



BOSTON COLLEGE

RENOWNED JESUIT SCHOLAR DANIEL J. HARRINGTON, SJ, RECEIVES HONORARY DEGREE FROM BOSTON COLLEGE

CHESTNUT HILL, MA (5-21-09) – Jesuit priest Daniel J. Harrington, SJ, a professor in the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry and an internationally esteemed Biblical scholar, received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Boston College at the University's Commencement Exercises on May 18.



Fr. Harrington is the author or co-author of 40 books on Scripture and the life and times of Jesus, including *Meeting St. Paul Today*; *Jesus: A Historical Portrait*; *The Gospel According to Matthew*; *Jesus and Virtue Ethics*; *Why Do We Hope?: Images in the Psalms*, and *The Letter to the Hebrews*, among many others.

Fr. Harrington is a graduate of Boston College and Harvard University. He is a member of the Society of Biblical Literature and Society of New Testament Studies and a member and past-president of the Catholic Biblical Association. He is the editor of and a contributor to *Sacra Pagina*, a multi-volume book series on the New Testament. He has served as general editor of the *New Testament Abstracts* since 1972. In 2008, Fr. Harrington celebrated the 50th anniversary of his entrance into the Society of Jesus.

Fr. Harrington's honorary degree citation read, in part:

"Jesus asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' Two thousand years later, inquiring minds still searching for an answer to that question turn to the writings of Daniel J. Harrington, SJ. . . His dedication to Biblical scholarship is evidenced by his decades-long tenure as the general editor of *New Testament Abstracts*, summarizing literature on the New Testament from hundreds of book and journals throughout the world. This Jesuit of 51 years also spreads the Good News through his preaching and teaching. . . Through his scholarship, writing, and teaching, he has enabled generations of students and parishioners to discover who Jesus is in their lives. In recognition of his accomplishments, Boston College proudly honors this preeminent scholar, exceptional educator and faithful Jesuit priest with the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*."

Others bestowed with honorary degrees at BC's 2009 Commencement were: acclaimed filmmaker Ken Burns; Margot C. Connell, philanthropist and committed supporter of Catholic education; Joseph E. Corcoran, real estate developer and pioneer of mixed-income housing; Carolyn A. Lynch, volunteer leader and noted philanthropist and Benaree Pratt Wiley, advocate of leadership roles for people of color in the business community.

Boston College was founded by the Society of Jesus in 1863 - the first institution of higher education in the city of Boston. Today, it is one of the nation's foremost universities, with a co-educational enrollment of 14,500 undergraduate and graduate students drawn from all 50 states and more than 80 countries. Ranked among the top 34 national universities by *U.S. News & World Report*, Boston College is among the nation's most selective universities - with nearly 30,000 applications received for its 2,250-member freshman class this year - and is among the leading American private research universities.

Contact:

Kathleen Sullivan; kathleen.sullivan.1@bc.edu

Rosanne Pellegrini; rosanne.pellegrini@bc.edu

Boston College Office of Public Affairs

617-552-3350

JPG attached. Photo credit: Gary Wayne Gilbert