Prof. Frances Flannery

speaking in Prof. Angela Kim Harkins’ seminar
Disease, Illness, and Chronic Pain in the Biblical World

Jesus the Jewish Divine Physician:
Understanding Healing in Early Christianity
in its Jewish and Greco-Roman Contexts

Professor Flannery’s presentation discusses how the Gospel writers drew on Jewish apocalyptic traditions to self-consciously craft a portrait of Jesus as a Jewish healer who was superior to the Roman alternatives, especially the god Asclepius.

Thursday, March 17, 2022

Professor Frances Flannery (Ph.D., University of Iowa, 2000) is Professor of Religion at James Madison University. Professor Flannery is an expert in Jewish apocalyptic traditions, and dreams and visions in the ancient world. Her work also brings interdisciplinary understandings of ancient Jewish apocalypticism into conversation with global contemporary concerns such as violent extremism and care for the environment. Professor Flannery is the author of two monographs, Dreamers, Scribes, and Priests: Jewish Dreams in the Hellenistic and Roman Eras (Brill, 2004) and Understanding Apocalyptic Terrorism (Routledge, 2016), and three collected volumes, including: Experientia: Inquiry into Religious Experience in Early Judaism and Christianity (SBL Press, 2008); Biblical Wisdom: Then and Now (Routledge Press, 2021); and The Bible and Political Debate (T&T Clark, 2016). She has also authored over three dozen peer-reviewed articles or chapters. This semester, Professor Flannery is a Trinity Longroom Hub Fellow at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, where she will be conducting research on her new monograph exploring the relationship between Jewish apocalypticism and the environment.

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