

# CURRICULUM VITAE

**Bede Uche UKWUIJE, CSSp, ThD, PhD/STD**

Congregazione dello Spirito Santo  
Clivo di Cinna 195  
00136, Rome  
Italy  
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## Education

- 2005 Th.D, Doctor of Theology  
Faculty of Theology,  
Institut Catholique de Paris (ICP), France  
Grade: Excellence (*Summa cum Laude*)  
Major: Dogmatic Theology
- 2005 PhD/STD,  
Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies,  
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KUL), Belgium  
Grade: Excellence (*Summa cum Laude*).  
Major: Theology and Religious Studies
- Dissertation title, presented to both Universities:  
*L'humanité de Dieu. Rélevance de la doctrine trinitaire d'Eberhard Jüngel pour le renouvellement de la nomination de Dieu dans la théologie africaine de l'inculturation.*  
Supervised by  
Professor Vincent Holzer (ICP) and Professor Jacques Haars (KUL)
- 2000 Th.M, Master's Degree in Theology (Licentiate in Sacred Theology)  
Institut de Science et de théologie des Religions,  
Institut Catholique de Paris, France  
Grade: Très Bien  
Major: Science and Theology of Religions  
Research Work: *L'indifférence religieuse au nigéria. Un défi pour la théologie.*  
Supervised by Professor Marcel Neusch.
- 1993 B.Th. Bachelor of Theology

Grade *Bien (Magna cum Laude)*  
Faculty of theology,  
Facultés Jésuites du Centre Sèvres, Paris, France

B. Phil : Bachelor of Philosophy,  
Grade *Bien (Magna cum Laude)*  
Facultés Jésuite du Centre Sèvres, Paris, France)

1989  
Dip.Phil, Diploma in Philosophy  
Grade: Distinction  
Spiritian School of Philosophy, Isienu Nsukka,  
Nigeria

### **Other Qualifications**

2012  
Certificate in Italian Language, Accademia  
Lingua Italiana, Assisi, Italy.

2003  
*Zertifikat Deutsch*, Diploma in German  
Language, Goethe Institute, Paris, France.

1990  
Diploma in French Language and Culture  
Institut Catholique de Paris, France

### **Teaching Experience**

2021-2022  
Guest Professor,  
McGrath Institute for Church Life,  
University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana,  
USA;  
Co-directed a Doctoral Seminar on *The Mystery  
of God*, with Professor John Betz

2013  
Promoted to the rank of Full Professor of  
Theology  
Spiritian International School of Theology  
Attakwu-Enugu, Nigeria

2007-2013  
Visiting Professor of Systematic Theology  
Faculty of Theology, Institut Catholique de  
Paris, France.  
Directed a seminar for Masters and Doctoral  
Students on theological epistemology (*Qu'est-ce  
que faire de la theologie?*)  
Taught a Graduate (Masters) course on *Thinking  
God in African Theology*

2006- 2012	<p>Professor of Systematic Theology at the Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu, Nigeria;</p> <p>Taught the following courses for undergraduates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jesus Christ</li> <li>The Mystery of God</li> <li>Christian Doctrine</li> <li>Theology of the Eucharist</li> <li>Introduction to Theology</li> </ul> <p>Directed seminars on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interreligious dialogue</li> <li>Theology of Mission</li> <li>Ecumenism</li> </ul>
2000-2005	<p>Taught Systematic Theology at the Faculty of Theology, Institut Catholique de Paris, France:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thinking God in African Theology</li> <li>• Directed a seminar for Masters and Doctoral Students on theological epistemology (<i>Qu'est-ce que faire de la theologie?</i>)</li> </ul>
1993-1995	<p>Taught at the Inter-diocesan Seminary, Rennes, France: <i>Dialogue with African Traditional Religions</i></p>

### **Academic Advisement of Dissertation**

2016	<p>Member of Doctoral Dissertation Panel for Anselm Patrick Kounte, Faculty of Theology, Institut Catholique de Paris, Mai 10, 2016. Title of Dissertation, <i>La lutte contre la corruption au Benin : Etude des enjeux de la morale familiale pour une théologie politique en Afrique noire.</i></p>
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### **Administrative Experience**

2010-2012	<p>Director of Brottier Centre for Mission Spirituality, Documentation and Research, Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu, Nigeria</p>
2008-2010	<p>Assistant Director of Brottier Centre for Mission Spirituality, Documentation and Research, Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu, Nigeria</p>
2006 –2012	<p>Director of Formation at the Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu.</p>

## **Academic Services at SIST**

Chairperson, Staff Grading and Promotion Committee (SAPCO) Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu (2011-2012).

Coordinator, Ongoing Programme for the Formation of Formators, Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu, July-August, 2011.

Coordinator, 13<sup>th</sup> SIST International Missiological Symposium, 2009. *God Bible and African Traditional Religion* 17-20 March 2009.

Coordinator, Ongoing Programme for the Formation of Formators, Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu, July-August, 2009.

## **Publications and Research**

### **Monographs**

*The Trinitarian God, Contemporary Relevance and Challenges*, (Paulines, Mumbai, 2013) (Reprinted in 2021).

*Grace and Contradiction, Letter to an Impatient Friend*, (SAN Press, Enugu, 2011).

*The Memory of Self-Donation, Meeting the Challenges of Mission*, (Change Publications, Lagos 2009) (Second edition, Paulines Editions Africa, Nairobi, 2010),

*Trinité et inculcation*, Collection Théologie A l'Université, (Desclée de Brouwer, Paris, 2008).

### **Edited Books**

Bede Ukwuije (Ed), *God, Bible and African Traditional Religion*. (SNAAP Press, Enugu, 2010).

### **Articles**

“Befriending the Earth. Towards a Doxological Approach to the Environment”, *Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology*, vol. 34 (2022), 109-135.

“Which Task and Future for Missionary Institutes in Africa?”, Samuele Sangalli(ed), *Africa: The Unknown Resources and Gains*, Gregorian and Biblical Press, Rome, 2021

“Formation of Missionary Disciples. Connecting the *Guide for Spiritan Formation* (2013) with *The New Ratio Fundamental Institutionis Sacerdotalis* (2016), and *New Wine in New Wineskins* (2017),” *Spiritan Life*, n° 25, Rome, September 2020, pp. 58-75.

“Formation de disciples missionnaires. Connecter le *Guide pour la formation spiritaine* (2013) avec la Nouvelle *Ratio Fundamental Institutionis Sacerdotalis* (2016), et *A vin nouveau, outres neuves*(2017) », *Vie Spiritaine*, n° 25, Rome, September 2020, pp. 57-76.

« The Political Theology of Pope Francis and Its Significance for the Church in Nigeria”, *Encounter, Journal of African Life and Religion*, Vol 13, Rome 2019, pp.107-121.

« Avec le SCEAM, espérer pour l’Afrique », *Spiritus* 237, December 2019, pp 486-493.

“Revitalizing and Restructuring Human Societies through Christian Tertiary Education: The Project of Spiritan University Nneochi (SUN)”, in *Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology*, Vol.30 (2018), pp153-179.

“Retrieving the Sacredness of the Human Person in Nigeria”, *Encounter, Journal of African Life and Religion*, 12 (2017), pp. 99-111.

“Aider les africains à vivre libres », *Spiritus* n. 230 (March 2018), pp 103-108 (reprinted from *Afrique, à l’ombre des dieux*, Somog Editions d’Art, Paris, 2017, pp. 195-197).

“The Holy Spirit in Spiritan Life”, in *Spiritan Horizons*, n° 10, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, 2015, pp 19-27.

« La foi à l’épreuve des cultures : l’expérience africaine de l’inculturation », in *Spiritus*, n° 219, June 2015, pp 195-214.

“Faith in Africa in the Context of the new Evangelization SEDOS Bulletin, Volume 45 Nos. 9/10, Rome 2013, pp 212-221,[http://www.sedosmission.org/sedosarticles/documents/b de ukwuije en.pdf](http://www.sedosmission.org/sedosarticles/documents/b_de_ukwuije_en.pdf).

“Towards a Theology of God's Freedom in the Nigerian Context”, in Luke Ijezie, Stephen Audu and Agnes Acha (Ed) *The Church in Africa. Witnesses to Justice, Peace and Reconciliation. A Post-Synodal Reflection and Reception*, CATHAN Publication, Lagos, 2013, pp 322-351. (See reworked version in *Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology*, vol 25 (2013), 20-60).

“Waiting Upon God. Libermann’s Response to Faith Crisis”, in <http://www.spiritanroma.org/wp/wpcontent/uploads/2013/02/Waiting-upon-God..pdf>, pp. 1.13.

“‘Dying You Destroyed Our Death’. The Significance of the Death of Jesus s Christ for the Death We Must All Die” in *African Journal of Contextual Theology*, Vol. 3, June 2011, pp. 31-50.

“Formation in a Multicultural Context” in *The Catholic Voyage*, Vol 7, January 2010, pp 56-64.

“Cultural Conscience and Christian Freedom. Theological Perspectives Presented at SIST Theological Sounding 2008”, in *African Journal of Contextual Theology* 1/2009, pp. 83-97.

“Existe-t-il une théologie politique en Afrique?”, in *Laval théologique et philosophique*, 63, 2(juin 2007), pp. 291-303.

“L’Eglise du Nigéria: quelles perspectives pour les décennies à venir? In *La Documentation Catholique*, no 2372, 21 January 2007, pp. 86-92.

“Immigration for the Construction of the Church as the Family of God: Theological Implications”, in *Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology Vol. 18* (2006), p.81-92.

« Le don, démarche missionnaire fondamentale », in *Spiritus* 177, December 2004, pp 497-510.

« L’Eglise de France : entre l’adaptation à la culture moderne et l’annonce de la foi », *Mission de l’Eglise n°145*, October-December, 2004, pp. 61-66.

« La mémoire du don, clef d’un nouvel élan missionnaire », in *Mission de l’Eglise*, n° 143, April-June 2004, pp. 56-62.

“La mission du théologien, un point de vue africain », in, *Perspectives Missionnaires*, n° 45-46, 2003, pp 7-19. ( German translation: « Die Mission des Theologen – eine afrikanische Perspektive », in *Zeitschrift für Mission*, 4/2003, p. 280-294

« The role of forgiveness in the Process of Reconciliation: An African Christian Perspective », in *Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology*, vol. 14, 2002, Enugu; Nigeria, p. 59-70.

« Les chrétiens africains et les pratiques religieuses ancestrales : à la croisée des chemins », *Esprit et Vie*, n° 36, June 2001, p. 3-10

« Penser le devenir de l'identité africaine », in *Spiritus*, n° 160, Septembre 2000, pp. 263-275.

« Missionnaire africain en Europe », in *Spiritus*, n° 142, March 1996, pp. 14-22.

## Book Chapters

“African Traditional Religion. Working Together to Promote the Culture of Life”, Peter Baekelmans and Marie-Hélène Robert, *New Trends in Mission, The Emerging Future*, (Maryknoll, New York, Orbis Books, 2022) 257-266.

« Renouveau de l'inculturation dans le contexte de crise anthropologique et culturelle en Afrique », Charles Becker et al (Ed.) *50 ans après Vatican II, l'Afrique et l'héritage d'Alioune Diop : le dialogue des religions et les défis du temps présent*, (Présence Africaine 195-196, Paris, 2019) 611-621.

“Retrouver la sacralité de la personne humaine en Afrique”, Edouard Adé & Paul Béré (dir.) *Nouveaux jalons pour une théologie africaine. Melanges en hommage à Monseigneur Barthélemy Adoukonou*, (L'Harmattan, Paris, , 2018) 65-78

“Evangelization Locally and Globally: The Filiation Dynamic.” Co-authored with Innocent Osuagwu, in Keneth Ameke & Samuel Uzoukwu(Eds) *Emerging Conversations on Theofiliation. Essays in Honour of Archbishop Anthony J. V. Obinna*, (Xlibris, USA, 2019) 154-177.

“Theofilance and the Reconfiliation Dynamic: Healing Humanity's Divisions through the Memory of the Cross”, Keneth Ameke & Samuel Uzoukwu(Eds) *Emerging Conversations on Theofiliation. Essays in Honour of Archbishop Anthony J. V. Obinna*, Xlibris, USA, 2019, pp. 223-245.

“Priestly Formation in Africa in the Light of the New *Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis*”, Declan Marmion et al (Ed), *Models of Priestly Formation*, (Liturgical Press, Collegeville Minnesota, 2019)179-200.

“Technology and Postmodern Culture: Impact on our Formation for Intercultural Mission”, Lazar T. Stanislaus & Martin

Ueffing(dir.), *Intercultural Living*, (Orbis Books, New York, 2018) 42-53.

(*First edition: Intercultural Living Vol 1*, (Steyler Missionwissenschaftliches Institut, Sankt Augustin, 2015) 292-306).

“Aider les africains à vivre libres », *Afrique, à l’ombre des dieux*, (Somog Editions d’Art, Paris, 2017) 195-197)

“Spiritans Missionaries as Precursors of Incultuation Theology in West Africa: With Particular Reference to the Translation of Church Documents into Vernacular Languages”, Charles Ebelebe(Ed) *The Missionary Legacy of the Spiritans in West Africa*. Acts of the 15<sup>th</sup> SIST International Missiological Symposium, April 26-29, 2016), (Real Images, Enugu, 2016) 15-43. (Republished in *Spiritans Horizons*, Issue 14, Fall 2019, pp.128-147).

« La théologie politique d’Evangelii Gaudium », Joel Molinario et François Moog (dir.) *Henri Jérôme Gagey, La théologie et le travail de la foi* (Salvator, Paris, 2015) 65-79.

“Catechèse et initiation », in Jean Paul Messina (Ed.), *Religion, Tradition et Modernité*, Actes du colloque international de théologie, Yaoundé 29-31 mars 2004, (Yaoundé, PUCAC, 2013) 131-147

## **Seasonal Reflections for Public Audience**

### **In Partnership with *The Leader*, Owerri Archdiocese, Nigeria**

“Lessons from Job (2) Against the Doctrine of Temporal Retribution”, *The Leader*, (February 28, 2021)

“Lessons from Job (1) Authentic Faith against Utilitarian Religion”, *The Leader* (February 21, 2021)

“Crisis of Zechariah: When the Light of Gospel Reboots Tradition”, *The Leader* (December 20, 2020)

“Jesus Christ: The King who Reigns through Self-donation”, *The Leader* (November 22, 2020)

“The Communion of Saints”, *The Leader* (November 1, 2020)

“African Missionaries New-Evangelize Europe”, *The Leader* (October 18, 2020)



“The Dogma of the Assumption: The Human Body in Heaven”,  
*The Leader* (August 15, 2020)

“Doctrine of the Trinity: Transforming the World through  
Mutual Self-donation”, *The Leader* (June 14, 2020)

“Behold I am Doing Something New”, *The Leader* (Christmas  
2019)

### **In Partnership with the Daily Newspaper, *La Croix*, France**

« Je crois à la communion des saints », *La Croix*, All Saints  
Meditation, 31 October 2008

«La mère du Christ comblée de grâces », *La Croix* (38130),  
Assumption Meditation, Thursday 14-Friday 15 August 2008, p.  
20.

« Il est bon pour vous que je parte », *La Croix* (38043),  
Ascension Meditation, Wednesday 30 April 2008.

« La folie de la croix », *La Croix*(38010), Good Friday  
Meditation, Saturday 21 March 2008.

« En mémoire du Seigneur », *La Croix* (38009), Holy Thursday  
Meditation, Thursday 20 March 2008

« Redécouvrir la source de l’amour », *La Croix* (37972), Lenten  
Meditation, Wednesday 6 February 2008.

« L’humilité de Dieu, in *La Croix*(37936), Christmas  
Meditation, Monday 24-Tuesday 25 December, 2007.

« La surprise de Dieu » in *La Croix* (37914), Advent Meditation,  
Saturday 21 March 2007.

### **Research and Publishing Projects in Progress**

*Trinity and Inculturation* (English translation of *Trinité et  
inculturation*. Translated by Bede Ukwuije, CSSp (Being  
reviewed by University of Notre Dame Press).

*Trinité, le nom chrétien de Dieu* (French translation of *The  
Trinitarian God, Contemporary Relevance and Challenges*.  
Translated by Jean-Michel Jolibois, CSSp (Being reviewed by  
Karthala, Paris)

“Yielding to God’s Initiatives. A Spirituality for Contemporary  
Mission” (Recently finished article; in search of a journal).

“Post-Vatican II Re-composition of *Missio Dei*. It’s Challenges to the Evangelisation Strategies of Local Churches” (Redaction in progress).

“Theology as Spiritual Exercise: Overcoming the divorce between theology and Spirituality” (Research in progress).

## Academic Presentations

Delivered the 2022 edition of the Prestigious *Odenigbo* lecture on the promotion of Igbo language through evangelisation at Owerri, Nigeria on September “, 2022. Topic: *Ngwuba Odenigbo. Uru na Akamgba si na Nkuzi ndi enyere 1996-2021(Plumbing the Odenigbo Lectures, from 1996-2001: Riches and Challenges)*.

“Pour une nouvelle théologie politique en Afrique”. Presented at the Symposium of the *Université Catholique du Congo*, Kinshasa, on « *Christianisme, Rationalités et Destinée de l’Afrique* », April 25 -29, 2017.

“African Catholic Theology, Then and Now: Issues”, Challenges and Ongoing Concerns. Presented at Notre Dame University Conference on *African Christian Theology: Memories and Mission for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Rome, March 22-24, 2017.

“Trinity: The Doctrine of God’s Freedom as Solution to Socio-political Crisis.” Presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Catholic Theological Association of Nigeria, Ibadan, 2012.

“Inculturation et Responsabilité Theologique”, Conférence to the Doctoral College and Masters Students, Faculty of Theology, Institut Catholique de Paris, 1 February, 2011.

“Les theologies africaines de la liberation et la pastorale de la rationalité”. Presented at the Symposium, *Culture and Development*, organised by the Pontifical Council for Culture and Congregation for Evangelization, in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, September 27 - October 1, 2010.

“The Role of Forgiveness in the Process of Reconciliation: An African Christian Perspective”. Presented at the Annual Convention on the Second Synod for Africa, Madona University, Elele, 2009.

“The Relevance of Theology in Contemporary African Society”. Guest Speaker at the Convention of Nigerian Association of Catholic Theology Students, Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu, Enugu, 2008.

“The Eucharist as True Mediation between the Universal and the Particular. A Christian Critique of Media Born Globalization.” Presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Catholic Theological Association of Nigeria, Awka, Nigeria, February 2008.

“Nigeria, the Search for Unity in Diversity”. Presented at the Annual French-Sweedish Workshops on Interreligious Relations, Institut Catholiqur de Paris, October 12-15, 2005.

“Catéchèse et initiation”. Presented at the International Theological Symposium, Université Catholique de Yaounde, March 23-29, 2004.

“La mission du théologien : un point de vue africain” Presented at the General Assembly of the Association Francophone Œcuménique de Missiologie, May 23-24, 2003.

## Service

### Professional Services

2010 till date	Editorial Consultant, <i>Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology</i> , Published by The Ecumenical Association of Nigeria.
2013-2014	Member of Steering Committee and Moderator of SECAM Conference, <i>The Church in Africa, From Vatican Council II to the Third Millennium. Homage of Africa to John XXIII and John Paul II</i> , Pontifical University Urbaniana, Rome, April 24-25, 2014.
2013-2014	Member of Steering Committee and Moderator, SEDOS Residential Seminar, <i>The God of Surprises, New Ways of Being Missionary</i> , Centro Ad Gentes, NEMI, Italy, May, 20-24, 2014
2009-2012	Member of the Editorial Board, <i>The Catholic Voyage</i> , A publication of the Conference of Major Superiors of Nigeria
2008-2012	Member of the Editorial Board, <i>African Journal of Inculturation Theology</i> , Spiritan International School of Theology, Attakwu
2008-2009	Coordinator, SIST International Missiological Symposium on <i>God Bible and African Traditional Religion</i> , 2009
2006-2007	Member and Commission Secretary of 12 <sup>th</sup> SIST Missiological Symposium, <i>Politics, Social Change and the Church in Nigeria</i> , 2007

2004-2005 Member of the Organisation Committee of the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Symposium of *Gottdenken* “Thinking God in Europe”, Paris, 2005

### **Membership of Professional Associations**

2006 till date Member of the Catholic Theological Association of Nigeria.

2010-2019 Member of Department of Faith, Culture and Development, Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM)

2016-2019 Member of the Theological Commission of the Union of Superiors General (USG), Rome

2015-2019). President of the Association of Africans and Malagasies at the Service of Generalates in Rome (AMSG)

2007-2008 Member of the Draft Committee of *Formation and Collaboration in Communion. On Mutual Relations between Religious Institutes and Dioceses in Nigeria, Catholic Bishop’s Conference of Nigeria*

### **Ecclesiastical Services and Pastoral Ministry**

2013-2021 First Assistant Superior General of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, Rome

2012-2013 Second Assistant Superior General of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit

2006 – 2012 Vice Postulator for the Beatification of Francis Mary Paul Libermann (Co-Founder of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit).

1998-2005 Formator, Spiritan Scolasticate, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle, Clamart, France

1995-1998 Vocation Director, Western Region, France

1998-2005 Chaplain of African Christian Migrant’s Community, Diocese of Nanterre, France

1998-2005 Associate Priest at Ste Thérèse d’Avila, Parish, Chatenay-Malabry, Diocese of Nanterre, France

1993-1998

Students' Chaplain, Université de Haute Bretagne,  
Rennes 2, France

1993-1998

Chaplain of African Christian Migrant's  
Community, Diocese of Rennes, France