

## **Benjamin N. Parks, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of Religious Studies and Medical Ethics  
Director of Religion and Medical Ethics Minor

Mercy College of Ohio

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### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- March 2023     **Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile**, Santiago, Chile  
Assistant Professor of Theology  
Assistant Professor of Bioethics
- 2020 – 2023     **Mercy College of Ohio**, Toledo, OH  
Assistant Professor of Religious Studies and Medical Ethics  
Director of Religion and Medical Ethics Minor
- 2016 – 2020     **Trinity International University**, Deerfield, IL  
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Bioethics
- 2016 – 2020     **Saint Louis University**, St. Louis, MO  
Research and Teaching Assistant
- 2013 – 2016     **C2 Education**, Schaumburg, IL  
Humanities and ACT/SAT Teacher

### EDUCATION

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- 2016 – 2020     **Saint Louis University**, St. Louis, MO  
Joint Ph.D. Theology and Health Care Ethics  
Dissertation: *Techno-Wizards and Despairing Dragons: On Magic, Chaos, and Acedia in Modern Medical Technology*  
Chair: Jeffrey P. Bishop, MD, PhD  
Committee: Jason T. Eberl, PhD and David Vincent Meconi, SJ, PhD
- 2013 - 2016     **Trinity Evangelical Divinity School**, Deerfield, IL  
Advanced M.Div., *cum laude*
- 2013 – 2015     **Trinity International University**, Deerfield, IL  
M.A. Bioethics, *cum laude*
- 2009 – 2013     **Wheaton College**, Wheaton, IL  
B.A. Biblical/Theological Studies and Philosophy
- 2011             **Jerusalem University College**, Jerusalem, Israel  
Certificate in Historical and Geographical Settings of the Bible

AOS: Philosophy of Technology, Bioethics/Medical Ethics, Science and Religion, Disability Studies, Philosophy of Religion, Philosophical Theology, Theological/Philosophical Ethics, Transhumanism, and Bernard Stiegler

AOC: Philosophy of Science, Philosophy/Theology and Popular Culture, English Literature, and Biblical Studies

## PUBLICATIONS

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### BOOKS

**Parks, Benjamin N.** In preparation. *Technics and Ethics, 1: On the Inherent Viciousness of Technology*.

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

**Parks, Benjamin N.** In preparation. “Dante, Stiegler, and ‘That Transhuman Change’: The Technicity of Theosis.” *Journal of Religious Ethics*.

**Parks, Benjamin N.,** Jordan Mason, and Philip Fung. Under review. “On the Supposed Internal Critiques of Theistic Virtue Based Rejections of Moral Bioenhancement.” *Studies in Christian Ethics*.

**Parks, Benjamin N.** Under Review. “Hunting Tiamat: A Genealogy of a Transhumanist Ontology.” *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion*.

**Parks, Benjamin N.** Forthcoming. 2022. “God Became Human that Humans Might Become Transhuman?” *Christian Bioethics*.

**Parks, Benjamin N.** 2022. “Highway to Cocytus or Ascent to Paradise: *Apatheia* and Moral Bioenhancement.” *Christian Bioethics*. (October). <https://doi.org/10.1093/cb/cbac012>

**Parks, Benjamin N.** and Jordan Mason. 2021. “The Standardization of Clinical Ethics Consultation and Technique’s ‘Long Encirclement’ of Humanity: A Response to Brummett and Muaygil.” *Philosophy, Ethics, & Humanities in Medicine*. 16, no. 13 (October). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13010-021-00112-y>

**Parks, Benjamin N.** 2021. “Whose (Ir)Religion? Which Bioethics?” *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy*. 46, no. 2 (April). <https://doi.org/10.1093/jmp/jhaa040>.

**Parks, Benjamin N.** 2020. “Eighth and Fourteenth Amendment Concerns with the BOP Guidelines for Advance Directives.” *Voices in Bioethics* 6 (February). <https://doi.org/10.7916/vib.v6i.5906>

**Parks, Benjamin N.** 2020. “A Thousand and One Thebaidian Noons: Transhumanism and Acedia.” *The Heythrop Journal*. (January 21). <https://doi.org/10.1111/heyj.13481>.

**Parks, Benjamin N.** 2019. “From the Waters of Babylon: *Frankenstein*, Transhumanism, and Cosmogony.” *Trinity Journal* 40 (December).

**Parks, Benjamin N.** 2019. “The Case for Conserving Monsters: Rosemarie Garland-Thomson and the Body of Christ.” *Journal of Disability & Religion* (October 25). <https://doi.org/10.1080/23312521.2019.1682103>.

**Parks, Benjamin N.** 2019. “Simon Says: On the Magical Impulse of Empirical Studies on Intercessory Prayer.” *Christian Bioethics* 25, no. 1 (March). <https://doi.org/10.1093/cb/cby020>.

### EDITED VOLUMES

Bishop, Jeffrey P. and **Benjamin N. Parks**, editors. 2022, forthcoming. “Perfection, Enhancement, and the Incarnation.” Special issue, *Christian Bioethics*.

Bishop, Jeffrey P. and **Benjamin N. Parks**, editors. 2021. “Religious and Irreligious Ethics.” Special issue, *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 46, no. 2 (April).

## BOOK CHAPTERS

**Parks, Benjamin N.** Under Review. "Bernard and Bernardin: Stieglerian Insights for the Consistent Ethics of Life." *Proceedings of the Bernardin Center Symposium on Life, Solidarity, Fraternity: The Consistent Ethic in Light of Fratelli Tutti*.

**Parks, Benjamin N.** Under Review. "Fully Metal and Fully Human: Transhumanism, Moral Bioenhancement, and *Full Metal Alchemist*." In *Anime, Religion, and Theology*. Edited by Roberto De La Noval and David Armstrong. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, forthcoming.

## ESSAYS IN POPULAR PRESS

**Parks, Benjamin N.** "Avatar the Last Airbender and the Enframing." *And Philosophy*. January 21, 2022.  
<https://andphilosophy.com/2022/01/21/avatar-the-last-airbender-and-the-enframing/>

**Parks, Benjamin N.** "The Cure for Fearful Rites." *The Church Life Journal*. January 5, 2021.  
<https://churchlifejournal.nd.edu/articles/the-cure-for-fearful-rites/>

**Parks, Benjamin N.** "Frankenstein's Scientific Chaokampf." *The Church Life Journal*. September 13, 2018.  
<https://churchlife.nd.edu/2018/09/13/frankensteins-scientific-chaokampf/>

## BOOK REVIEWS

**Parks, Benjamin N.** "Review of *Medical Ethics, Law and Communication at a Glance*." Doody's Review Service.

**Parks, Benjamin N.** "Review of *Parental Responsibility in the Context of Neuroscience and Genetics*." Doody's Review Service.

## AWARDS

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2019 **Runner-Up, Voices in Bioethics Essay Contest**

2018 **First Prize, Harold O.J. Brown Award for Student Scholarship**, Henry Center for Theological Understanding

2018 **First Place, Conference on Medicine & Religion Student Essay Contest**

2018 **Best Presentation, Health Care Ethics Student Research Symposium**, Albert Gnaegi Center for Health Care Ethics

2018 **First Runner Up, American Society for Bioethics and Humanities: Disability Studies Affinity Group Student Essay Contest**

## PRESENTATIONS

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### INVITED

2022 "Reflections on *Being Mortal*."  
Mercy College of Ohio, Professional Development Day, January

2018 "The Case for Conserving Monsters: Rosemarie Garland-Thomson and the Body of Christ"  
American Society for Bioethics and Humanities: Disability Ethics Affinity Group, October.

- 2018 “Response to Stephen C. Meredith.”  
International Academy for Bioethical Inquiry, August.
- 2018 “Every (Dis)abled Must Converge: Rosemarie Garland-Thomson, Flannery O’Connor, and the Body of Christ.”  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Medicine and Religion, April.

#### CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PANELS

- 2022 “Bernard and Bernardin: Stieglerian Insights for the Consistent Life Ethic.” Paper. Consistent Ethic Symposium, Bernardin Center, Catholic Theological Union. September
- 2021 “One Thousand and One Thebaidian Noons: Transhumanism and Acedia.” Paper. 2021 Conference on Medicine and Religion, March.
- 2020 “Thus Spake Tom Nook: *Animal Crossing*, Nietzsche, and Immanent Apocalypticism.” Paper. Centre for the Critical Study of Apocalyptic and Millenarian Movements’ Video Games and Religion: Apocalypse and Utopia Symposium, November.
- 2019 “Pygmies and Astomi and Sciopods, Oh My!: Augustine, Disability, and the Resurrection.” Paper. Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity, June.
- 2019 “Pygmies and Astomi and Sciopods, Oh My!: Augustine, Disability, and the Resurrection.” Paper. 2019 Conference on Medicine and Religion, March.
- 2018 “Know it All: Good, Evil, and the Failings of Technocratic Bioethics.” Panel  
American Society for Bioethics and Humanities, October.
- 2018 “Transhumanism’s Violent Founding Myth.” Paper  
Ian Ramsey Centre (Oxford) Summer Conference, July
- 2018 “Simon Magus Physicus: On the Magical Impulse of Empirical Studies on Intercessory Prayer.”  
Paper. Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity, June.
- 2018 “From the Waters of Babylon: *Frankenstein*, Transhumanism, and Cosmology.” Paper  
Southeastern Conference on Christianity and Literature, April.
- 2018 “The Magical Foundation of Empirical Studies of the Efficacy of Intercessory Prayer.” Paper.  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Medicine and Religion, April.
- 2017 “Medical Anarchy: Jacques Ellul, Technique, and Modern Western Medicine.” Paper.  
5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Medicine and Religion, April.

#### COURSES TAUGHT

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##### **Mercy College of Ohio**

REL 101 – Introduction to Theology  
REL 290 – Medical Ethics  
REL 311 – World Religions  
REL 350 – Religion and Science

##### **Trinity International University**

BE 5900 – Bioethics Conference Course

## **Saint Louis University**

PHIL 3600/THEO 2820 – Religion and Science  
HCE 2010 – Foundations in Clinical Health Care Ethics  
HCE 4240 – Geriatrics and Health Care Ethics

## SERVICE

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### INSTITUTION

- 2020 – Present **Mission and Identity Committee**, Mercy College of Ohio
- 2020 – Present **Ethics Strategy Council**, Bon Secours Mercy Health
- 2021 – Present **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee**, Mercy College of Ohio
- 2022 – Present **Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**, Mercy College of Ohio
- 2022 – Present **Faculty Development**, Mercy College of Ohio

### ACADEMY

- 2016 – Present **Conference on Medicine & Religion**  
Abstract Review Administrator  
Abstract Reviewer
- 2017 – Present **International Academy for Bioethical Inquiry**  
Planning Committee

### COMMUNITY

- 2020 – Present **Ethics Committee**, St. Anne Hospital, Toledo, OH

## PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

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American Society for Bioethics and Humanities  
American Academy of Religion  
The Society of Christian Ethics

## LANGUAGES

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Koine Greek (Advanced)  
Biblical Hebrew (Intermediate)  
Spanish (Intermediate Reading, Beginner Speaking)  
Latin (Beginner)<sup>1</sup>