paper, Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, August 1994.

"Old Road Markers and New Directions in Jeremiah Scholarship: the Commentaries of Ronald E. Clements and Thomas Overholt," presented at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Jeremiah Consultation, San Francisco, November 1992.

"The Contributions of Wisdom to Biblical Theology." Old Testament Colloquium, Conception Abbey, Conception MO, February 1992.

"Qoheleth's Mashal", Israelite and Early Christian Wisdom Section, Society of Biblical Literature, Annual Meeting, 17 November 1990.

"With My Own Eyes: A Feminist Hermeneutical Revision of the Book of Job", Invited Paper, Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting, University of Notre Dame, 16 August 1990.

"Is Qoheleth a Mashal?" Columbia University Seminar on the Hebrew Bible, April 19, 1990.

"Do Not Trim A Word': The Role of Chapter 26 in the Book of Jeremiah." Old Testament Colloquium, Conception Abbey, MO, February 1988.

"Jeremiah the Optimist: Composition and Redaction in Jeremiah 1-25 through the Lens of the Confessions," Invited Paper, Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting, 9 August 1986.

"The Confessions of Jeremiah as Credentials of a True Prophet", Research Report, Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting, 13 August 1985.

"Biblical and Feminine Sources for Peace: A Hermeneutical Reflection". Catholic Biblical Association Peace Task Force, August 1984.

### **Selected PRESENTATIONS**

Numerous lectures, workshops and retreats on biblical and feminist topics at colleges, religious centers and local churches, and for women's groups including:

"The Best Kept Secret," Baccalaureate Address, Columbia Theological Seminary, May 2011.

"Jeremiah: a Book of Communal Healing" and "Preaching with Jeremiah. The Ward Lectures on Religious Imagination, Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, PA."

"Rebuilding after Disaster" presented to pastors in New Orleans at the ST. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church,

March 22, 2006.

“Flourishing Among the Nations: Are American Christians Being Called to Conversion?” Presbyterian College 2004 Winter Conference, Black Mountain, NC.

“Thriving Among the Nations,” Annual Bible Lectures, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville, NC, September 2003.

“Flourishing Among the Peoples, Memorial Biblical Lectures, Laurinburg Presbyterian Church, Laurinburg, NC, October 2003.

“ O God, Pay Attention,” The Harrell S. Beck Lectures of the Massachusetts Bible Society, October 2001.

“Acts 27: Reflections on Shipwrecks, Survival, and Cultural Diversity,” Keynote, Annual Meeting of the College Theology Society, University of Portland, Portland, OR June 5, 2001

“Humor, Turnabouts and Survival in the Book of Esther,” Montreat Women’s Conference, July 2001

“A Spirituality of Mission from Lamentations,” Keynote, Conference on Mission, Maryknoll, Ossining, NY, March 8, 2001

“Lamentations and Job,” Marianella Biblical Studies Institute, Dublin, Ireland, August, 1999.

“Lamentations,” Five lectures for Misericordia Biblical Studies Institute, Dallas, PA, August, 1998.

“The Puzzle of Job,” five lectures for Georgetown Biblical Studies Institute, June 1994.

Biblical Reflections for the National Council of Churches and US Catholic Mission Association Joint Meeting, Atlanta, April 1994 with Professor Alan Neely.

“Reading the Bible in Asia,” biblical reflections for Maryknoll Missioners, presented in Hua Hin, Thailand and at Maryknoll Houses in Tokyo and Kyoto, Japan, February 1993.

Presider, Women in the Biblical World Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, New Orleans, 1990 and San Francisco, Fall, 1992.

Annual Theological Lectureship, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries, Elkhart, Indiana, 14-15 February 1990.

“A Day With Job,” for the Life Experience and Faith Sharing Community of the Homeless Shelters, New York City, November 14, 1992.

“The Prophet Micah’s Plea for the Displaced,” The Catholic Worker, New York City, September 25, 1992.

“Praying the Psalms: Is it Possible?” Lay Spirituality Day, St. Francis Xavier Parish, New York City, September 19, 1992.

“Scriptures: Foundations for Justice,” Maryknoll Mission Institute, June 1992.

“Promises of Hope,” Biblical Reflections for Maryknoll Missioners, Central American Region, Guatemala, April,

1992.

"Wisdom: A Spirituality For Justice," a summer course sponsored by the Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax, given at University College of Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, July 8-12, 1991.

"Women in the Bible," Campus Lecture at Our Lady of the Elms College, Springfield, Mass, March 1991.

Bible Study, Ecumenical Mission Preparation Program, Stony Point, New York, 7-9 January, 1991.

"Biblical Reflections for Women in Mission," Maryknoll Mission Institute, Maryknoll Sisters Center, July 1988, August 1989.

Panel Member, "The Power of Baptism and the Baptism of Power: A Colloquium on Prophetic Faithfulness and its Implications for Church, State, Military, and Market Economy," Theology in Global Context Association, Nassau Presbyterian Church, Princeton, New Jersey, Catholic Biblical Quarterly 26-29 October 1989.

"Evangelism and Peacemaking," Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament, Center of Continuing Education, Princeton, Theological Seminary, 1 June 1989.

"The Art of Interpretation: Preaching from the Bible," School of Religious Education Summer Institute, Boston College, July 1988.

"Biblical Stories of Suffering and Healing," Retreat for Maryknoll Missioners, Central American Region, Antigua, Guatemala, June, 1988.

"The Prophet Amos and Wrath of God," The Twelfth Biblical Institute, Sinsinawa, Wisconsin, June 1986.

### **POPULAR ARTICLES**

Numerous articles in *Journal for Preachers*, *The Bible Today*, Maryknoll publications and others.

### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Princeton Theological Seminary, 1984  
Biblical Studies--Old Testament

Seton Hall University Interdisciplinary Study Tour of Israel, 1974.

M.A. Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island, 1973  
Biblical Studies

Educational Certification, Mount Saint Mary College,  
Newburgh, New York, 1966

B.A. College of New Rochelle, 1964 History

### **PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

The Society of Biblical Literature  
Member of Council, 2003-.  
Composition of the Book of Jeremiah Consultation, Co-chair, 1991-.  
Women in the Biblical World Steering Committee, 1990-1993.

The Catholic Biblical Association  
President 2008-09  
Vice-President 2007-08  
Consultor, 1996-97  
Peace Task Force, 1984-89.  
Feminist Hermeneutics Task Force, Co-chair, 1990-93.

The Columbia University Seminar on the Hebrew Bible 1986-94

The Old Testament Colloquium, Conception Abbey, Conception. MO 1988-

Theology in Global Context Association, North American Coordinating Committee 1986-94.

### **HONORS**

Henry Luce III Fellowship 2004-2005 for *The Moral Formation of Community after Disaster in the Book of Jeremiah*

First Prize for a book in Scripture for *Lamentations and the Tears of the World*, Orbis Books,  
awarded by the Catholic Press Association, 2003

Princeton Theological Seminary Teaching Fellowships

St. Catherine of Siena Academic Scholarship, Providence College

Seton Hall University Interdisciplinary Study Tour Scholarship

Ford Foundation Federal College Internship Scholarship