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**Home**

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South Bend, IN 46617  
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**EDUCATION:**

1989-1993

**Regis College/Toronto School of Theology,  
University of Toronto, Canada**  
Th.D. (1993); STD *Magna cum Laude Probatus*  
(1994)  
Major: Moral Theology  
Dissertation: "Richard A. McCormick and the  
Renewal of Moral Theology". Director: Bela  
Somfai, S.J

1988-1989

**University of St Michael's College/Toronto  
School of Theology, University of Toronto**  
Th.M., University of Toronto  
STL (1990), Regis College, University of Toronto:  
*Summa cum Laude Probatus*  
Major: Moral Theology  
Thesis: "Richard A. McCormick and Casuistry:  
Moral Decision-Making in Conflict Situations."  
Director: Bela Somfai, SJ

1980-1984

**Bigard Memorial Seminary, Enugu, Nigeria (in  
affiliation with Urban University, Rome)**  
STB, *Magna cum Laude Probatus*  
Major: Theology  
Thesis: "Christianity Answers Symmachus: A  
Theological Inquiry into the Problematic of Non-  
Christian Religions." Director: E. Elochukwu  
Uzukwu, C.S.Sp.

1976-1979

**Spiritan School of Philosophy, Isieniu, Nigeria**  
Diploma in Philosophy

Thesis: ““God Is Dead?”: A Study of Friedrich Nietzsche’s Philosophy of God” Director: Raymond Arazu, C.S.Sp.

**RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY:** Congregation of the Holy Spirit (Spiritans),  
Province of Nigeria-South East

**PRIESTLY ORDINATION:** April 28, 1984

### **Employment History**

#### **Academic**

**2020-** Professor of Christian Ethics and the Theology of World Church/  
Professor of Africana Studies

**2005-** Associate Professor of Christian Ethics and the theology of world  
church, Department of Theology, University of Notre Dame.

**2005-2017** President: The Governing Council of Spiritan International School  
of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu, Nigeria (2005-2017)

2014- Associate Professor of Africana Studies, University of Notre  
Dame.

2001-2005 Visiting Associate Professor of Theology,  
Department of Theology, U of Notre Dame

2003 - Associate Professor, Institute of Black Catholic Studies, Xavier  
University of New Orleans (Summer Program).

1999-2001 Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Department of Theology,  
University of Notre Dame

1994-1999 Senior Lecturer, Spiritan International School of Theology,  
Attakwu, Enugu, Nigeria

1993-1994 Lecturer in Theology, Spiritan International School Theology,  
Attakwu, Enugu, Nigeria.

1992-1993 Lecturer in Moral Theology, St Augustine’s Seminary, University  
of Toronto, Canada

1990-1992	Lecturer, St Augustine's Seminary of Toronto, Extension Division
1985-1987	Teacher, Holy Ghost Juniorate, Ihiala, Nigeria
1979-1980	Teacher, Holy Ghost Juniorate, Ihiala, Nigeria

### **Pastoral**

2004- 2002-2004	Pastoral Associate, St Hedwig and St Patrick Parishes, South Bend Priest in Residence, St Monica Parish, Mishawaka
1999-2002	Associate Pastor, St Adalbert and St Augustine's Parishes, South Bend, IN, USA
1991-1993	Chaplain, Cardinal Mcguigan and Francis Libermann High Schools, Toronto, Ontario
1987-1988	Associate Pastor, St Joseph's Parish, West Hill, Ontario, Canada
1984-1985 1982-1982	Associate Pastor, St Martin's Parish, Ihiala, Nigeria Intercultural Pastoral Experience, Kenema Diocese, Sierra Leone

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Books**

#### **Monographs**

*Morality Truly Christian, Truly African: Foundational, Methodological and Theological Considerations* Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2014 (396 pages).

*Moral Theology in an Age of Renewal: A Study of the Catholic Tradition since Vatican II.* Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2003 (412 pages).

*Richard A. McCormick and the Renewal of Moral Theology.* Notre Dame: Notre Dame University Press, 1995 (254 pages)

#### **Edited Books**

*Sexuality, Marriage and Family: Readings in the Catholic Tradition.* Notre Dame: Notre Dame University Press, 2001 (511 pages).

*Africa: Towards Priorities of Mission*. Co-edited with E. Uzukwu Enugu: SIST Publications, 2000 (251 pages).

**Edited Books  
(Series Editor)**

*Seeking Common Grounds: Interreligious Dialogue in Africa (Collected works of Cardinal John O. Onaiyekan, vol.1)*, Nairobi: Paulines Publications, 2013. Edited with an Introduction by Paulinus Odozor, C.S.Sp.

*Theology in Context: Inculturation and Evangelization in Africa Collected Works of Cardinal John O. Onaiyekan, Vol. II*, Abuja and Nairobi: Paulines Publications, 2016. Edited with an Introduction by Paulinus I. Odozor, C.S.Sp.

*The Word of God in the Church in Africa (Collected works of Cardinal John O. Onaiyekan, vol. III, Abuja/Nairobi: Paulines Publications, 2019.*

**Articles**

“Christianity and Law in Africa Today” in *Oxford Handbook on Christianity and Law*, eds., John Witte and Rafael Domingo ( Oxford University Press, 2023), Forthcoming

“The Catholic Church and the Race question” (Forthcoming in a book edited by Cardinal Peter Turkson, Rome, 2023)

“casteism, Racism, Nigeria, and Catholic Social Teaching” (Forthcoming in a book on Casts and the Nigerian Church, edited by Fortunatus Nwachukwu (Forthcoming)

“The Church as Family of God”, in *Handbook of African Catholicism* , ed. Stan Ilo ( Orbis Books, 2022), p.573-588.

“Africae Munus as Christian Policy Statement for an African Renaissance” in *Africae Munus : Ten Years Later*, eds. Maurice Asley Agbaw-Ebai and Matthew Levering ( St Augustine’s Press, 2022),

“One and the Same? Invoking Joseph Ratzinger/Benedict XVI in the Debate on God and the Question of God-Language in African Christianity” in *Joseph Ratzinger and the Future of African Theology* eds Maurice Ashley Agbaw-Ebai and Matthew Levering (Eugene Oregon: Pickwick Publications , 2021), p, 17-39.

“Alla scoperta dell’ottavo continente: I giovani e l’*Amoris Laetitia*”, *Quaderni Biblioteca Balestrieri (Amoris Letitia cinque anno dopo)*, 1/2021; p.52-64

“One -liners on Race from the pope and other Catholic Officials won’t do anymore.” Church Life Journal (September 8, 2020). <https://churchlifejournal.nd.edu/articles/one-liners-on-race-from-the-pope-and-other-catholic-officials-wont-do-any-longer/>

“Church must be part of solution to cry of anguish from Floyd Killing”, <https://cruxnow.com/interviews/2020/06/church-must-be-part-of-of-solution-to-cry-of-anguish-from-floyd-killing-priest-says/>. June 20, 2020

“The Catholic Church and Racism” Presentation Made to the Diocese of Hexham/New Castle, UK”, October 19, 2020. see,

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/102Ela8QJQQcknqCNXLkHSBVzTBbT4TI6/view?ts=5f9633e2>

“The Essence of African Traditional Religion” *Church Life Journal: A Journal of the McGrath Institute for Church Life*, April 26, 2019

<https://churchlifejournal.nd.edu/articles/the-essence-of-african-traditional-religion/>

“The Liturgy is the Easter Story’s Proper Setting” *Church Life Journal: A Journal of the McGrath Institute for Church Life*, February 21, 2019).

<https://churchlifejournal.nd.edu/articles/the-liturgy-is-the-easter-storys-proper-setting/>

[Theologian says Christianity can foster democracy, good governance in Africa \(cruxnow.com\)](https://cruxnow.com)

[Theologian says 'Amoris' Communion debate is settled in Africa \(cruxnow.com\)](https://cruxnow.com) .

“*Agwa bu Mma: Beauty and Virtue in an African community*”, in *Finding Beauty in the Other*, edited by Peter Casarella (New York: Crossroad Publishing, 2018), p.343-358.

“*Humanae Vitae: Fifty Years Later*”, *Spiritans Horizons* 13 .13 (2018), pp.67-77

“Neither Jew Nor Gentile: The Challenge of Ethnicity to Christian Witness in Nigeria” in *One Faith, many Tongues: Managing Diversity in the Church in Nigeria*, ed. Fortunatus Nwachukwu (Abuja, Paulines Publications, 2017), pp.26-43.

“Church as Family: Challenges facing the African Catholics in Contemporary Times” Submitted and accepted as part of the project on the handbook of African Theology in preparation at DePaul University Chicago’s Centre for the study of world Catholicism (Forthcoming).

“The Same-Sex Marriage Debate- Matters Arising” *Concilium*, vol. 2(2016), p.126-133

“Theology at the Service of the Church and Human Development” in *Committed to Solidarity* edited by Gabriel Mendy (Enugu: Kingsley Publishers: 2015), p.95-118

“Vote of Confidence.” *The Tablet* (April 11, 2015), p.10-11.

“What is not Sacred? African Spirituality” by Laurenti Magesa, (book Review), *TS* 76 (2) 2015, p.378-379.

“From Theology in Africa to African Theology” in Jesse N.K. Mugambi and Evaristi Magesa, eds., *Endless Quest: The Vocation of an African Christian Theologian - Essays in honor of Laurenti Magesa*, Acton Publishers Nairobi 2014, p. 80-110

“Christology and Moral Theology”, *Journal of Moral Theology*, Vol. 2, no.1 (2013): 24-45

“Christian (Catholic) Theological Ethics in Africa: in search of firm Foundations”, in *In the Service of Charity and Truth: Essays in Honor of Lucius Ugorji*. Eds. Uzochukwu J. Njoku and Simon O. Anyanwu (Frankfurt/New York: Peter Lang, 2012), p.35-52

“A Theology of Gratuitousness” in *The Moral Dynamics of Economic Life: An extension and critique of Caritas in Veritate*, ed., Daniel K. Finn (Oxford/New York: Oxford University Press, 2012), p.28-31.

Africa and the challenge of ‘Foreign’ religious/ethical ‘ideologies’, ‘viruses’ and ‘pathologies’” in *Reconciliation, Justice and Peace: The Second African Synod*, ed., Agbonkhianmeghe E. Orobator, (Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis books, 2011), p.214-225

“Truly Africa, and Wealthy! :What Africa can Learn from Catholic Social Teaching about Sustainable Economic Prosperity” in *the true Wealth of Nations: Catholic Social Thought and Economic Life*, edited by Daniel Finn (Oxford University Press, 2010), pp.267-288.

“The Second Synod of Bishops for Africa: A Review of Some of the Major Points Discussed,” *Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology*, vol.22 (2010), p.87-107.

The Church in Africa: What is the Spirit Asking?” *Spiritan* (Spring 2010), vol.34.1, p.16-18

“African Catholics in the United States: Gifts and Challenges,” in *Uncommon Faithfulness: The Witness of African American Catholics*, ed. Shawn Copeland et al (Maryknoll, N.Y: Orbis books, 2009), pp.195-204

“An African Moral Theology of Inculturation: Methodological Considerations.” *Theological Studies* vol. 69, no.3 (September 2008), pp.583-609.

“Africa’s double-edged Inheritance” *The Tablet* (5 July 2008), pp14-15

“Healthy Vision for Africa,” *The Tablet* (26 July 2008), p.25 (This is a commissioned essay on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Humanae Vitae)

“Liturgy and Life: A Discussion from an African Christian Theological Perspective,” *Worship*, vol.82, no.5 (September 2008), pp.413-433.

“God, Nigeria, and the Church: A Theological Essay on the Church and Politics in Nigeria.” *Encounter: Journal of African Life and Religion* (Rome), vol. 8 (2008), pp.40-58

“The Challenge of Africa to the Western Conscience: US Bishops and Solidarity with Africa,” *Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology*, vol. 17 (2005), p.3-28.

“Classical Moral Theology and the World Church: Some Suggestions on How to Move Forward”, *Louvain Studies* vol. 30, no. 4 (2005), p.276-298

“Emerging African Alternatives to Globalization,” *Vidyajoti Journal of Theological Reflection* Vol 63, n. 7 (July 1999), pp. 516-523

--- Also published in *Sedos Bulletin* vol.32. No.3 (March 2000), pp. 63-84.

Casuistry and AIDS: A Reflection on the Catholic Tradition,” in *Catholic Ethicists on HIV/AIDS Prevention*, eds. James F. Keenan, S.J, with Jon D. Fuller., S.J., M.D, Lisa Sowle Cahill and Kevin Kelly. New York/London: Continuum, 2000, pp.294-302.

“How Can the Gospel Be Heard in the Secular Culture of Africa’s Cities?” in *The Gospel as Good News for African Cultures: A Symposium on the Dialogue between Faith and Culture*, ed. Juvenalis Baitu. Nairobi: Catholic University of Eastern Africa Publications, 1999, pp.63-84.

“Tradition, Rationality and Morality,” *Nigerian Journal of Theology*, vol. 14, 1998, pp. 20-40.

“Proportionalists and the Reinterpretation of the Principle of Double Effect – A Review Discussion,” *Christian Bioethics* Vol. 3, no.2 (1997), pp.115-130

“Globalization and Mission in Africa in the Third Millennium,” *Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology*, Vol.9: 1-2. 1997, pp. 3-22.

“Some Thoughts on an African Christian Theology of Marriage,” *Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology* 6 (January 1995), pp.56-71

“Man and Meaning,” in *Colloquium* (published by Bigard Memorial Seminary, Ikot Ekpene) vol. 1. no.1 June 1985, pp.46-60.

“Atheism,” in *Horizons: A Journal of Theology and Religion* (1983), pp.65-78

### Other Essays and Articles

“Shaped by the Good News in the Liturgy”, part 1.

<http://blogs.nd.edu/oblation/2012/01/18/shaped-by-the-good-news-in-the-liturgy/>

Shaped by the Good News in the Liturgy”, part 2;

<http://blogs.nd.edu/oblation/2012/01/19/shaped-by-the-good-news-in-the-liturgy-part-ii/>

Shaped by the Good News in the Liturgy”, part 3;

<http://blogs.nd.edu/oblation/2012/01/23/shaped-by-the-good-news-in-the-liturgy-part-iii/>

“Cultural and Religious Stereotypes Militating against Women’s Participation in Politics in Nigeria,” *Beyond Frontiers* (1997), pp.43-45

“The Making of the Nigerian Constitution,” *The Educator*, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, 1979

Human Rights and the New Nigerian Constitution,” *The Educator* (November/December 1980)

“The Psalms: Prayer For Christians?” *The Nigerian Statesman*, July 19, 1983, pp.4-7.

“Pope John Paul II and Non-violence,” *Weekly Star* (Nigeria), May 23, 1982, pp. 13-14

“Identity and Relevance: Problems for Present-Day Christianity”, *The Torch*, no.73 (December 1982-March 1983), p.31-32.

“Solidarity with Africa: Implications for ministries and services’, posted on the web at <http://www.usccb.org/mrs/pcmr/solidarity1.shtml>.

“Jewish – Christian Dialogue in Africa.” See

[http://www.nd.edu/~msigner/2005\\_spring/documents/JewishChristiandialogue3.pdf](http://www.nd.edu/~msigner/2005_spring/documents/JewishChristiandialogue3.pdf)

### Some Reviews of My Books

*Morality Truly Christian Truly African: Foundational, Methodological and Theological Considerations*. University of Notre Dame Press, 2014

#### Reviewed in:

*Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology*  
*Choice Connect* (June 2015).



*US Catholic*, January 2015.  
*Theological Studies* 76(4), 873-874  
*Catholic Library World*, vol.85, no.4, June 2015  
*Studies in Christian Ethics*, 29 (4), p.499-501  
*New Theology Review*  
*Modern Theology*, vol 32, Issue 3, 2016, p449-451

*Moral Theology in an Age of Renewal: A Study of the Catholic Tradition since Vatican II*. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2003

**Reviewed in:**

*The Heythrop Journal* vol. 48 Issue 1, January 2007

*Ethica: Wissenschaft und verantwortung*, vol. 13, no. 3 (2005), pp. 293-302 (**This is an extended study of my work and that of James Keenan and James Bretzke**) Title: **“Fundamental Moral, 40 Jahre nach den II. Vatikanum: Zu neueren Studien aus den USA**

*The Journal of Theological Studies*, vol. 55, issue 2, October 2004, p.777-779  
*The Interdisciplinary Journal of Pastoral Studies*, Issue 143, September 2004  
*Journal of Markets and Morality*, vol. 7, no. 2(Fall 2004)  
*Religious Studies Review*, vol. 30, no 2, 3/ April, July 2004  
*Catholic Library World*, vol 74, no.3, March 2004  
*Fellowship of Catholic Scholars Quarterly*, vol 27, no.4, Winter, 2004  
*America*, vol. 189 no.18, December 1, 2003.  
*Pro Ecclesia* Vol. XIII, no.2  
*Theology Digest*  
*Theological Studies* 66 (March 2005), p.210-212  
*Studia Moralia* vol.44 (2006), p.289-291.

*Richard A. McCormick and the Renewal of Moral Theology*. Notre Dame: Notre Dame University Press, 1995 (254 pages).

**Reviewed in:**

*Toronto Journal of Theology*, 13/2, 1997  
*Religious Studies Review*, Vol 23 no. 2/April 1997  
*Theological Studies*, vol 57, Issue 3, 1996  
*New Theology Review*, vol 9, no. 3, August 1996  
*America*, December 2, 1995  
*National Catholic Reporter*, November 17, 1995  
*Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology*, 1996

iii) *Sexuality, Marriage and Family: Readings in the Catholic Tradition*. Notre Dame: Notre Dame University Press, 2001

**Reviewed in:**

*INTAMS reviews* 9 (2003)

*Josephinum Journal of Theology*, vol. 9. no.2 Summer/Fall 2002

### **SCHOLARLY INTERESTS**

Foundational Issues in Moral Theology/Christian ethics  
History of Moral Theology  
Questions in Fundamental Theology  
African Christian theology Contextual theological issues, including questions relating to inculturation, Theology and society  
Inter –Religious Dialogue  
The Moral Dimension of African literatures

### **ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS**

#### **1. Invited Lectures/Presentations /Addresses Outside Notre Dame**

“Thinking Morally and Acting Rightly: Moral Theory and African Ethical Discourse”  
(paper presented at the Society of Christian Ethics Convention, January 4, 2021

“What does it Mean to be Human in Africa? A study of the reality of the “Anthropological Crisis” in Africa using Post-colonial African literature as reference” Paper presented at the SCE Convention, January 8, 2021.

“The Global Economic Effects of Covid-19: Perspectives from Economics and Catholic Social thought” – An African perspective (Paper presented at the Lumen Christi Institute, University of Chicago), August 13, 2020

“Ancestors as Saints?”, A theological exploration- Paper presented as part of the series organized by The World Church, World Religion Area of the Theology Department at the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame Indiana, August 31, 2020

“Catholic Social Teaching as a Prophetic voice of the Contemporary Church”, Presentation to the St Mathew’s Catholic Community, Charlotte, North Carolina, November 25, 2020

“Reclaiming Culture: Faith and Culture in a Secular Age”; Theology on Tap. Diocese of Fort Wayne/South Bend. February 11, 2020.

“Thaddeus Ihejiofor: Nous nous Souvenons”: Memorial lecture on the life and work of Rev Thaddeus N. Ihejiofor, Pioneer Priest of Orlu Diocese. December 29, 2019

“Amoris Laetitia: A Complicated Reception of a Papal Exhortation”. An Invited keynote Presentation at the Congress of Pan-African Catholic Theologians to mark the silver

Jubilee of the 1<sup>st</sup> synod of Bishops on Africa, Bigard Memorial Seminary, December 5-8, 2019.

Made a presentation and moderated the symposium on “Bishop Godfrey Okoye, Founder Visionary, and Pastor : His Impact on the Nigerian Church” on the Occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Founding of the Congregation of the Daughters of Divine Love (DDL Sisters), Enugu, Nigeria, November 7- November 9, 2019

“One and the Same?”: Joseph Ratzinger/Benedict XVI and African Theologians on God and God Language in African Christian Theology” (Keynote Address Presented at the conference on Joseph Ratzinger and the future of African Theology”, sponsored by the Centre for scriptural Exegesis, Philosophy and Doctrine at Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois (October 17-19, 2019

“Doing God’s work, Doing God’s will: Emmanuel Ojeifo on Cardinal Onaiyekan”, an extended discussion of the book, *They Will be done: A portrait of John Cardinal Onaiyekan*”, by Emmanuel Ojeifo. (I was officially invited by the Catholic Archdiocese of Abuja to discuss this book at the book launch which was part of the activities marking the Cardinal’s Golden Jubilee celebrations of his priestly ordination), August 1, 2019.

“John Cardinal Onaiyekan on the Word of God in the Church in Africa” (Presentation on the latest book of Cardinal Onaiyekan at his 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations in Abuja Nigeria), January 30, 2019.

“Cardinal John Onaiyekan as Global Citizen” Presentation at the forum on “Cardinal John Onaiyekan 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Colloquium” Abuja, Friday, February 1, 2019).

“Sex/sexuality and the Ecumenical Movement” (Paper Presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of Catholic Ethics in the World Church {CTEWC} conference on *Building Bridges for the future*). Sarajevo, July 26-29, 2018

“Contested Moral Truths: Neglected aspects of the ecumenical dialogue” (presented at the Notre Rome Gateway conference, “*The Whole is Greater than its Parts: Christian Unity and Interreligious Encounter*” Organized by the World Religion, World Church program of the Department of Theology, University of Notre Dame, January 8-11, 2018.

October 21, 2017, “Perfecting our Union: A few thoughts on Nigeria at 57(Invited keynote address presented to the Nigeria Association of Michiana, South Bend, Indiana, USA, at the celebration of Nigerian Independence, 2017. October 27, 2017.

October 17, 2017, “Christianity And African Identity: Questions of Relevance and Transformation (Invited Annual lecture presented at the Centre For Spiritan Studies, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA).

July 26-August 1, 2017: “Church as Family: Challenges facing the African Catholics in Contemporary Times” (Paper Presented in Nairobi Kenya as part of the Africa Handbook Project, sponsored by De Paul University, Chicago and Hekima Jesuit College, Nairobi, July 26-August 1, 2017.

Presented the Pastoral Plan I had been working on to the convention of Igbo Catholics, USA (ICUSA), Houston, Texas.: Title: **African and Christian in America today. June 22, 2017.**

“Laudato Si and Africa” Paper Presented at the CTSA convention, Albuquerque, NM, June 8-11, 2017.

“Evangelizing the 8<sup>th</sup> Continent: Amoris Laetitia: the Youth and the question of Reception” Paper presented at the Rome Conference on **African Christian Theology: Memories and Mission for the 21<sup>st</sup> century**, March 22-25, 2017.

“Faith Hope and Love as Additional Remedies for Emotional Challenges”. Invited Keynote Presentation at the San Bernardino Diocesan Conference on Mental and Behavioral Health. Held at the Pastoral Centre, San Bernardino, CA, May 11, 2016.

“Some Important Issues in Christian/Muslim dialogue in Nigeria”, concept paper presented at the **Forum on the Role of Religion in Social Transformation in Sub-Saharan Africa**, held at Pope John Paul II Pastoral and Social Centre, Abuja, December 17, 2015 and organized by the Kukah Centre for Faith and Public Policy in conjunction with the Centre for World Catholicism and Intercultural Theology, DePaul University, Chicago, IL, USA.

“Can There Really be an African Christian Ethics?” (Paper Presented at the International Colloquium on the Future of Catholicism in Africa 50 years after Vatican II organized by the Centre for World Catholicism and Intercultural Theology, DePaul University, Chicago, IL, USA and Spiritan International School of Theology, Enugu, Nigeria, held in Abuja and Enugu, Nigeria, December 18-20, 2015.

“Neither Jew nor Gentile”: The Challenge of Ethnicity and Race to Christian Witness in Nigeria: A study and a search for solutions from a Catholic point of View.” Paper Presented at The First Aquaviva Conference on The Catholic Church in Nigeria and the Challenge of Ethnic and Sectional Prejudice and Discrimination. Organized by the Fortune Aquaviva Foundation in Collaboration with The Kukah Centre, Abuja Nigeria, July 8-9, 2015

“Catholicism Among the Igbo in the USA in the New Era of Evangelization- Matters Arising.”(Keynote Presentation at the Annual Convention of Igbo Catholics USA, (ICUSA) Brooklyn, New York, USA, April 25, 2015.

“Theology at the Service of the Church and Human Development”. (Invited paper delivered on May 11, 2012 at the SIST Convocation 2012 to mark the Jubilee celebrations marking the foundation of the institute).

“Evangelizing Locally and Globally: Upholding Christian Moral Standards” Invited presentation at the Symposium on New Evangelization at Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria, November 8, 2012, to mark the centenary celebration of the founding of the Catholic Church in the Owerri Ecclesiastical Region of Nigeria.

“From Theology in Africa to African Theology (historical notes): the impact of Vatican II on a new generation of African Theologians and on African theology in General”. Invited presentation at the symposium at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA to celebrate 50 years of Vatican II, September 28, 2012

“The politics and ethics of Health Care in the United States: Taking a look at the debate on the “contraceptive mandate from the point of view of the Catholic moral theological tradition.” (Invited presentation to the Frassati youth conference on : “Freedom: Spiritual and Political” at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, church, Carmel IN, July 22, 2012.

“Africa and the challenge of “foreign” religious/ethical “ideologies”, “viruses “and “pathologies” (Invited Presentation at Hekima College, Nairobi, at a follow-up convention on the synod of Africa organized by Hekima College (The Jesuit Theological Faculty in Nairobi) and Orbis books, New York, March 16-March 20, 2010: **Nairobi, Kenya.**

“Catholic Women Theologians on the HIV/AIDS pandemic.” A review discussion of *Calling for Justice throughout the World: Catholic Woman Theologians on the HIV/AIDS Pandemic*, edited by Mary Jo Iozzio (with Mary M. Doyle Roche and Elsie M. Miranda (June 10-13: Cleveland, OH: The Annual Convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America).

“Fueling our faith as we reclaim our faithful” (Made a series of presentations on this theme as director at the annual retreat organized by the Office of lay catholic Ministry of the Archdiocese of Chicago Techny Illinois: July 30- August 1, 2010

“The Synod in Review: A Synopsis of the Major Points of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Synod on Africa” ( A paper delivered at the 11<sup>th</sup> convention of ACCCRUS (African Conference of Catholic Clergy and Religious in the United States). South Bend: August 4-8, 2010). Also, delivered the welcome address as president of the hosting chapter on “African Missionary presence in the US today: Issues, Challenges and Prospects.”

“*Caritas in Veritate* and the Economics and Ethics of Gratuitousness A Reflection on the American Situation by an African “Alien” Resident in the United States of America” ( Invited presentation at the conference on “*Caritas in Veritate* and the United

States,” co-sponsored by the Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies and the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. Rome: October 14-16, 2010)

“Truly Africa and Wealthy!: What Africa can Learn from Catholic Social Teaching about Sustainable Economic Prosperity.” (Invited Presentation at the Conference on The true Wealth of Nations: Developing an Architecture for Analysis, organized by the Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies at the University of Southern California), June 18-22, 2008.

“God, Nigeria, and the Church: A theological Essay on the Church and Politics in Nigeria” (This is a major address I was invited to give as part of the celebrations to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Episcopal ordination of His Excellency, Most Reverend John O. Onaiyekan, Metropolitan Archbishop of Abuja, Nigeria.), Tuesday, January 29, 2008

“Paths of Peace: Islam, Christianity, and African Traditional Religions in Dialogue” (Invited lecture at the conference on *Dialogue of Cultures* organized by the Notre Dame Centre for Ethics and Culture), November 29-December 1, 2007.

“The Future of Catholic Moral discourse” (Presentation to the group New Wine, New Wineskins” during their annual convention, July 29, 2006. My book, *Moral Theology in an Age of Renewal* was chosen as the work for discussion this year. I was therefore invited to make a presentation to the group as my contribution to the discussion.

“Mending Broken Fences: The Challenge of Solidarity Between Africans and African Americas (2005 Augustus Tolton Lecture presented at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago under the auspices of the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry program and the office of the President, CTU, Chicago), March 3, 2005.

The Marital Sacrament: Issues, Challenges and Lessons from Africa.” The Keynote Presentation at the conference on Christian Marriage and Family, St Louis University, St Louis Missouri, November 19, 200

“Religious/Priestly Formation in Nigeria: A reflection on the task ahead as we prepare to enter the Third Millennium.” A paper presented to the Regional meeting of the Carmelite Missionaries in Enugu, January 12, 1999.

Reconciliation as Evangelization: A Reflection on Nigeria.” A paper presented at a meeting of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria held at the Daughters of Divine Love Retreat and Conference Center, Emene, Enugu, Nigeria, March 11-14, 1999

“How can the Gospel be heard in the Secular cultures of Africa’s Cities?” Invited paper read at the Conference on Faith and Culture organized by the Pontifical Council for Culture, Vatican City in Nairobi, Kenya, February 11-18, 1998

“Emerging African Alternatives to Globalization.” Invited paper presented at a conference on globalization and the victims of history, organized in Delhi, India, by

Missio-Achen, Germany in collaboration with the Vidjayyoti Jesuit School of Theology, Delhi, India, January 26- February 1, 1998

“A Moral Evaluation of Technology and its effects on Human Relations.” Lecture presented to the Faculty and Students of Claretian Institute of Philosophy, Nekede, Nigeria, March 3, 1995

## 2. Some Invited Lectures at Notre Dame

“*Agwa Bu Mma: Beauty and Virtue in an African Community*” (Paper Presented at the Conference on *Finding Beauty in the Other- Inaugural World Religions, World Church Conference, Department of Theology, University of Notre Dame, September 10-12, 2015*

“The Catholic Church and the HIV/AIDS Pandemic: A Theological Discussion.” (Paper Presented at Notre Dame at the invitation of ND student government to mark World AIDS DAY 2005, November 30, 2005

The American Bishops’ text on Solidarity with Africa: Implications for international ecclesial and political engagement with Africa. Address to the planning committee for the conference on solidarity with Africa, Notre Dame, October 17, 2002

A Call to Solidarity with Africa: US Bishops on the challenge of Africa to (the Western) Christian Conscience – A Review Discussion. Address to the Board of the Institute for Church Life (ICL), Notre Dame, 2003

## 3. Other Conference Lectures

“Aquinas in Africa: What African moral Theology can learn from the Angelic Doctor concerning method in Christian Ethics,” Society of Christian Ethics, New Orleans, January 2011.

Theological challenges to Inculturation of Moral Theology in Africa”. Convention of World-wide Catholic Ethicists, Padova, Italy, July 9, 2006

“Liturgy and Spirituality from a Global Perspective”. Invited presentation at the Conference on Liturgy and Spirituality, University of Notre Dame, June 20, 2006

“Postmodernity and The Subject in African Christian theologies”. Catholic Theological Society of America Convention, San Antonio Texas, June 10, 2006

Invited presentation on “Catholic Theological Perspectives on Female Sexuality & Violence against Women” as part of the discussion following the performance of *The Vagina Monologues* at Notre Dame, February 14, 2006.

African Catholics in the United States: Gifts and Challenges.” Invited paper presented at the conference on “Uncommon Faithfulness: The Witness of African American Catholics,” (University of Notre Dame, March 11-14, 2004).

“Solidarity with Africa: Implications for ministries and services.” Paper presented at the Conference on Migration Sponsored by the USCCB office of the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees, Washington, D.C. at Omni Center, July 8, 2003.

“Preaching the Gospel of Life in a Milieu of Death.” Paper Read at the Culture of Life Conference, University of Notre Dame, November 29-December 2, 2001.

“Marriage, Truly African, Truly Christian?” SIST Annual Theological Symposium, November 2-5, 1995.

“Moral Good for the Life of the Church and the World: Reflections on the Third Chapter of *Veritatis Splendor*,” Invited paper presented at the “Theology week” of Catholic Institute of West Africa, Port Harcourt, Nigeria, May 9-11, 1994.

“The Wider Ecumenism: Muslim/Christian Relations in Nigeria.” Presented at Our Lady of Lourdes School of Nursing, Ihiala, May 1986.

“After the Euphoria: The Church in Eastern Nigeria in the year 2050.” A paper presented to the men and women religious in Onitsha Archdiocese at a seminar for the centenary celebrations of the Church in Eastern Nigeria, August 1985

“The Challenge of Atheism in Africa Today,” Paper Presented at Bigard Memorial Seminary, Enugu, under the auspices of Bigard Theological Coterie, April 1982.

## TEACHING

### **Courses Taught at the University of Notre Dame: Undergraduate Courses**

Theology of Marriage  
Introduction to Christian Ethics  
Theology University Seminar  
Introduction to Theology  
Veritatis Splendor  
The Popes on Morality  
African Literature and the Moral Imagination.



**Courses Taught at the University of Notre Dame:**

**Graduate Courses**

Foundations of Christian Ethics  
Christian Ethics and Pastoral Practice  
African Christian Theologies  
Modern Catholic Moral Theology  
African Literature and the Moral Imagination

**Courses taught at Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu, Nigeria: Undergraduate**

Ethical Problems of Life and Death  
The Popes on Social Justice  
Human Sexuality and Christian Marriage  
Fundamental Moral Theology

**Courses taught at Spiritan International School of Theology: Graduate**

Moral Theology since Vatican II  
Philosophical Texts as Background to Christian Ethics

**Courses taught at St. Augustine's Seminary, University of Toronto: Graduate**

Fundamental Moral Theology  
The Popes on Social Justice  
Human Sexuality and Christian Marriage

**Institute for Black Catholic Studies, Xavier University of New Orleans (Summer Program): Graduate Teaching:**

Moral Issues in the Black community

**Courses taught at the Summer Institute: Catholic Archdiocese of Abuja Nigeria, June/July 2014**

- (1) **(For the Priests and Religious of the Archdiocese):** Sex, Sexuality and Marriage: Some Theological, Pastoral and Ethical Issues
- (2) **For Laity in the Archdiocese:** Thinking theologically and Ethically about the Teaching of the Catholic Church on Family, Sex and marriage

**Dissertation Committees/Examination Boards/Dissertation direction**

- (1) Served on PhD Dissertation committees for : Emeka Ngwoke; Matthias Alonyenu, John Sikorski
- (2) Served or serving on many MTS and MA Examination boards. Some of which currently are Philomena Adah, Kenneth Amadi, Gabriella Berman, committees and have participated in four candidacy examinations.
- (3) Co-directing (with Gabriel Reynolds) Patricia Idoko
- (4) Directing Fidelis Olokunboro (PhD)

(5) Directing the Senior Thesis of Joseph Cook

**SERVICE: Academic**

**University of Notre Dame**

*Faculty Advisor:* African Graduate Students Club - 2019

**Member:** Representing the Africana Department in the Faculty Senate, 2019.

**Member:** Faculty Senate (2011-2013; Secretary of the Faculty 2012-2013).

**Member:** Ad hoc committee on theology, religion and dialogue in the world church (2005)

**Coordinator:** The Africa Scholarship Initiative, Theology Department: 2007-

**Member:** Master of Theological Studies Committee (2006-)

Member: M.Div. Committee (2004/2005)

*Faculty Advisor:* African Students Association, Notre Dame (2006-2017) (Undergraduate )

Member: Provost's Committee on Africa (2007-2009).

**Lead Organizer** 2002-2004: Played pivotal role along with Professor John Cavadini and others in organizing at/for University of Notre Dame series of Conferences centered around the pastoral letter of the United States Bishops on a *Call to Solidarity with Africa*. The Conferences were held both at Notre Dame. September 23-26 and in Nigeria, January 3,-12, 2004

**Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu, Nigeria**

**Academic**

2005-2017: **President**, Governing Council, Spiritan International School Theology, Attakwu, Enugu, Nigeria.

1994-1999: **Academic Dean**, Spiritan International School Theology, Attakwu, Enugu, Nigeria.

1994-1999: **Secretary**, Governing Council, Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, and Enugu.

1993-1994: **Registrar**, Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu.

**Bigard Memorial Seminary, Enugu, Nigeria**

1982-1984 **Founding Editor**, *Horizons* (now *Bigard Studies*) a Journal of Religion and Theology, Bigard Memorial Seminary, Enugu, Nigeria.

**Holy Ghost Juniorate, Ihiala, Nigeria**

1985-1987 **Dean of Studies**, Holy Ghost Juniorate, Ihiala, Nigeria, 1985-1987

**Service to the Larger Academic Community**

2013-2015 Elected to the **Board of Directors** of the Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA)

**2015** **External Examiner** for Doctoral dissertation: St Patrick's College, Maynooth University, Ireland.

2006-2008 **External Examiner** for doctoral theses (Faculté des études Supérieures, Université de Montréal, Canada, 2006

2006- **Manuscript evaluator**, Scranton University Press, 2006

2005-2009 **Member**, Grievances Committee, Society of Christian Ethics.

2001- Article referee for *Theological Studies*.

1996- Article referee for *Toronto Journal of Theology*.

1995-1998 **Member-** Board of Directors and **Chairman**, Research and Publications Committee, Catholic Theological Association of Nigeria.

**International Scholarly/ecclesiastical Contributions**

Organized and hosted a major International congress at the Notre Dame Global Gateway in Rome on **African Christian Theology: Memories and Mission for the 21<sup>st</sup> century (March 22-25, 2017**

<https://cruxnow.com/an-african-moment-in-rome/>

Invited by the Pontifical Council and by the Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies, University of Southern California to participate in a

deliberation on Pope Benedict's encyclical, *Caritas in Veritate* (Rome, October 11-14, 2010)

Appointed by the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI as “adiutor secretarii specialis,” to the 2<sup>nd</sup> African Synod of Bishops (**October 4-25, 2009**):  
**Rome:** Participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Special assembly of the Synod of Bishops for Africa as learned expert assistant to the synod.

- 1998            Member, Lineamenta/Planning Committee, Catholic Bishop's Conference of Nigeria for the Nigerian Synod, 2002
- 1986-1987        Member (Representing the ordination classes, 1980-1985), Onitsha Archdiocesan Presbyterial Council

### ACADEMIC HONORS

Honored by the Pan African Catholic Congress on Theology, Society and Pastoral life with **Academic Leadership Award “In Recognition of Your Contribution to the Catholic Intellectual Tradition and the Church in Africa”, December 8, 2019.**

Best Graduating Student in the Arts- Holy Ghost Juniorate Ihiala: Best graduating Student in the Arts, 1975

Graduated with Distinction from Spiritan School of Philosophy, Isienu, Enugu State, Nigeria, 1979.

Graduated *Magna cum Laude*, Bigard Memorial Seminary, Enugu

Graduated *Summa Cum Laude* for the STL- Regis College, University of Toronto, Canada.

Graduated *Magna Cum Laude* for the STD degree- Regis College, University of Toronto, Canada.

### GRANTS/FELLOWSHIP/AWARDS

Toronto School of Theology: Several Graduate Fellowships  
**ATS/Lily Faculty Theological Fellowship, 2011-2012** (value: \$30,000-Thirty thousand dollars).

Henkel's Large Conference Fund for African Theology Conference, Rome, March 2017 (\$20,000).

Notre Dame International fellowship award for African Theology Conference in Rome, March 2017 (\$20,000).

**MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

Catholic Theological Society of America  
Catholic Theological Association of Nigeria  
Society of Christian Ethics  
Black Catholic Theological Symposium (USA).

**In Preparation**

- (1) “Francis Libermann as Moral Teacher” (Francis Mary Paul Libermann was an Alsatian-Jewish Rabbi who converted to Catholicism and became the founder of the Congregation of the Immaculate heart of Mary which later joined with the Holy Ghost Congregation founded in France in 1703 to become the Congregation of the Holy Ghost under the Patronage of the Immaculate Heart of Mary simply known historically as the Holy Ghost Fathers and Brothers (the Spiritans). Libermann became the twelfth Superior General of the Holy Ghost Congregation. Libermann left a lot of writings to his missionaries and his spiritual protégés. A lot of study has appeared in many languages of his work as scripture scholar, spiritual theologian, and missiologist. In this study, which is at its very early stages, I am looking at the work and teachings of Libermann from the point of view of Catholic moral theology and in comparison, with other ethical works of his 19<sup>th</sup> century period).
- (2) Working as founding series editor on about five manuscripts for inclusion in the new African Theology series about to be launched by the University of Notre Dame Press. The first book in this series is due for publication before the end of 2019.