



THE  
HUMBLE  
APPROACH  
INITIATIVE

# Spiritual DIMENSIONS of Healing

A symposium sponsored by the John Templeton Foundation

8, 9, and 10 January 2004

Queen's College Cambridge University

## Purpose

Contact: Mary Ann Meyers, Ph.D., Senior Fellow



A blanket rug and medicine tubes that Navajo practitioners incorporate in rituals to restore bodily and spiritual harmony.

*Painting by Neil Gower*

Many religious traditions acknowledge the possibility of "spiritual healing." Belief in miraculous cures remains part of the theology of countless Christians as one aspect of their broader commitment to care for the sick and dying. Even people of faith who are skeptical of focally intended divine action, which makes particular things happen at particular places, concede that religion can make a difference in times of physical and mental suffering. Secular movements that focus on the integration of mind, body, and spirit in the interest of promoting healing are proliferating throughout the world. We live in an era when we are witnessing what some have called a "rapprochement between medicine and religion"—or at least an interest on the part of medical scientists in investigating the relationship between what patients believe about the existence and nature of God and treatment outcomes. It seems important, therefore, to try to define spiritual healing. Does the phrase connote any healing that isn't completely explicable in Western biomedical terms? Forms of healing that are explicable in non-Western medical systems with a long- established and codified pedigree? Forms of healing that involve a suspension of normal scientific regularities? Healing of the spirit that does not necessarily involve physical amelioration? What other assumptions may surround the various kinds of spiritual healing practiced within the Christian community and those practiced outside of it? Beyond these key definitional questions, there are other sets of issues that seem ripe for study. What characteristic forms of ritual, prayer, or other "spiritual" activities are involved in spiritual healing? What is their relevance, the relevance of a healing community, and, more generally, the relevance of faith? What are the aims of spiritual healing and how should its effectiveness be assessed? What is the current scientific evidence that spiritual healing has demonstrable physiological effects? How are the charges of "gullibilism" or superstition to be averted? Could an acknowledgement of the existence of spiritual healing affect public policy? What forms of spiritual healing are appropriate to a hospital context? Finally, the central theological question would seem to be: What is to be learned (or speculated) about the relation of God to the world, and of religion to science, by evidences of spiritual healing? The purpose for which thirteen medical and social scientists, philosophers, and theologians meet at Queens' College, Cambridge, is to consider the broader issues raised by the possibility of a spiritual aspect to healing within the context of conventional medicine, in particular its impact on our worldview and the perception we have of

our place in nature. Their conversation takes place under the aegis of the John Templeton Foundation.

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ABOVE: A Tsimshian shaman's rattle used to accompany ritual chanting in healing ceremonies.

*Courtesy of the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture, Catalog #955*

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## Approach

The symposium is part of the John Templeton Foundation's Humble Approach Initiative. The goal of the initiative is to bring about the discovery of new spiritual information by furthering high-quality scientific research. The "humble approach" is inherently interdisciplinary, sensitive to nuance, and biased in favor of building linkages and connections. It assumes an openness to new ideas and a willingness to experiment. Placing high value upon patience and perseverance, it retains a sense of wondering expectation because it recognizes, in Loren Eisley's haunting phrase, "a constant emergent novelty in nature that does not lie totally behind us, or we would not be where we are." A fundamental principle of the Foundation, in the words of its founder, is that "humility is a gateway to greater understanding and open[s] the doors to progress" in all endeavors. Sir John Templeton believes that in their quest to comprehend ultimate reality, scientists, philosophers, and theologians have much to learn about and from one another. The humble approach is intended as a corrective to parochialism. It encourages discovery and seeks to accelerate its pace.



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- Sarah Coakley
- Fraser N. Watts



ABOVE: Cartoon by Clérac (*Le Pelerin*, 1923) showing Emile Zola in league with the devil, mocking Lourdes with reference to the scientific theories of the day.

Mary Evans Picture Library, London

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## Co-Chairs

**Sarah Coakley** is the Edward Mallinckrodt, Jr. Professor of Divinity at the Harvard Divinity School and an Anglican priest in the diocese of Oxford. A theologian whose work has had a growing international influence over the past decade, she has embarked on a four-volume systematic theology, which will be the first major systematics attempted from a feminist perspective. Dr. Coakley serves as an associate priest at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Waban, Massachusetts during the academic year and, in the summer, at SS. Mary and Nicholas in Littlemore, Oxford, where she is also a chaplain in a mental hospital. Her work in both parishes involves liturgies of spiritual healing. Educated at the Blackheath High School in London and at New Hall, Cambridge, she took first-class honors in theology at Cambridge and went on to earn a master's degree in theology at Harvard as a Harkness Fellow. Returning to England, she became a junior lecturer in religious studies at the University of Lancaster in 1976 and received her doctorate in theology from Cambridge in 1982. She was appointed senior lecturer at Lancaster in 1990, and the next year, she became the first woman to be appointed a tutorial fellow in theology at Oriel College, Oxford. She came to Harvard as a tenured professor of Christian theology in 1993 and was named to her present chair in 1995. The recipient of two Cambridge essay prizes—the Chadwick and the Hulsean, a Henry Luce III Fellowship, and a Lilly Foundation Fellowship, Dr. Coakley has delivered numerous invited lectures in the United Kingdom and the United States. She has served as a member of the National Advisory Board of the Christian Scholars Program and is on the editorial boards of *Modern Theology* and *Spiritus*. In addition to articles in academic journals and essays in collected volumes, she is the co-editor (with David A. Pailin) of *The Making and Remaking of Christian Doctrine* (1993) and (with Kay Shelemay) of *Pain and Its Transformations* (forthcoming in 2004), the editor of *Religion and the Body* (1997 and 2000) and *Rethinking Gregory of Nyssa* (2002), and the author of *Christ Without Absolutes: A Study of the Christology of Ernst Troeltsch* (1988 and 1994) and *Powers and Submissions: Spirituality, Philosophy and Gender* (2002). Dr. Coakley's most recent book, *God, Sexuality and the Self: An Essay 'On the Trinity'*, the first volume in her systematic theology, will be published later this year by Cambridge University Press.



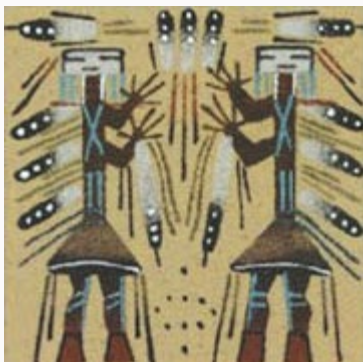


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©The British Museum

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Healing Yéís (gods)

Closing Prayer from the  
Navajo Blessing Way Ceremony

In beauty I walk

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## Participants

A philosopher noted for his interest both in religion and science fiction, **Stephen R. L. Clark** is professor of philosophy and Leverhulme Research Fellow at the University of Liverpool. He studied at Balliol College, Oxford, where he took first-class honors in classics, continued his studies as a fellow of All Souls College, and received a D. Phil. in philosophy from Oxford in 1973. He was a lecturer in moral philosophy at the University of Glasgow for nine years, and in 1984, he was appointed professor of philosophy at Liverpool. He has been a visiting professor at Vanderbilt University and held an Alan Richardson Fellowship at Durham University. Among many invited lectures, he has delivered the Gifford Lectures at Glasgow, the Stanton Lectures at Cambridge, the Wilde Lecture and the Aquinas Lecture at Oxford, the Read Tuckwell Lectures at Bristol University, the Scott Holland Lecture at Liverpool, the Royal Institute of Philosophy Lecture at Durham University, and the Aquinas Lecture at the Catholic University of Leuven. Dr. Clark is a fellow of the Ibn Arabi Society and the Royal Society of Arts. He served as chief editor of the *Journal of Applied Philosophy* for eleven years and is now a member of its editorial board, as well as serving on the editorial boards of *Religious Studies* and of the Cambridge University Press series entitled New Studies in Christian Ethics. The author of some sixty scholarly articles, he has contributed chapters to seventy-five books in addition to editing one book and writing fourteen others. His 1993 book, *How to Live Forever*, made the genre of science fiction sound a lot like theology. His work on the proper understanding and treatment of animals, most recently *Animals and Their Moral Standing* (1997), and of the living earth, notably *How to Think About the Earth: Models of Environmental Theology* (1993), have brought him international acclaim. In addition, he is well known for his studies of the significance of our animal natures for our lives as political and social beings, which were summarized in *The Political Animal* (1999), and for his work on Christian theism and human freedom, particularly *God, Religion and Reality* (1998). His most recent book, *Biology and Christian Ethics*, was published in 2000 by Cambridge University Press. Dr. Clark is currently working on the philosophy of Plotinus during a three-year research leave funded by the Leverhulme Trust.

With beauty before me I walk  
With beauty behind me I walk  
With beauty above me I walk  
With beauty around me I walk  
It has become beauty again  
It has become beauty again  
It has become beauty again  
It has become beauty again

*Courtesy of Terrie Winson*

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Starbridge Lecturer in Theology and the Natural Sciences at Cambridge University,

**Fraser N. Watts** is a clinical psychologist whose research is concerned with the interface between psychology and theology and with the psychology of religion. He did his undergraduate work at Magdalen College, Oxford, in psychology and philosophy before continuing studies in clinical psychology at the University of London Institute of Psychiatry where he took a Ph.D. in 1975. Dr. Watts served as a lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry for the next five years and was named head of the clinical psychology department at King's College Hospital, London, in 1975. He moved on to Cambridge in 1981 to work as a senior scientist at the Medical Research Council's Applied Psychology Unit. In 1990, he earned a diploma in theology at Cambridge and was ordained a priest in the Church of England. He was named director of studies in theology at Queens' College, Cambridge in 1994. Dr. Watts is a fellow and a past president of the British Psychological Society. He serves as a trustee of the Epiphany of Philosophers and as vice-chaplain of St. Edward's Church, Cambridge. Founding editor of *Cognition and Emotion*, he is the author of more than one hundred journal articles and chapters in published volumes. He is co-editor (with Glenys Parry) of *Skills and Methods in Mental Health Research* (1989) and (with A. D. Baddeley and B. A. Wilson) of *Handbook of Memory Disorder* (1995) and editor of *New Developments in Clinical Psychology* (1985 and 1988), *Neuropsychological Perspectives on Emotion* (1993), *Science Meets Faith* (1998), *Christians and Bioethics* (2000), and *Perspectives on Prayer* (2001). He is co-author (with D. H. Bennett) of *Theory and Practice of Psychiatric Rehabilitation* (1981 and 1991), (with J. M. G. Williams, C. M. MacLeod, and Andrew Matthews) of *Cognitive Psychology and Emotional Disorders* (1988 and 1997), (with Mark Williams) of *The Psychology of Religious Knowing* (1988 and 1994), and (with Rebecca Nye and Sara Savage) of *Psychology for Christian Ministry*. Dr. Watts also is the author of *Theology and Psychology*, which was published in 2002 by Ashgate.





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**Philip Clayton** is a professor of theology at the Claremont School of Theology and a professor of religion and of philosophy at the Claremont Graduate University. Out of his twin intellectual foci on the interface between science and religion and the history of modern metaphysics came a study already hailed as a "classic" and a "breakthrough in philosophical theology," *The Problem of God in Modern Thought* (2000), a book that sets forth the case for panentheism as the most appropriate model for understanding the relationship between God and the world. Its author, a summa cum laude graduate of Westmont College, received his M.A. at Fuller Theological Seminary and, after further graduate study at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, earned a Ph.D. in religious studies and in philosophy at Yale University in 1986. After teaching five years at Williams College, where he was an assistant professor of philosophy, he joined the philosophy faculty of Sonoma State where he became an associate professor in 1994 and a full professor in 1999. Dr. Clayton accepted his present position last year when he also became co-director of Claremont's Center for Process Studies. He has been a Fulbright Senior Research Fellow at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität as well as the visiting Alexander von Humboldt Professor there and a visiting faculty member at Haverford College. In 2001-02, he was guest professor of philosophical theology at the Harvard Divinity School. Founder of the Systematic Theology Group at the American Academy of Religion, he serves on the editorial board of the *American Philosophical Quarterly* and as co-editor of the *New Studies in Constructive Theology Series* for Eerdmans. Dr. Clayton, a member of the board of advisors of the John Templeton Foundation, served as the principal investigator of the Science and Spiritual Quest Program, an initiative of the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences (CTNS) in Berkeley, California, from 1999 to 2003. He is a recipient of a University Best Professor Award of Sonoma County Chamber of Commerce, a University Merit Award from Sonoma State, a John Templeton Foundation Science and Religion Course Program grant, and a Templeton Foundation grant for research and writing on the constructive engagement of science and religion. His 1997 book, *God and Contemporary Science*, won a Templeton Foundation Award for the Best Book in Religion and Science. In addition to an earlier technical study of contemporary theories of rationality in the sciences and theology and more than fifty articles in scholarly journals and chapters in edited volumes, he is the co-editor of five books. The most recent, *In Whom We Live and Move and Have Our Being*:

*Panentheistic Reflections on God's Presence in a Scientific World*, a volume edited with Arthur Peacocke, will be published later this year by Eerdmans. Dr. Clayton is completing two other edited volumes, *The Oxford Handbook of Religion and Science* and (with Paul Davies) *The Reemergence of Emergence*, which are under consideration by Oxford University Press. His new book, *The Emergence of the Spirit*, will be published by Oxford later this year.

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A cultural anthropologist whose principal interests are in anthropological theory, religion and mental health, embodiment, language and culture, and cultural phenomenology,

**Thomas J. Csordas** is a professor of anthropology and religion at Case Western Reserve University where he chairs the anthropology department. He graduated from Ohio State University, took his Ph.D. at Duke University in 1980, and subsequently studied psychiatric anthropology at the Harvard Medical School. Dr. Csordas taught at Duke, Vance-Granville Community College in Henderson, North Carolina, and the University of North Carolina before joining the Harvard medical faculty in 1986 as an instructor in medical anthropology. He was an assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, in 1989-90, then accepted an appointment at Case Western as an associate professor. He was promoted to professor of anthropology six years later. In 2000, he was granted a secondary appointment as professor of religion. His research has been with charismatic Catholics and members of the Navajo nation on topics including therapeutic process, ritual language, imagery, the self, techniques of the body, and causal reasoning about illness. His work has been recognized with the Stirling Award for Contributions in Psychological Anthropology, in addition to grants from the American Council of Learned Societies, the National Center for American Indian and Native Alaskan Mental Health Research, the Milton Fund, the W. B. Arnold Pain Treatment and Research Center, and the National Institute of Mental Health. Dr. Csordas also is the recipient of Case Western's John S. Diekhoff Award for Distinguished Graduate Teaching. He has served as president of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion and as editor of *Ethos: Journal of the Society for Psychological Anthropology*. In addition to publishing more than thirty journal articles and book chapters, he is the editor of *Embodiment and Experience: The Existential Ground of Culture and Self* (1994) and guest editor of *Ritual Healing and Navajo Society* (2000), a special issue of the *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*. His books include *The Sacred Self: A Cultural Phenomenology of Charismatic Healing* (1994), *Language, Charisma, and Creativity: The Ritual Life of a Religious Movement* (1997), and *Body/Meaning/Healing*, which was published last year by Palgrave. Dr. Csordas is working on a new book tentatively entitled "Navajo People, Navajo Healing."





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**David M. Eisenberg** is the director of the Division for Research and Education in Complementary and Integrative Medical Therapies and Bernard Osher Associate Professor of Medicine at the Harvard Medical School. His major research interests include the evaluation of complementary and integrative medical therapies in terms of their prevalence, safety, efficacy, cost-effectiveness, and mechanisms of action. A graduate of Harvard College, where he was a John Harvard Fellow and won the Boylston Prize, Dr. Eisenberg was the first United States medical exchange student to the People's Republic of China when he went there as a National Academy of Sciences Exchange Scholar in 1979-80. He received his doctor of medicine degree from Harvard in 1981. After an internship and residency at the University of California at Los Angeles Medical Center, he held research fellowships at the Harvard Medical School and in the divisions of Behavioral Medicine and General Internal Medicine at Beth Israel Hospital. Dr. Eisenberg also is the recipient of a Paul Dudley White Memorial Fellowship, which he used for study in Taiwan, and he has made ten research field trips to China. He began teaching at the Harvard Medical School in 1986 and was named to his present chair in 2000. Last year, he became director of Harvard's Osher Institute. Dr. Eisenberg has served as an advisor to the National Institutes of Health, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Federation of State Medical Boards with regard to complementary and alternative medicine research, education, and policy. He was appointed last year to an Institute of Medicine committee to explore scientific and policy implications on the use of complementary and alternative medicine by the American public. He has published more than forty scientific papers in addition to editorials and contributions to conference proceedings. He is co-author (with Thomas Lee Wright) of *Encounters with Qi: Exploring Chinese Medicine* (1985) and (with Edzard Ernst) of *The Desktop Guide to Complementary and Alternative Medicine: An Evidence-Based Approach*, which was published in 2001 by Harcourt Ltd.



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A neuro-psychiatrist and fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, **Peter Fenwick** is a leading clinical authority on near-death experiences. He has analyzed more than 300 of these life-altering events in the course of four decades of research. A graduate of Trinity College, Cambridge, he took his bachelor of medicine and bachelor of surgery degrees at Cambridge in 1960. After clinical training at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, he was awarded a fellowship to the National Hospital, Queen Square, London, to study neurophysiology. He joined the staff of Maudsley Hospital, London, in 1967 where he ran the epilepsy unit for twenty years. Dr. Fenwick became a consulting neuro-psychiatrist emeritus in 1996. He remains a senior lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry, King's College, London, and is an honorary consultant neuro-psychiatrist at The Radcliffe Infirmary, an honorary research neuro-physiologist to Broadmore Hospital, and an honorary consultant clinical neuro-physiologist at St. Thomas's Hospital. In 1982, he was awarded the Van Heyden Prize in Forensic Medicine by Cambridge University. Chairman of the research committee of the Foundation of Integrated Medicine and president of The Horizon Foundation (formerly the International Association for Near Death Studies in the United Kingdom), he is president of the Scientific and Medical Network. Dr. Fenwick's research has involved epilepsy and psychiatric disorders arising from diseases of the central nervous system in addition to near-death experiences. He has published more than 240 papers in medical and scientific journals. With his wife, Elizabeth Fenwick, he is the author three popular books, *The Truth in the Light* (1997) and, most recently, *Past Lives: An Investigation into Reincarnation Memories* and *The Hidden Door: Understanding and Controlling Dreams*, which were published in 1999 by Berkley Publishing Group.



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**Paul Gilbert** is a professor of clinical psychology at the University of Derby and a consultant clinical psychologist to the Derbyshire Mental Health Trust. He has explored the importance of shame and how it is related to the curtailment of feelings of warmth and compassion for self and others. Since 1991, he has been a fellow of the British Psychological Society. A graduate of Wolverhampton Polytechnic, he received a master of science degree in experimental psychology from Sussex University. He completed a Ph.D. at the University of Edinburgh in 1980, the same year he qualified as a clinical psychologist. Dr. Gilbert practiced with the Norfolk Health Authority until he left for Derbyshire as principal clinical psychologist in 1988. Twice serving as acting director of its department of clinical psychology, he assumed his present position with the health authority in 1993 and his professorship in 1996. While maintaining an active clinical practice, he is also director of the Mental Health Research Unit, which is a collaboration between Derby University and the Mental Health Trust. For a number of years, he has been a visiting lecturer at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland and delivers annual lectures at the University of Leicester, the University of Birmingham, and the University of Sheffield in England. Last year he served as president of the British Association for Cognitive and Behavioural Psychotherapies. He was associate editor of the *British Journal of Medical Psychology* for nine years and is currently an associate editor for *The Journal of Cognitive Psychotherapy*, as well as serving on the editorial boards of *Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy* and the *British Journal of Clinical Psychology*. He has contributed more than sixty papers to scientific journals and nearly thirty chapters to collected volumes. In addition, he has edited three special issues of scientific journals. Dr. Gilbert is the editor of seven books, including three volumes coming out in 2004—*Evolutionary Therapy and Cognitive Theory* (SpringerVerlag), *Compassion: Conceptualizations, Research and Use in Psychotherapy* (Brunner-Routledge), and (with Jeremy Miles) *A Handbook of Research Methods in Clinical and Health Psychology* (Oxford University Press). He is also the author of seven books, including, *Human Nature and Suffering* (1989) and most recently, new editions of two earlier works, *Counseling for Depression: A Cognitive-Interpersonal Approach* (1992 and 2000) and *Overcoming Depression: A Self-Guide Using Cognitive Behavioural Techniques* (1997 and 2000). He has in preparation a new manuscript entitled "Evolved Brain, Social Mind." Dr. Gilbert has a long-standing interest in the spiritual issues raised by Buddhism and Jung's



concepts of archetypes.

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A professor of the history of science at Harvard University, **Anne Harrington** specializes in the history of psychiatry, neuroscience, and other mind sciences and has looked searchingly at the "faith factor" in medicine and the "health factor" in religion. She served for six years as co-director of Harvard's Mind, Brain, and Behavior Interfaculty Initiative and as a member of the MacArthur Foundation's Research Network on Mind-Body Interactions. She currently serves as a board member of the Mind and Life Institute, an organization that facilitates dialogue and empirical research between biobehavioral scientists and Buddhist scholars. A *summa cum laude* graduate of Harvard College, Dr. Harrington earned a D.Phil. in modern history at Oxford University in 1985. After completing post-doctoral fellowships at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine in London and the University of Freiburg, she returned to Harvard as an assistant professor of the history of science in 1988. Named Morris Kahn Associate Professor three years later, she was appointed to her present position in 1995. She will spend the 2004-05 academic year as professor for the history of medicine at a new interdisciplinary Bios Centre at the London School of Economics and Political Science. From 1999 to 2002, Dr. Harrington chaired the working group of Harvard faculty that established the conceptual basis for new forms of multidisciplinary research on the placebo effect. She also served for two years as the principal investigator in an intercultural collaboration project involving traditional Chinese medical practitioners and American laboratory scientists. She is presently a consultant to the Henry R. Luce Foundation Interdisciplinary Professorship Program. In addition to articles published in scholarly journals and book chapters, she has edited four books and is the author of two others, *Medicine, Mind and the Double Brain: A Study of Nineteenth Century Thought* (1987) and *Reenchanted Science: Holism in German Culture from Wilhelm II to Hitler*, which was published in 1997 by Princeton University Press. She has just completed *Stories under the Skin: Body and Culture in the Making of Mind-Body Science*. It will be published by W.W. Norton.



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Queen's College Cambridge University

## Participants

**Alistair Iain McFadyen**, senior lecturer in theological studies at the University of Leeds, is engaged in research that seeks to relate Christian doctrine to secular disciplines in the context of concrete situations and pastoral responsibilities. Within Leeds's Healthcare Chaplaincy Program, he helped devise and teaches a course of studies leading to a master of arts degree, which is offered by the university's School of Theology and Religious Studies and its School of Healthcare Studies. A graduate of Birmingham University, where he took a baccalaureate degree and earned a Ph.D. in theology in 1987, Dr. McFadyen worked for two years as a nurse in a psychiatric nursing hospital. He joined the Leeds faculty in 1988. Formerly a member of the Church of England's Doctrine Commission and secretary to the Society of the Study of Theology, he served as co-editor of the SCM Press series on Society and Church. He is currently co-editor of a new SPCK series entitled Changing Society Changing Churches. Dr. McFadyen has written articles for professional and scholarly journals as well as essays for collected volumes on topics ranging from the Trinity to healing to art. Editor (with Marcel Sarot) of *Forgiveness and Truth* (2001), he is the author of *The Call to Personhood: A Christian Theory of the Individual in Social Relationships* (1990) and, most recently, *Bound to Sin: Abuse, Holocaust and the Christian Doctrine of Sin*, which was published in 2000 by Cambridge University Press. He is currently writing two new books—one on forgiveness in relation to childhood sexual abuse and the other on theological anthropology.



## THE HUMBLE APPROACH INITIATIVE

- ▶ Stephen R. L. Clark
- ▶ Philip Clayton
- ▶ Thomas J. Csordas
- ▶ David M. Eisenberg
- ▶ Peter Fenwick
- ▶ Paul Gilbert
- ▶ Anne Harrington
- ▶ Alistair Iain McFadyen
- ▶ John Perry
- ▶ Andrew Powell
- ▶ John Swinton

ABOVE Animation#1: Rembrandt van Rijn, Christ Healing the Sick (The Hundred Guilder Print), circa 1647  
©The British Museum

ABOVE Animation#2: El Greco, The Miracle of Christ Healing the Blind, 1575. *Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden, Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister.*  
Photo: Hans-Peter Klut

# Spiritual DIMENSIONS of Healing

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Recently retired as Anglican bishop of Chelmsford, **John Perry** served as chair of the House of Bishops' Working Party that produced *A Time to Heal* (2000), the first report from the Church of England in more than forty years on its healing ministry. The report provides an overview of current practice, including pastoral contacts, personal ministries, and special services, as well as a framework for further development, which looks to cooperation with the National Health Service. Bishop Perry presents healing in the broadest context as central to the mission of the Church he has served since his ordination in 1959. Educated at the Mill Hill School, he received his licentiate in theology from the London College of Divinity and earned an M.Phil. at Westminster College, Oxford. He was the curate at Christ Church in Woking for three years, then vicar of St. Andrews in Chorleywood from 1962 to 1977 when he was appointed warden of Lee Abby in North Devon, an international and ecumenical community. Consecrated a bishop in 1989, he served for seven years as the Bishop of Southampton in the diocese of Winchester until named the Diocesan Bishop of Chelmsford, covering Essex and much of East London, in 1996. As well as being a member of the General Synod of the Church of England, he served for three years in the House of Lords. For many years, Bishop Perry chaired the Burrswood Christian Centre for Health Care and Ministry, the ecumenical Churches' Council for Health and Healing, and the Church of England Committee for Ministry of and among the Deaf and Disabled. He was awarded an honorary doctorate by Anglia Polytechnic University in conjunction with the Roman Catholic Bishop of Brentwood in recognition of their ecumenical partnership. In addition to publishing articles in various journals, he is the author of *Effective Christian Leadership*, which was published in 1983 by Hodder & Stoughton.



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**Andrew Powell** is the founding chair of the Psychotherapy and Spirituality Special Interest Group of the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCP). A fellow of the RCP, he practiced medicine as a psychiatrist and psychotherapist in London and Oxford for more than a quarter century. Dr. Powell was educated at the Braynston School and Trinity College, Cambridge. He attended St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School in London for his clinical training and received his bachelor of medicine degree with distinction and his bachelor of surgery degree from Cambridge in 1969. After working first in psychiatry and then in general medicine, he took two years of post-graduate training in psychiatry at the Maudsley Hospital, London, followed by three years of post-graduate training in psychotherapy there. Dr. Powell served as a consultant psychotherapist and chief of the department of psychotherapy at St. George's Hospital, London, and a senior lecturer in psychiatry at the University of London from 1978 to 1989 where he was co-director of the master's degree program in psychotherapy. For the next eleven years, he was consultant psychotherapist at Warneford Hospital in Oxford and honorary senior lecturer in psychotherapy at Oxford University. He served as co-director of Oxford's introductory course in psychodynamic therapy. A member of the Royal College of Physicians, the Institute of Group Analysis in London, and the British Psychodrama Association, Dr. Powell has published numerous papers in scientific and medical journals. He is also the co-author (with Bisong Guo) of *Listen to Your Body: The Wisdom of Dao*, which was published in 2001 by the University of Hawaii Press.



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A professor in practical theology and pastoral care at the University of Aberdeen,

**John Swinton** is an ordained minister of the Church of Scotland who for more than a decade worked as a registered nurse specializing in psychiatry and learning disabilities. He also has been a hospital chaplain. Trained in nursing at the Royal Cornhill Hospital, Aberdeen, Dr. Swinton began his career as a staff nurse at Woodlands Hospital, Aberdeen, in 1983 and became charge nurse two years later. He undertook studies in divinity at Aberdeen University in 1990, earning his bachelor's degree with first class honors in 1994 and his Ph.D. in 1997. Appointed a lecturer in practical theology first at the University of Glasgow and then at Aberdeen, he was named to his present position in 2003. He also serves as an honorary professor and researcher at the Aberdeen's Centre for Advanced Studies in Nursing. His work, which currently focuses on the importance of spirituality for mainstream mental health care practice, has been funded by Waterstone Trust, the British Academy, the John Templeton Foundation, the Scottish Executive, and the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities. The editor of *Contact: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Pastoral Studies*, Dr. Swinton was the founding editor of the *Scottish Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy* and continues to serve on the editorial board of the journal, as well as on the boards of the *American Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy* and the *Journal of Religion, Disability and Health*. The author not only of articles in health care and theology journals and of essays in collected volumes, he also has written four books. His most recent, *Spirituality in Mental Health Care: Rediscovering a "Forgotten" Dimension*, was published by Jessica Kingsley in 2001 as the first book in the new series on practical theology that Dr. Swinton is editing for the publisher. The second of two books he has co-edited, *Disabling Society, Enabling Theology: Critical Reflections on Stanley Hauerwas' Essays on Disability* (with Stanley Hauerwas), will be published later this year by Haworth Press.