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# Brian Yong Lee

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## EDUCATION

- University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN
  Ph.D. in Theology (2018)
  Major: New Testament; Minor: Second-Temple Judaism, Greco-Roman Philosophy
  Co-Directors: Gregory E. Sterling, John T. Fitzgerald
- Weston Jesuit School of Theology, Cambridge, MA
  M.T.S. in Biblical Studies
  Graduated with distinction
- Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA
  M.A. in Philosophy
  Graduated with distinction
- Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA
  B.A. in Philosophy, Theology, Catholic Social Ethics Minor

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Loyola University Chicago, Asst. Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity (2022–)
- Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, MA Director (2022)
- Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, Assoc. Professor of New Testament (2021–2022)
- Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, Asst. Professor of New Testament (2015–2021)
- University of Notre Dame, Tantur Ecumenical Institute Jerusalem, Instructor (2014)
- University of Notre Dame, Department of Theology, Instructor (2013)

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

- New Testament/Early Christianity: Pauline Epistles, New Testament Ethics, Early Christian Soteriology, Early Christian Forgiveness; Ethnicity
- Hebrew Bible/Early Judaism: Wisdom literature, Second Temple Judaism, Hellenistic Judaism, Second Temple Jewish Purity and Atonement; Philo
- Greco-Roman Philosophy: Roman Stoicism; Middle-Platonism
- Methodology: Comparative methodology; Political philosophy; Political theology

## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES/REFEREED BOOK CHAPTERS

- "Romans and Judeophobia." In Judeophobia in the New Testament: Texts, Contexts, and Pedagogy. Edited by Meredith J.C. Warren, Eric Vanden Eykel, and Sarah Rollens. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2025. (in press)
- "At the Origins of the Biblical Commandment of Interpersonal Forgiveness: Sirach 28:2 in Context." In Currents in Korean American and Korean Biblical Interpretation. Edited by John Ahn. Atlanta: SBL Press. (forthcoming)

## NON PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES/BOOK CHAPTERS

- "The Story of a Symposium: Why We Need a Theological Understanding of Pope Francis's Thought." Pages 1–20 in Discovering Pope Francis: The Roots of Jorge Mario Bergoglio's Thought, edited by Brian Y. Lee and Thomas Knoebel. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2019. (Coauthored with Thomas Knoebel)

## NON PEER-REVIEWED BOOKS EDITED

- Discovering Pope Francis: The Roots of Jorge Mario Bergoglio's Thought (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2019). (Co-edited with Fr. Thomas Knoebel)

## BOOK REVIEWS

- Catholic Biblical Quarterly 01/2025 Invited Review of Matthew V. Novenson and R. Barry Matlock, eds., The Oxford Handbook of Pauline Studies (New York: Oxford University Press, 2022).
- Review of Biblical Literature 01/2022 Review of Max Botner, Justin Harrison Duff, Simon Dürr, eds., Atonement: Jewish and Christian Origins (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2020).
- Review of Biblical Literature 10/2020 Review of Joseph R. Dodson and David E. Briones, eds., Paul and the Giants of Philosophy: Reading the Apostle in Greco-Roman Context (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2019).

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- "Comparing Philo, Philosophy, and Paul's Inspired Interpretation in 1 Corinthians: Contextualizing Interpretive Methods within the Ethnic and Trans-Ethnic Cultural Discourses of the Ancient Mediterranean," Invited Talk, Ancient Philosophy and Religion Unit, SBL Annual Meeting, San Diego, Nov 23-26, 2024.
- "Between Ethnic Ancient Religions and Trans-Ethnic Ancient Philosophy: Reevaluating Gentile Conversion and Paul within (Hellenistic) Judaism," LUC NT/EC Colloquium, Chicago, Oct. 28, 2024.
- "Ethnicity, Identity, and Agency: The Corinthian Ascetics Among the Proselytes and Godfearers," Paul within Judaism unit; SBL Annual Meeting, San Diego, Nov 23-26, 2024.
- "Corinthian Asceticism and Gentile Proselytes," Continuing Seminar on Paul's Letters, CBA Annual Meeting, Aug 4, 2024.
- "Philosophy in Hellenistic Judaism and Scholarly Reconstructions of Paul's Corinthian Correspondence," Second Temple Judaism Unit, Midwest Regional Meeting, March 2024.
- "Divination, Philosophy, and Inspired Interpretation in 1 Corinthians," Bible, Myth, and Myth Theory Unit, SBL Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TXNov 18-21, 2023.
- "Why is the Presence of Stoic Philosophy so Pronounced in 1 Corinthians?: Reevaluating the Implications of Cynic and Stoic Parallels," LUC NT/EC Colloquium, Chicago, Sept 25, 2023.
- "Why is the Presence of Stoicism so Pronounced in 1 Corinthians?: Rereading 1 Cor 6:12-20," Research Report, Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting, Creighton University, July 23, 2023.
- "Philosophy and Inspired Interpretation in 1 Corinthians," Premodern Working Group, Loyola University Chicago, April 20, 2023.

- "Eschatology and Paul's Use of Philosophy in 1 Corinthians," Pauline Letters Unit, Midwest Regional Meeting for Biblical Studies, Notre Dame, March 17-19, 2023.
- "New Covenant Prophecy, Stoicism, and Pauline Participationism: Reframing Paul's Use of Philosophy in 1 Corinthians 6:12–20," invited lecture, Theology Faculty and Graduate Student Colloquium, Loyola University Chicago, April 7, 2022
- "Romans and Queer Criticism," invited guest lecture for Dr. Olivia Stewart Lester, THEO232 Introduction to the New Testament, Loyola University Chicago, April 8, 2022
- "Reconciliation as Atonement: Matthew 5:23–26, Jewish Covenantal Ethics, and early Christian Eucharistic Theology," Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, Nov 20-23, 2021.
- "The Origins of Interpersonal Forgiveness and Post-Exilic New Covenantal Understandings of Sin and Atonement," Faculty Colloquium, Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, WI, Oct. 6, 2021.
- "The Paradox of Participation: Paul's Use of Philosophy in 1 Corinthians 6:12–20," Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting, Catholic University of America, Washington D.C. August 1, 2021.
- "Forgive and Be Forgiven: New Testament Theology of Forgiveness and Leviticus 19:17–18," Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting, Regis College, Denver, CO July 29, 2018.
- "Bridging the Academy and the Church: How Should We Teach Historical Thinking in Seminary Education?," Faculty Colloquium (with Fr. Tom Knoebel and Dr. Paul Monson), Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, WI, Feb. 12, 2020.
- "The Science of Forgiveness," Faculty Colloquium (with Dr. James Stroud), Sacred Heart Seminary & School of Theology, WI, February 28, 2017.
- "Paul's Use of Stoic Ethics in His Guidance of the Community at Corinth," Faculty Colloquium, Sacred Heart Seminary & School of Theology, WI, March 2, 2016.
- "The New Testament on Human Suffering: A Response to Bart Ehrman's God's Problem," Guest Lecturer, Robert St.-Hilaire's Religion and Atheism course, Niagara University, NY, Feb. 23, 2015.
- "Comparing the Crucifixion in the Synoptic Gospels," Invited Lecture, Sacred Heart Seminary & School of Theology, WI, Feb. 5, 2015.

## PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- "The Wisdom of St. Paul: The 'Reality' of Mission and Community," Invited Presentation, St. Moses the Black Summer Scripture School, St. Moses the Black Parish, Chicago, July 24, 2024.
- "Faith, Forgiveness, Prayer, and Salvation: Understanding the Relationship between Soteriology and Ethics in Early Judaism and Christianity," Invited Lecture, Cor Unum Alumni Program, WI, Nov 11, 2021.
- "In The Beginning: Jews and Christians Reading Genesis 1 Together," Lux Center for Jewish-Catholic Dialogue, Jewish-Christian Biblical Interpretation Workshop Series, WI, March 9, 2020.

- Radio Interview with editors of Discovering Pope Francis ("I Thought You'd Like to Know," on WCATradio.com, interviewed by Fr. Greg Heille, Professor of Preaching and Evangelization, Aquinas Institute of Theology, 11/18/19)
- "Applying Biblical Exegesis to Social Problems for Ministry: Methodology and Case Studies," Invited Lecture, Cor Unum Graduate Lay Ministry Program, WI, Sept. 14, 2019.
- Moderator of International Symposium, Discovering Pope Francis (2017–2018)
- "Pope Francis and Interreligious Dialogue," Lunchtime Community Presentation, Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology (Fall 2016)

## Work in Progress

- "Is Pauline Theology Closer to Stoicism or Middle Platonism? Some Thoughts on the Question in Relation to Paul's Use of Philosophical and Jewish Creation Traditions" (book chapter)
- "The Covenantal Ethics of Sirach Sir 27:30-28:7 and the "Forgive and Be Forgiven" Logia Tradition of Early Christianity" (journal article)
- Paul's Use of Philosophy in 1 Corinthians 6:12-20: Philosophical Askēsis, Social Identity, and Ethnicity (monograph; accepted proposal).
    - Proposes a reconstruction of Corinthian practice and Paul's discursive response in 1 Corinthians that contextualizes their shared use of Greco-Roman and Hellenistic-Jewish philosophical traditions (particular focus on Stoicism, Middle-Platonism, and Philo) within the concerns and ideals of gentile converts to Judaism.
    - Reframes Paul's use of the trans-ethnic systems of thought of ancient philosophers in his rejection of gentile circumcision and his response to Corinthian ascetics alike as part of his efforts to negotiate the experience of gentile converts in a world in which ancient religion was fundamentally ancestral and conversion required serious intellectual justification.
- The Origins and Future of Christian Forgiveness (monograph; grant-funded research in progress).
    - Crosses disciplinary boundaries, bringing ground-breaking ancient historical research together with psychological, philosophical, political, and theological reflection to explore the ancient social and intellectual contexts in which interpersonal forgiveness first emerged as a theological ideal in early Judaism and Christianity and critically explores the question of what theological normativity interpersonal forgiveness should claim over Christians of all denominations today from political-philosophical and theological perspectives.

## CONFERENCES/LECTURES ORGANIZED

- The New Paradigm of Mission (Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Apr. 22, 2020) [canceled due to COVID-19]
    - Speakers: Fr. José Cristo Rey García Paredes, CMF, Fr. Aaron Wessman, Dr. Jeremy Blackwood, Dr. Steven Shippee, Dcn. Edward Sanchez
- Wounded Shepherd: The Sacred Heart and the Reform of Pope Francis (Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Nov. 13, 2019)

    - Speakers: Dr. Austen Ivereigh, Dr. Peter Casarella, Dr. Kurt Martens, Fr. Stefan Tertünte,
- Discovering Pope Francis: Theological, Philosophical, Cultural and Spiritual Perspectives (Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Oct 8–11, 2018)
    - Speakers: Dr. Massimo Borghesi, Dr. Austen Ivereigh, Dr. Peter Casarella, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Bishop Robert Barron, Dr. Rocco Buttiglione, Dr. Guzman Carriquiry Lecour, Dr. Susan Wood, Dr. Rodrigo Guerra Lopez

## GUILD SERVICE

- Co-Convener, Steering Committee, Continuing Seminar on Paul's Letters, Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting (2024–)
- Peer Reviewer, Journal of Theological Studies (2024–)
- Co-Chair, Steering Committee, Pauline Letters Unit, Midwest Regional Meeting (2024–)
- Session Chair, Student Religious Studies Conference, South Bend, Mar 17, 2023

## AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Joan and Bill Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage (CCIH) course development grant for THEO280: Forgiveness in Catholic Tradition: An Interdisciplinary Seminar (2024–2025)
- Catholic Press Association Award, 2nd place for Discovering Pope Francis, Pope Francis
- Catholic Media Award, 2nd place for Discovering Pope Francis, Theology
- Catholic Biblical Association CCD Grant for the Promotion of Biblical Scholarship and Biblical Literacy, $32,748 sabbatical research funding for Forgiveness, Faith, and Justice in Early Christianity (2019)
- Templeton Grant Co-Recipient, Re-engaging Science and Theology in Seminary Formation, John Templeton Foundation, $12,500 (2017)
- Teaching Fellowship, Notre Dame International, University of Notre Dame, Jerusalem, Israel, 2014
- Summer Dissertation Research Fellowship, Theology Department, University of Notre Dame, 2013, 2014
- Dean's Scholarship, The Graduate School, University of Notre Dame, 2008–2011
- Summer Study Grant, The Graduate School, University of Notre Dame, Jerusalem, Israel, 2010
- Scholarship, Weston Jesuit School of Theology, 2005–2006; 2006 summer; 2006–2007
- Lay ministry tuition grant, The Paulist Center, Boston, MA, 2006–2007
- National Jesuit Honor Society, Alpha Sigma Nu, 2007
- Bernard Lonergan fellowship, Lonergan Institute, Boston College, 2003–2004
- Floyd L. Moreland scholarship, Latin/Greek Institute, 2004

## LANGUAGES STUDIED

- Ancient Languages: Classical and Hellenistic Greek, Biblical Hebrew, Latin, Coptic, Syriac
- Modern Languages: German, French, Italian, Spanish, Korean

## Additional Academic Training

- Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA
  New Testament and Early Christianity, Resident Graduate Program (2007–2008)
- Latin/Greek Institute, New York City, NY
  Classical Greek Summer Program (2004), Magna cum laude

## Professional Training

- "Teaching the Bible with BLM and Other Social Protests and Movements" SBL/Wabash Center workshop (2022–2023)
- Fundamentals of Online Teaching Certificate Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison (2019)
- ATS Roundtable Seminar for Newly Appointed Faculty, Chicago, IL (2016)

## Professional Associations

- Society of Biblical Literature, 2008–
- Catholic Biblical Association, 2016–

## Courses Taught

LUC

- Greek Hour: 1 Corinthians (0-credit doctoral seminar)
- THEO 421 Greek Tutorial Course (0-credit directed readings)
- THEO 232 Introduction to the New Testament
- THEO 100 Introduction to Christian Theology: God, Justice, and Evil

SHSST

- New Testament Soteriology
- Catholic Doctrine II (co-taught)
- Jesus in the New Testament (co-taught; flipped classroom model)
- Apocalyptic Literature and Revelation
- Synoptic Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles
- Gospel of John and Catholic Epistles
- Pentateuch and the Historical Books
- Psalms and Wisdom Literature
- Ancient Philosophy: From the Presocratics to Neo-Platonism
- The Science of Forgiveness (co-taught; as in-class and online courses)

ND/ND Jerusalem

- Art & Archaeology (co-taught; ND Jerusalem)
- The Church of All Nations: Theology of Ecumenism (co-taught; ND Jerusalem)
- Foundations of Theology

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

LUC

- Coordinator, LUC NT/EC Colloquium (2024-2025)
- Chair, Comprehensive Exam for Julian Sieber (Fall 2024)
- Moderator, LUC NT/EC Colloquium (Fall 2024)
- Teaching Observation for Nathan Houstin graduate teaching THEO 232, Nov 2023
- Synod Facilitator, Synod 2024 with Cardinal Cupich at Loyola (Jan 2024)
- Coordinator, LUC NT/EC Colloquium (Apr 8, 2024)
- Member, LUC Ad Hod Committee for Recruitment of Majors/Minors (2023-2024)
- Instructor, Greek Hour (Spring 2023)
- Greek tutor for Andrew Milewski, SJ (Spring 2023)
- Teaching Observation for Dr. Mary Stimming THEO 100, Nov 2022
- Teaching Observation for Julian Sieber graduate teaching THEO 100 and 232, April 2023 and April 2024
- Teaching Observation for Jared Teschner graduate teaching THEO 100, Oct and Nov 2022
- Participant, LUC Peer Writing Group (2022–2023)
- Participant, LUC Peer Mentoring Circle (2022–2023)
- Participant, LUC NTEC Doctoral Research Colloquium (2022–2023)
- Presenter, LUC Premodern Working Group (2023)
- Member, LUC Undergraduate Learning Committee (2022–2023, 2023-2024)

SHSST

- Moderator for MA ART Oral Comprehensive Exam for Dennis John and Moses Babu (2022)
- MA Thesis Co-Reader for Carlos Londoño Alvarez, "The Death of the Lord as Interpreted by the First Century Jerusalem Church and the Current Liturgical Texts for Good Friday" (2020)
- Online Teaching Transitional Faculty Mentor to Drs. Brown, Rappe, and Udoekpo (2020)
- Co-Chair of Dehon Lecture Organizing Committee (2019–2020, 2021–2022)
- Member of Organizing Committee for Austen Ivereigh's November 2019 Dehon Lecture "A Heart for Change: the Sacred Heart and the Reform of Pope Francis" (2019)
- Co-editor of Discovering Pope Francis: The Roots of Jorge Mario Bergoglio's Thought (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2019).
- Co-Chair of Organizing Committee for Symposium, Discovering Pope Francis (2017–2018)
- MA Comprehensive Exam Examiner for Miguel Perez (2018–2019); for Bill Evans (2018–2019)
- MDIV Case Study Thesis Director for Dcn. Wesley Beal (2019); for Dcn. Steven Pautler (2017); for Dcn. Michael Neeland (2016)
- Mentor to New Faculty Member Fr. Vien Nguyen (2018–2019)
- Working Group for Pre-Theology Scripture Curriculum Development (2018); Working Group for Pre-Theology Philosophy Curriculum Development (2018); Working Group for Pre-Theology Curriculum Development (2021–2022)
- Advisory Board to Academic Dean (2016–2017, 2017–2018, 2021–2022)

- Self-Study Working Group (ATS/HLC accreditation standards, Learning and Teaching) (2017–2018)
- M.A. Admissions Board (2016–2017, 2017–2018)
- Academic Advisor for two lay MA students (2017–2018)
- Writing Assessment Board for Pre-Theology Program (2016–2018)
- Comprehensive Curriculum Review Working Group (2015–2016, 2016–2017)
- Peer Teaching Evaluator for Evaluative Review Process for Dr. Steven Shippee (2016)
- Committee on Educational Principles and Parameters (2015–2016)
- Committee for the Assessment of Program Effectiveness (2015–2016, 2018–2019)

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Liturgical Cantor, Community of Sant'Egidio Chicago (2022–)
- Member of the SHSST Faculty Choir/Liturgical Cantor (2016–2018)
- Member and Regional Co-Founder, Community of Sant'Egidio (1998–)

## TECHNOLOGY FLUENCY

- LMS: Canvas, Populi, Moodle, Blackboard, Sakai, LOCUS
- Video Production: Screen Cast-o-Matic, Microsoft Stream, YouTube
- Video Conferencing: Zoom, Microsoft Teams
- Presentation Software: PowerPoint, Canva