

CURRICULUM VITAE

GABRIELLE RACHAEL THOMAS

Assistant Professor of Early Christianity and Anglican Studies

Candler School of Theology of Emory University

PERSONAL

Candler School of Theology

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EDUCATION

- 2017 Ph.D. in Historical Theology, University of Nottingham
- 2014 M.Th. (Distinction), University of Chester
- 2012 Graduate Diploma in Theology for Ministry, St. John's College, Nottingham
- 2011 Graduate Certificate in Kingdom Theology, Westminster Theological Centre
- 1995 B.A. (Hons.) Classics, Department of Classics, University of Bristol

RECENT EMPLOYMENT

- 2021-current Assistant Professor of Early Christianity and Anglican Studies, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, U.S.
- 2019-2021 Lecturer in Early Christianity and Anglican Studies, Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Connecticut, U.S.
- 2017-2019 Post-doctoral Research Associate, Department of Theology and Religion, Durham University, U.K.
- 2015-2017 Full-time Stipendiary Assistant Curate, St Mary with St Alban, Teddington, Greater London, U.K.
- 2014-2015 Teaching Affiliate, University of Nottingham, U.K.

ORDAINED MINISTRY

- 2017-current Member of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Theological Reflection Group
- 2019-current PTO, Bishop of Durham, Church of England
- 2018 Honorary Minor Canon, Durham Cathedral
(sermons: <https://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/worship-music/regular-services/sermon-archive>)
- 2016 Ordained Priest, Diocese of London, Church of England

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

For the Good of the Church: Unity, Theology, and Women (London: SCM Press, 2021)

The Image of God in the Theology of Gregory of Nazianzus (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019)

Reviews of *The Image of God in the Theology of Gregory of Nazianzus*

The Journal of Theological Studies, Volume 71, Issue 1, April 2020, 362–364. By Andrew Hofer, O.P.

The Journal of Ecclesiastical History, Volume 71, Issue 3, July 2020, 613-615. By Oliver Langworthy.

International Journal of Systematic Theology, Volume 22, Issue 4, October 2020, (online access). By Adam Morton.

Edited Books

Women and Ordination in the Orthodox Church – Explorations in Theology and Practice (Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2020)

Reviews: Dagmar Heller for the International Orthodox Theological Association Book Digest, January 2021; <https://iota-web.org/2021/01/25/women-and-ordination-in-the-orthodox-church/>

Peer-Reviewed Articles

‘The Gift of Power in Methodism: Learning from Women’s Experiences of Working in Diverse Churches in England through Receptive Ecumenism’, (accepted *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*)

“Robes of Glory” - Revisiting Theosis in the Theology of Saint Gregory of Nazianzus’. *Studia Patristica*. Marcus Vincent and Allan Brent (eds.). Leuven: Peeters Press (forthcoming, 2021).

“Mutual Flourishing” in the Church of England: Learning Receptively from Saint Thomas Aquinas.’ *Ecclesiology: The Journal of Ministry, Mission and Unity* 15.3 (2019), 302-321.

‘The Human Icon: Gregory of Nazianzus on Being an *Imago Dei*’. *Scottish Journal of Theology* 72.2 (2019), 166-181.

‘A Call for Hospitality: Learning from a Particular Example of Women’s Grass Roots Practice of Receptive Ecumenism in the U.K.’ *Exchange* 47.4 (2018), 335-350.

‘Receiving Women’s Gifts: An Exploration of the Role of Hospitality in the Practice of Receptive Ecumenism’ in *Receptive Ecumenism: Listening, Learning and Loving in the Way of Christ*. Vicky Balabanski and Geraldine Hawkes (eds.), ATF Press. *A Forum for Theology in the World*, Vol 5, No 2 (2018), 123-134.

‘Divine, Yet Vulnerable: The Paradoxical Existence of Gregory Nazianzen’s *Imago Dei*’. *Studia Patristica*. Vol XCV. Marcus Vincent (eds.) Leuven: Peters Press (2017), 281-290.

‘Gregory Nazianzen: Interpreting the Human *Eikon* of God Literally as a Physical Bearer of God’s Presence.’ *Studia Patristica* C. Hugh A.G. Houghton, M.L. Davies & Marcus Vincent (eds.). Leuven: Peters Press (2019), 281-289.

‘Gregory Nazianzen on the Devil and the Image of God: “Worship me!”’ *Studia Patristica*. Vol. LXXIV. Marcus Vincent and Allan Brent (eds.). Leuven: Peeters Press (2016), 181-190.

Invited Book Chapters

‘Receiving the Gift of Women’s Voices: The Place of Qualitative Research in Ecumenical Theology and Practice’ in *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Theology and Qualitative Research*, edited by Pete Ward and Knut Tveitereid (Blackwell, under contract 2022).

‘Mutual Flourishing in the Church of England: Receiving a Gift from the Orthodox Theological Tradition’, in *Receptive Ecumenism – Resources and Key Texts*, edited by Paul D. Murray, Gregory Ryan and Paul Lakeland (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021).

‘Receptive Learning Between Churches’ in *Proceedings from the Global Christian Forum Gathering, April 2018, Bogotá, Columbia*, edited by Larry Miller, 153-160 (Bonn: Verlag für Kultur und Wissenschaft, 2021).

‘Cappadocian Prayer’, in *T&T Clark Companion to Christian Prayer*, edited by Ashley Cocksworth and John McDowell, (London: T&T Clark, forthcoming 2021).

“‘Giving the Devil his Due’ – the Role of Satan in Human Suffering’, in *Love, Suffering and Diminishment in the Christian Life*, edited by Karen Kilby and Rachel Davies, 43-54 (Bloomsbury, 2019).

‘Vulnerable, Yet Divine: Retrieving Gregory Nazianzen’s Account of the *Imago Dei*’ in *The Christian Doctrine of Humanity*, edited by Oliver Crisp and Fred Sanders, 110-123 (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2018).

Book Reviews

Journal of Early Christian Studies 28.4 (Dec 2020), 662-665. Storin, Bradley K., *Self-Portrait in Three Colors: Gregory of Nazianzus’s Epistolary Autobiography and Gregory of Nazianzus’s Letter Collection: The Complete Translation*. Oakland, California: University of California Press, 2019.

Theology 122.4 (July 2019), 313–314. Southgate, Christopher. *Theology in a Suffering World: Glory and Longing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018.

Modern Believing 58.3 (July 2017), 272-74. Riches, Aaron. *Ecce Homo: On the Divine Unity of Christ*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2016.

Public Articles

20 Aug 2020 Theos Think Tank, ‘Everything happens for a reason’
<https://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/comment/2020/08/14/what-do-pandemics-change-an-antidote-to-platitudes>

17 Apr 2020 SCM Press, #TheologyinIsolation 15: How should we draw on the Christian tradition during Covid-19? (<https://scmpress.hymnsam.co.uk/theology-in-isolation/theologyinisolatation-15-how-should-we-draw-on-the-christian-tradition-during-covid-19>)

28 Jun 2019 ‘Mutual Flourishing’ in *Church Times*

16 May 2019 ‘Free to Share their Wounds’ in *The Tablet*

08 Mar 2019 ‘The Gift of Methodist Women’ in *The Methodist Recorder*

19 Jun 2017 ‘Ministry at Grenfell Tower’ in *Psephizo*;
<https://www.psephizo.com/life-ministry/ministry-at-grenfell-tower/>

15 Jul 2015 ‘Ancient Gods in a Contemporary World’ *New Wine Magazine*

RESEARCH SEMINARS

- Apr 2021 'The Devil in the Mystical Theology of Gregory of Nyssa', Historical and Systematic Theology Seminar, University of St Andrew's, Scotland
- Mar 2021 'The Image of God in Fourth Century Christian Thought', Theology Research Seminar, Spurgeon's College, London
- May 2019 'Receptive Learning about Women's Experiences of Working in Churches in England', Theology and Ministry Research Seminar, St John's College, Durham University
- Dec 2018 'The Way of Receptive Learning', Faculty of Theology Research Seminar, University of Helsinki
- Mar 2018 'The Human Icon: Gregory of Nazianzus on Being a Divine Image', Theology and Ethics Research Seminar, Durham University
- Feb 2018 'Being a Divine Image', Systematic and Historical Theology Research Seminar, University of St Andrew's, Scotland

SELECT CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

- Jun 2021 'Women and Receptive Ecumenism', CCS Study Series: Heeding the Spirit: New Horizons in Receptive Ecumenism, Centre for Catholic Studies, Durham University.
- Feb 2021 Presentation at the Edinburgh Byzantine Book Festival
- Nov 2020 'Transforming Ecumenism through a Theology of Friendship', 2020 Annual Meeting of AAR, Boston, MA (cancelled due to COVID-19)
- Nov 2020 'Let us give back to the *Eikon* that which is according to the *eikon*': Saint Gregory Nazianzen on Christ and Human *Eikones*, 2020 Annual Meeting of SBL, Boston, MA (postponed due to COVID-19)
- May 2020 The Place of Personified Evil and Human Suffering in the Theology of Gregory Nazianzen, NAPS, Chicago (cancelled due to COVID-19)
- Nov 2019 Gregory of Nazianzus on the Interpretation of the Son's Titles in Oration 30, Annual Meeting of SBL, San Diego
- Aug 2019 "'Garments of Glory': Rethinking Theosis in the Theology of Saint Gregory of Nazianzus'. XVIII International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford
- Apr 2019 "'Mutual Flourishing" in the Church of England: Learning Receptively from Saint Thomas Aquinas in the Catholic Theological Tradition', Society of the Study of Theology Annual Conference
- Mar 2019 'Satan and Suffering in Early Christian Theology' Plenary Paper at Orthodox Studies Initiative, Oxford
- Sep 2018 'Reflections on Being a Priest' Plenary Presentation at 'Orthodox Women's Initiatives' Annual Study Day, Pusey House, Oxford
- Sep 2018 'Receiving the Gift: Ecclesial Learning about Women in U.K. Churches', Ecclesiology and Ethnography Conference, St John's College, Durham
- Apr 2018 'Receptive Learning Between Churches', Keynote Presentation at the Global Christian Forum Gathering, Bogotá, Columbia

- Apr 2018 'Challenges of Receptive Ecumenism', Plenary Presentation at the 2018 Common Awards Symposium. For more information, see:
<https://www.dur.ac.uk/theology.religion/common.awards/themes/receptivity/>
- Apr 2018 'Receptive Ecumenism, Women and Hospitality', Paper presented at the 10th Anniversary Conference for the Centre of Catholic Studies, Durham University
- Apr 2018 'Learning from the Grass Roots: Women and Receptive Ecumenism', Society of the Study of Theology Annual Conference
- Jan 2018 'Vulnerable, Yet Divine': Retrieving Gregory Nazianzen's Account of the *Imago Dei*' at The Sixth Annual Los Angeles Theology Conference January 18-19, 2018: The Christian Doctrine of Humanity
- Sep 2016 'Gregory Nazianzen: Interpreting the Human *Eikon* of God Literally as a Physical Bearer of God's Presence', Sixth British Patristics Conference, Birmingham
- May 2016 'Theosis as Ontological Transformation', Postgraduate Study Day, King's College, London
- Aug 2015 'Divine, Yet Vulnerable: The Paradoxical Existence of Gregory Nazianzen's *Imago Dei*.' XVII International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford
- Apr 2015 'Appropriating Gregory Nazianzen's Theological Anthropology to Gender Roles in the Church Today', SST Annual Conference
- Jan 2015 'Gregory Nazianzen on the War between the *Imago Dei* and the Devil', Society of the Study of Theology Postgraduate Conference: Images, Icons and Idols
- Sep 2014 'The Image of God and the Devil in the works of Gregory Nazianzen and *Life of Adam and Eve*', Fifth British Patristics Conference, London

RESEARCH PROJECT

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/theology.religion/ccs/projects/receptiveecumenism/projects/womenandthechurches/>

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM (Funded)

- Jan 7-8, 2020 Member of the symposium exploring 'Evil and Christian Theology' in the Catholic tradition, Centre for Catholic Studies, Durham University
- Jan 6-8, 2019 Member of the symposium exploring 'Evil and Christian Theology' in the Protestant tradition, Centre for Protestant Studies, Aberdeen University

TEACHING

From Chalkboards to Zoom Rooms: Teaching During COVID-19 (interview)

<https://poorvucenter.yale.edu/news/chalkboards-zoom-rooms-teaching-during-covid-19>

Full-Courses

- 2021-22 Designer and Leader of the Anglican Contextual Education Program (CST)
- 2021-22 Episcopal and Anglican History (CST)

- 2020-21 The Anglican Way: Origins and Development (Berkeley Episcopal Seminary at Yale)
- 2019-21 Evil in Early Christian Thought (YDS)
- 2019-20 History of Early Christianity (YDS)
- 2019-20 Anglican History and Theology in Great Britain (YDS)
- 2019-20 Theology and Ministry in conversation with Gregory of Nazianzus (YDS)
- 2018-19 Introduction to Christian Theology, Durham University (First Year Undergraduate Course)
- 2014-16 Holy Spirit and the Charismatic Life, St. John's College, Nottingham (Online Graduate Course)
- 2014-15 Homiletics, St. John's College, Nottingham (Graduate Course)
- 2013-15 Advanced New Testament Greek, St. John's College, Nottingham (Graduate Course)

Associate Teaching

- 2015 'The Trinity,' Third Year Undergraduate Course, University of Nottingham
- 2014 Spirituality, St. John's College, Nottingham
- 2014-15 Christian Thought and Culture to 1600, University of Nottingham
- 2013-15 Church and Ministry, St. John's College, Nottingham

Dissertation Supervision

- 2020-21 Supervisor for thesis on Augustine and Trauma
- 2019- Committee Member: PhD on the 'Fall of Satan' in Augustine
- 2017-19 Dissertation Supervisor: MTh "Gregory of Nyssa's Anthropology" and External Grading at St Mellitus College, London

OUTREACH

- Jun 2021 'New ways forward in ecumenism', Invited speaker at the Alumni Town hall, Berkeley Divinity School
- May 2021 Retreat Leader: 'How to Care through and beyond the Pandemic' Christ Church, Greenwich, CT
- May 2021 Invited preacher for Commencement, Berkeley Divinity School
- Apr 2021 The Role of Women in the Church, Webinar with Women's Ministries Initiative, Oxford
- Mar 2021 'Death and the Spirit', paper for the Archbishop of Canterbury's Theological Reflection Group
- Feb 2021 Recovering God Podcast, <https://tunein.com/podcasts/Religion--Spirituality-Podcasts/Recovering-God-p1275863/>
- Jan 2021 Lament in Christian Worship, Christ Church, Greenwich, CT.
- Dec 2020 Advent Reflection, Berkeley Alumni Town Hall
- Jun 2019 Women and Receptive Ecumenism, St Alban's Newman Group
- Apr 2019 'Receptive Ecumenism Workshop' Andante Study Days, 24 to 29 April 2019

Bucharest, Romania

- Jan 2019 'Justice and Receptive Ecumenism', Invited Speaker at the Annual Service of Christian Unity, Coventry Cathedral
- Dec 2018 'Receptive Learning' at the IASCUFO gathering, Durham Cathedral
- Oct 2018 'Women and Hospitality', NBCW Board Meeting, London
- Sep 2018 'Biblical Witness to Receptive Ecumenism', Receptive Ecumenism Conference, Bromsgrove Methodist Church
- May 2018 'Cappadocian Prayer', Exarchate UK Deanery Conference & Festival
- Mar 2018 'Humility and Ecumenism', Service of Unity in Coventry Cathedral
- Jul 2017 'Our Bodies and Worship', New Wine Annual Conference
- Aug 2016 'Marrying Social Justice and Evangelism', "Just Love" National Conference
- May 2016 'The Implications of the Doctrine of Theosis on Discipleship, Mission and Evangelism in Contemporary Society', Hampton Deanery Clergy Study Days
- Nov 2015 'Theological Basis for Social Justice', "Just Love" Oxford Conference
- July 2015 'Making Sense of Old Testament Law', New Wine Annual Conference
- Aug 2015 'Gods of Our Age: Trivia' - Why Does Everything Else Always Look More Interesting?' New Wine Annual Conference
- Jul 2014 'Theology of Lament for Contemporary Worship', New Wine Annual Conference
- May 2014 'Praying the Poems of Saint Gregory the Theologian', Exarchate UK Deanery, Derby

SERVICE/TEAM LEADERSHIP

- 2017- Member of the Theological Reflection Group of the Archbishop of Canterbury, The Old Palace, Canterbury
- 2020- Member of the Anglican – Oriental Orthodox International Commission
- 2020-21 Advisory Committee for Marquand Chapel
- 2020-21 Faculty Advisor for 'Voice' (Women's Center at Yale Divinity School)
- 2020-21 Member of History of Christianity Group consultation on race at Yale
- 2019-21 Member of the Board of Trustees for Berkley Divinity School at Yale
- 2019-21 Bi-weekly preaching and presiding in St Luke's Chapel, Berkeley Divinity School
- 2019-21 Preaching in Marquand Chapel, Yale Divinity School
- 2019-21 Preacher at St John's Episcopal Church, New Haven
- 2019-21 Member of the Admissions Committee for History of Christianity Applicants to YDS
- 2018-19 Departmental Member of the Ethics and Diversity Committee, Durham University
- 2018 Member of the History Group of 'Living in Love and Faith', Church of England

- 2015-17 Think Aloud, <https://www.turinghouseschool.org.uk/thinkaloud.php>
2016 Team Leader for the Bishop of Kensington's Evangelism Initiative
2015-16 Representative for London Diocese in Shared Conversations
<http://www.sharedconversations.org/>
2014- Pioneer of WIP (Women in Patristics)

EDITORIAL

- 2020- Reviewer for *Religious Education; Theology and Sexuality*; SCM Press
2018- Lead Editor and Reviewer for Grove Books Doctrine series

MEMBERSHIP

- American Academy of Religion
Society of Biblical Literature
North American Patristics Society
Society for the Study of Theology
Orthodox Theological Society of America

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2020 Inspiring Yale Faculty Member: <https://www.inspiringyale.com>
2019 Nominated as a 'Woman Making a Difference' at Durham University
2018 Scholarship L.A. Theology Conference
2017 Jack Petchy Award for Outstanding Leadership
2014 Church of England Research Degrees Panel (fully funded PhD)
2013 Church of England Research Degrees Panel
2013 Sylvanus Lysons Trust
2013 St. Luke's Trust
2013 St Matthias Trust

LANGUAGES

Classical and New Testament Greek; Latin; French

RELATED PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- 2010 Counselling Skills Certificate Level 2 accredited by BACP