



Synodality, Dialogue, and Reconciliation

March 16, 2024

Boston College, Simboli Hall

CALL FOR PAPERS

MAJOR THEMES

Abstract Submissions
Monday January 22, 2024
Email abstracts to:
lumenetvita@bc.edu

Abstracts: 250-350
words

Please Include:
Institution, Name,
Year, and Degree
Program.

- Ecclesiology
- Ethics and Moral Theology
- Pastoral Studies
- Ecumenical Studies
- History of Christianity
- Religion and Peace Studies



James McCarty, PhD

Boston University, School of Theology

Clinical Assistant Professor of Religion and Conflict Transformation
Director, Tom Porter Religion and Conflict Transformation Program

Editor of *The Business of War: Theological and Ethical Reflections on the Military-Industrial Complex* (2020)



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Associate Professor of the Practice, Professor Extraordinarius

Author of *Synodality: A New Way of Proceeding in the Church* (2022)

“The Synod is the dialogue between the baptized, who in the name of the Church, discuss the life of the Church, and dialogue with the world on the problems that affect humanity today.”

– Pope Francis

As the Catholic Church continues the worldwide Synod on Synodality, it has become clear that this process must be rooted in a spirit of dialogue in a world that is increasingly polarized and divided. Grounding this dialogue is the call for reconciliation with God, humanity, and all of creation. The experiences of synodality, dialogue, and reconciliation are moments for all Christians who seek to live out the Gospel as a community in the world today. Ongoing conflict and violence in many parts of the world draw attention to the urgent need for dialogue which promotes peace and reconciliation. Within the Christian community, the tradition and history of synodality offers a key lens through which Christians can practice dialogue both “between the baptized” and “with the world.”

This conference will explore the fundamental questions about synodality, dialogue and reconciliation. How does theology inform understandings of synodality, dialogue, and reconciliation? How can the practices of ecumenical and interfaith dialogue be lived out by Christians? How are Christians called to dialogue with the modern world? What is the theological significance of reconciliation, and how can Christians draw on their faith to be agents of reconciliation in the world today? How are the experiences of dialogue and reconciliation manifested in a practice of synodality? What is the deeper meaning and significance of synodality for Christians today? How have these three movements been lived out by Christians historically and how are they received by diverse groups of people today?

While this Conference will focus on questions of synodality, dialogue, and reconciliation, abstracts on any area of theology will be accepted.

Lumen et Vita publishes a journal and this year’s spring issue will be linked to the topic of the Spring Conference. Papers presented at the conference will be considered for publication.

Please direct any questions to lumenetvita@bc.edu.