

REV. AARON JOHN MICHKA, C.S.C.

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EDUCATION

- 2021 Ph.D., Anthropology, University of Michigan.
- 2012 M.Sc., Social Anthropology, Oxford University.
- 2008 M.Div., Theology, University of Notre Dame.
- 2004 B.A., *magna cum laude*, Philosophy, University of Notre Dame.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 “Baptism in the Plural: Ethnographic Notes from a Coptic Ecumene.” *Journal of the Canadian Society for Coptic Studies*. Vol. 13. (forthcoming)

DISSERTATION

- 2021 *House, Church, Cave: Coptic Landscapes and the Demands of Pluralism in Upper Egypt*. Committee: Prof. Andrew Shryock (chair), Prof. Alaina Lemon, Prof. Erik Mueggler, Prof. Paul C. Johnson.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021 Postdoctoral Research Associate, Department of Anthropology, University of Notre Dame.
- 2020 Residential Fellow, Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study, University of Notre Dame.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2020 “Baptism in the Plural: Ethnographic Notes from a Coptic Ecumene,” at the Canadian Society for Coptic Studies Conference, University of Toronto (invited).
- 2020 Paper respondent for the Art, Desire, and God: Phenomenological Perspectives Conference, University of Notre Dame (invited).
- 2019 “Jerusalem Unintended: Freedom and Difference in a Coptic World Without Muslims,” in Utopia and Changing the Future: Anthropology’s Role in Imagining Alternatives, at the AAA meetings in Vancouver, BC.
- 2019 “A Sacred Palimpsest: Aural Confession, Religious Authority, and the Power of Words Withdrawn from Circulation,” Michiganian Graduate Student Conference in Linguistic Anthropology, University of Michigan.
- 2018 “Imagining Islam: How Christians Adapt to Muslim Absence in an Upper Egyptian Society,” in Egypt Inside and Out, at the AAA meetings in San Jose, CA.
- 2014 “Dialogue and Affect in an Egyptian Advice Column,” in Engaging Affect and Temporality in Anthropology, at the AAA meetings in Washington, D.C.

INVITED TALKS

- 2021 “Coptic Placemaking in a Sectarian World,” Fellows Seminar, Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study, University of Notre Dame, March 9.
- 2020 “Coptic Trust Mechanisms in a Sectarian World,” Fellows Seminar, Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study, University of Notre Dame, September 8.
- 2016 “To Whom Do We Belong? In Pursuit of Coptic Divorce in Egypt,” Research Colloquium, International Institute, University of Michigan, January 21.
- 2012 “Bridewealth in Contemporary Egypt,” Graduate Colloquium, Centre for Islamic Studies, Oxford University, March 19.

GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2016 Rackham International Research Award, Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan.
- 2015 International Institute Individual Fellowship, International Institute, University of Michigan.
- 2014 Arabic Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies, University of Michigan.
- 2013 Rackham Merit Fellowship, Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2016 Graduate Student Instructor, Anthropology of Religion, Prof. Webb Keane, University of Michigan.
- 2015 Graduate Student Instructor, Introduction to Anthropology, Prof. Andrew Shryock, University of Michigan.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Reviewer for manuscripts submitted to journals:
Comparative Studies in Society and History since 2016
Review for Religious since 2020

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association (AAA), Society for the Anthropology of Religion (SAR)

LANGUAGES

English (Native), Modern Standard Arabic (Advanced), Egyptian Colloquial Arabic (Advanced), Spanish (Fluent), French (Proficient)