# CLAIRE R. MATHEWS McGINNIS

Department of Theology, Loyola University Maryland

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EDUCATION

***Yale University Graduate School, Department of Religious Studies,* Ph.D.** December, 1994.

Dissertation: *Defending Zion: Edom's Desolation and Israel's Restoration (Isa 34-35) in Context*

Academic Honors: Richard J. Franke Fellow (1988-1990).

***Yale University Divinity School*, M.Div.,** *magna cum laude*, 1988.

Academic Honors: Yale Divinity School Scholar (1985); North American

Ministerial Fellow (1985); Two Brothers Fellow (1986).

***Swarthmore College***, **B.A.,** *magna cum laude*, 1985.

Sociology/anthropology major with minor in religion.

Academic Honors: Phi Beta Kappa; Jessi H. Holmes Prize in Religion; Lucretia Mott Fellow.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Chair,** Department of Theology, Loyola University Maryland, July 2017 to 2020.

**Professor,** Department of Theology, Loyola University Maryland 2008 to present.

**Director,** Catholic Studies Program, Loyola University Maryland 2018 to present.

**Associate Professor**, Department of Theology, Loyola College in Maryland (1999 to 2008).

**Director**, Center for the Humanities, Loyola College in Maryland (1999 to 2010).

**Assistant Professor**, Department of Theology, Loyola College in Maryland (January 1993 to 1999).

**Teaching Fellow**, Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Connecticut.

Old Testament Interpretation (1990-1991); Elementary Biblical Hebrew (1989-1990).

PUBLICATIONS

***Books***

*Defending Zion*: *Edom’s Desolation and Jacob’s Restoration (Isaiah 34-35) in Context*. Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft, Vol. 236. Berlin: Walter deGruyter, 1995.

### Edited Books

*“As Those Who Are Taught”: The Reception of Isaiah from the LXX to the SBL.* SBL Symposium Series. Co-edited with Patricia Tull. Atlanta: Scholars Press and Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2006.

### Scholarly Articles

“Jonah.” Pages 1074-1082 in the Jerome Biblical Commentary for the 21st Century, third, fully revised edition. Eds. John J. Collins, et. al. T&T Clark: 2022.

“Amos.” In *The Paulist Biblical Commentary, e*dited by José Enrique Aguilar Chiu, et. al. Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 2018.

“The Scriptures of Israel.” In S*cripture: A Global, Ecumenical Introduction to the Bible and its Interpretation*, edited by Michael J. Gorman, 57-94. Baker, Academic, 2017.

“The Hardening of Pharaoh’s Heart in Christian and Jewish Interpretation” *Journal of Theological Interpretation 6.1* (2012): 43-64.

*“*Stumbling Over the Testaments: On Reading Patristic Exegesis and the Old Testament in Light of the New” *Journal of Theological Interpretation* 4.1 (2010): 15-32.

“Exodus as a ‘Text of Terror’ for Children. In *Biblical Perspectives on the Child*, edited by Beverly Gaventa and Terence Fretheim, 24-44. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B.Eerdmans, 20008.

“The Old Testament.” In *The Blackwell Companion to Catholicism*, edited by James J. Buckley, Frederick Christian Bauerschmidt and Trent Pomplun, 7-21. Oxford: Blackwell, 2007.

(With Patricia Tull) “Remembering the Former Things: The History of Interpretation and Critical Scholarship” in *“As Those Who Are Taught”: The Reception of Isaiah from the LXX to the SBL,* edited by Claire Mathews McGinnis and Patricia Tull, 1-27. SBL Symposium Series. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 2006.

“Teaching Exodus as Problem Text.” *Teaching Theology and Religion* V, 2 (April 2002): 71-79.

“Playing the Devil’s Advocate in Job: On Job’s Wife,” in *The Whirlwind: Essays on Job in Memory of Jane Morse*, edited by. Stephen L. Cook, Corrine Patton and James Watts, 121-141. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 2001.

“’Yea, the Work of Our Hands, Establish Thou It’: On Stability in the Academic Life.” In *The Scope of our Art: The Vocation of the Theological Teacher*, edited by L. Gregory Jones and Stephanie Paulsell, 173-189. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2001.

"Swimming with the Divine Tide: An Ignatian Reading of 1 Samuel." In *Theological Exegesis: Essays in Conversation with Brevard S. Childs*, edited by Kathryn Greene-McCreight and Christopher R. Seitz, 240-270. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1999.

***Articles in Publications for a Lay Audience***

“A Vocation for Whom? Jonah, God and Nineveh. *The Bible Today* 60, no. 1, Jan-Feb 2022, 13-19.

“Job’s Dialogue with God: Coming to Terms with an Untamed World.” *The Bible Today* 70,2 (March/April 2015): 87-92.

“Trusting in Deceitful Words: Jeremiah’s Temple Sermon.” *The Bible Today* 49,2 (March/April (2011): 79-84.

“The Posture of Faith: Praying as a Friend of God.” *The Bible Today* 42,6 (November/December 2004): 366-372.

“Engaging Israel’s Traditions for a New Day: the Former and the New Things in Second Isaiah.” *The Bible Today* 39, 2 (March/April 2001) 75-81.

***Book Reviews***

R.R. Reno, *Genesis*. Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible (Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2010) in *Nova et Vetera* 11.3 (Summer, 2013): 948-951.

Brevard S. Childs, *Isaiah*. *A Commentary*. The Old Testament Library (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 2001) in *Pro Ecclesia* XI, 2 (Spring 2002): 235-237.

Fredrick C. Holmgren, *The Old Testament and the Significance of Jesus. Embracing Change, Maintaining Christian Identity*. (Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1999) in *Pro Ecclesia* 10, 1 (Winter 2000): 107-108.

William L. Holladay, *Long Ago God Spoke: How Christians May Hear the Old Testament Today* in *Pro Ecclesia* VI, no. 2 (Spring 1997): 243-44.

Walter Brueggemann, *Isaiah 1-39* and *Isaiah 40-66* in *Interpretation* 53,4 (October 1999): 422.

Peter Miscall, *Isaiah 34-35: A Nightmare/A Dream*, JSOT Supplement 281 (Sheffield Academic Press, 1999) in *Review of Biblical Literature* 2, (2000): 235-237. (

### PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

“Martin Luther on the Hardening of Pharaoh’s Heart.” Christian Theology and Bible and Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, Annual Meeting, Nov. 21, 2017, San Antonio, Texas.

A Response to Walter Moberly,  *Old Testament Theology*, Christian Theology and Bible Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, Annual Meeting, Nov 23-26, 2014, Baltimore, Maryland.

“Why Is Patristic Exegesis Important?”Christian Theology and the Bible Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, Annual Meeting, Nov 21-25, 2008, Boston, Mass.

“The Generosity of Faith: On Giving and Receiving in James.” The Bible and Christian Theology Section of the annual AAR/SBL meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2003.

“Recurring Theological Themes in Christian and Jewish Interpretations of the Hardening of Pharaoh’s Heart.” History of Interpretation Section of the annual AAR/SBL meeting, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, November 2002. Also presented at the MAR-Catholic Biblical Association meeting, Washington, D.C., January 2003.

"Apportioning Desolation: Contexts for Interpreting Edom’s Fate and Function in Isaiah." Published in the Society of Biblical Literature Seminar Papers 34 (Atlanta: Scholars Press) 1995.

"The Scope of YHWH’s Plan: A Poetic Analysis of Isaiah 14:24-27.” Annual Meeting, Catholic Biblical Association, Hebrew Poetry Seminar, August 1995 Loudonville, New York.

"Signs, Portents, and Sealed Scrolls: Charisma, Authority, and the Naked Prophet." Public Lecture by invitation of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Swarthmore, College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, April 1995.

"A ‘Misplaced’ Foreign Nation Oracle? The Placement and Function of Isaiah 34 (and 35)." Annual Meeting, Society of Biblical Literature, November, 1994 Chicago, Illinois.

"Wilderness Transformations and Prophetic Narratives Concerning the Deliverance of Jerusalem: Sewing a Seam in Isaiah." Baltimore-Washington Catholic Biblical Association, November, 1993 Emmitsburg, Maryland.

"Pilgrims on the Holy Way: A Poetic Analysis of Isaiah 34-35." Annual Meeting, Catholic Biblical Association, Hebrew Poetry Seminar, August, 1993 Atchison, Kansas.

"Edom and the Nations in Isaiah 34, and Patterns in Prophetic Literature."

Mid-Atlantic American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature,

February, 1993 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society of Biblical Literature

Catholic Biblical Association.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

**Co-Chair, The Bible and Christian Theology** Section, Society of Biblical Literature, 2010-14; Steering Committee, 2007 to present.

**Co-director, The Formation of the Book of Isaiah Group**,Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting (1999 to 2002).

**President, Catholic Biblical Association Mid-Atlantic Region** (1996-97)

**Program Director**,Mid-Atlantic American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Meeting (1995-96)

COURSES TAUGHT

*Undergraduate*

FE 100

200 level

TH 201 Introduction to Theology

Alpha version of the Introduction to Theology (’05; ’12; ’13)

Messina version of the Introduction to Theology (2 sections per year AY 2014 to present)

TH 215 Biographical Tales of the Bible

300 level

TH 311 Ethics: Biblical Perspectives on Social Ethics: Race and Poverty in the U.S

TH 331 Finding God in All Things: Prayer and Spirituality in the Christian Traditions

TH 350 Prophets and Peacemakers

TH 360 Honors Seminar: The Biblical Imagination

400 level

TH 400 Senior Seminar: Genesis and the History of Interpretation

Independent Study: Womanist Theology

*Graduate*

600 level (M.T.S. Program)

TH 600 Old Testament Survey

TH 602 Prophets and Prophecy

TH 604 Private Study: Old Testament Texts in Hebrew

TH 610 Wrestling with the Old Testament

TH 619 Independent Study: A Selective Survey of Jewish Biblical Interpretation

TH 619 Independent Study: Readings in Hebrew – The Book of Exodus

TH 802 Masters Thesis III

SELECT (UNIVERSITY-WIDE) SERVICE AT LOYOLA

Department Chair, 2017-2020  
Director of Catholic Studies Program (2020-present)  
Acting Director of Catholic Studies Program (2018-2019)

New Faculty Mentor, (2016-17; 2021-22)

Campus Ministry Search Committee (AY ’14)

Catholic Studies Advisory Board (AY ’13-14)

Messina Advisory Board (AY ’12-–14)

Ad hoc Committee on Rank and Tenure (AY ’13 and ’14)

Phi Beta Kappa Committee (AY ’93-‘present) subcommittee on selection (2010–14)

Director, Center for the Humanities, (AYs 1999 to 2010)

Honors Program Review Committee (charged with developing new Honors Program) (AY 06-08)

Honors classroom consultant, Ancient World, yearly as needed

Honors Plenary Lecturer (2012–20)

Diversity Strategic Planning Committee (’08)

College-wide Strategic Planning Committee Summer Working Group (’07)

Core Advisor (15+ years)

Internal Reviewer, Philosophy Department Program Review (’07)

Presidential Search Committee (’06)

Orientation Review Committee (’06)