

**APPENDIX III:
TRIBUTES AT MEMORIAL SERVICE
FOR RECENTLY DECEASED CTSA MEMBERS**

David B. Burrell, C.S.C. (d. October 1, 2023)

Tribute written and read by Mary Catherine Hilkert, O.P.

After graduating from the University of Notre Dame, David Bakewell Burrell entered the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1954. He was ordained a Holy Cross priest in 1959. By 1964 he completed S.T.B. and S.T.L. degrees in theology from the Gregorian University, a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Yale, and returned to Notre Dame as Theodore M. Hesburgh Professor of Theology and Philosophy.

The 2009 recipient of CTSA's John Courtney Murray Award, Fr. Burrell is widely recognized for his incisive and creative insights in the fields of philosophical theology, comparative theology, and interfaith dialogue, especially revelation, creation, and human freedom. David also served as Rector of the Ecumenical Institute for Advanced Theological Studies in Tantur, Israel, taught at Notre Dame College in Dhaka, Bangladesh, the Uganda Martyrs University in Kampala, Uganda, and Tangaza College in Nairobi, Kenya before returning to Holy Cross House at Notre Dame where he died on October 1, 2023.

Richard R. Gaillardetz (d. November 7, 2023)

Tribute written and read by Nancy Dallavalle

Richard Rene Gaillardetz, teacher, scholar, mentor, husband, father, colleague and friend, died on November 7, 2023, at the age of 65. Receiving the Ph.D. from Notre Dame, he taught at St. Thomas in Houston before his appointment as Bacik Professor of Catholic Studies at the University of Toledo. He later joined the Boston College faculty in 2011 as the Joseph Professor of Catholic Systematic Theology.

Rick Gaillardetz was an ecclesiologist for our time, with award-winning journal articles and books on authority and Vatican II. A past president of the CTSA, Rick received the Congar Award from Barry University, the Sophia Award from Washington Theological Union, and an honorary doctorate from Oblate School of Theology. During his last months, Rick wrote with insight and grace about the experience of moving toward death, now published by The Liturgical Press as *While I Breathe, I Hope: A Mystagogy of Dying*. Thus, a final title: disciple.

M. Theresa Moser, R.S.C.J. (d. February 9, 2024)

Tribute written and read by Hosffman Ospino

Sister Theresa Moser, R.S.C.J. was born in Dallas, Texas on October 5, 1936 and died on February 9, 2024. A member of the Religious of the Sacred Heart since 1956, she served as Secretary of the CTSA Board of Directors between 2004 and 2013, then

briefly in 2018. It is hard to think of an area of ministry or academic life where Theresa did not leave her mark: Catholic school teacher, principal, member of her community's leadership team, university professor, published scholar, president of the College Theology Society, university trustee, among others.

For nineteen years she was an assistant dean for academic programs at the University of San Francisco. At age 76, when many thought retirement was next, she quipped: "Religious people never retire, but move onto other things." She had energy to serve on the pastoral team at St. Ignatius Parish for a full decade. Her generosity was unmatched.

James "Jake" Empereur, S.J. (d. February 24, 2024)

Tribute written by Ish Ruiz

Tribute read by Agbonkhianmeghe E. Orobator, S.J.

Father James Empereur, S.J., was born in Wisconsin in 1933 and entered the Jesuit order in 1952. His ministry was devoted to educating future Jesuits and theologians in the fields of liturgical and systematic theology. For twenty-one years, he taught at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, and then served as a pastor in San Antonio for twenty-eight years. He authored several books and offered many workshops on the Second Vatican Council and its implications for the liturgical life of the church.

During his time at the Jesuit School of Theology, he founded the Institute for Spirituality and Workshop. He was also the founding editor of the *Modern Liturgy Magazine*, now known as the *Ministry and Liturgy Magazine*. Those who knew him describe him as an engaging teacher, creative liturgist, challenging preacher, and a wise spiritual director. Father James entered his heavenly home on February 24, 2024. May he rest in peace.

Joseph Bracken, S.J. (d. April 13, 2024)

Tribute written and read by Paul Lakeland

Joe earned his Ph.D. from the University of Freiburg in Germany in 1968. His teaching career spanned over five decades, during which he held positions at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake Mundelein Seminary in Illinois, Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he served as the chair of the Theology Department and later as the first occupant of the Beckman Family Chair in Roman Catholic Theology.

A gentle and friendly presence at the CTSA meetings, Joe's scholarly work was characterized by his unique approach to process theology. He was a strong proponent of Whiteheadian thought and one of the foremost advocates for its thoroughgoing integration into Roman Catholic theology.

His thirteen monographs, three edited volumes, and over one hundred and fifty articles in scholarly journals address a variety of topics in process theology and philosophy, Roman Catholicism, and the intersection of religion and science.

Mary Collins, O.S.B. (d. May 2, 2024)

Tribute written and read by Richard E. McCarron

Sister Mary Collins, O.S.B., died May 2, 2024 at the monastery of Mount St. Scholastica in Atchison, Kansas. Born in Chicago in 1935, Mary earned the Ph.D. in

sacramental and liturgical studies in 1967 at The Catholic University of America, where she would return to teach, attain the rank of ordinary professor, and retire as professor *emerita* when she was elected prioress of her community, a position she held from 1999–2005.

A longtime member of the CTSA, whom she addressed on “The Church and the Eucharist” in 1997, Mary was a pioneering figure in liturgical theology in the United States, working at the intersection of ritual studies, feminist studies, and ecclesiology. She contributed to the ritual traditions of Benedictine women and shaped our liturgical language through her work on the International Commission on English in the Liturgy. Mary’s call for a creative and constructive futuring of liturgical traditions remains vital for us today.

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