

TIM MUSSCHE

Rev. | BTh | BSc (Hons) | MATH | BCC | APBCC-HPC | DMin student

EDUCATION

- **Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Residency & Fellowship:** *Specialty in Palliative Care* | Preparation for Certified Educator Candidate (CEC) | 8 Units | Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) | Ochsner Health, USA
 - **Master of Arts in Theology (MATH)** | New Brunswick Theological Seminary, USA
 - **Postgraduate Certificate in Grief and Bereavement Counseling** | Artevelde Hogeschool, Belgium
 - **Postgraduate Certificate in Ethics of Care** | KU Leuven, Belgium
 - **Psychoanalysis** | UGent, Belgium
 - **Buddhist Chaplaincy Training** | Upaya Zen Center, USA
 - **Bachelor of Arts in Theology (BTh)** | George Fox University, USA
 - **Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied Psychology [BSc (Hons)]** | London Metropolitan University, UK
 - **8 years of Full-time vocational training in indigenous spirituality** | South-America
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CORE COMPETENCIES

- **Clinical Spiritual Care & Direction** (Individual & Group)
- **Palliative & End-of-Life Care** (Adult & Pediatric)
- **Grief & Bereavement Counseling** (Individual & Group Therapy)
- **Crisis & Trauma Intervention** (PTSD, Suicide Prevention)
- **Therapeutic Ritual Facilitation & Celebrancy**
- **Multifaith & Multicultural Sensitivity** (5 Languages)
- **Group Facilitation & Therapy** (Specialized Therapeutic Groups)

- **Healthcare Team Collaboration** (10+ Healthcare Facilities)
 - **Ethical Decision-Making & Medical Ethics**
 - **International Program Development & Team Management**
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Staff Chaplain

Ochsner Health - Main Campus | New Orleans, USA

December 2025 - Present

- Providing comprehensive spiritual care across multiple hospital units including acute care, ICU, and specialty services
- Conducting spiritual assessments, crisis intervention, and bereavement support for patients, families, and staff
- Collaborating with interdisciplinary healthcare teams to integrate spiritual care into treatment plans
- Contributing to institutional chaplaincy services and pastoral care program development

Consultant & Board Member |

Murmurings.org Death Doula Services | Portland, USA

November 2025- Present

- Providing strategic consultation for organizational development and scope of service design
- Supporting virtual and bedside death doula care for dying and bereaved individuals
- Developing and delivering education and counseling services for end-of-life preparation and grief support
- Contributing to board governance and programmatic direction for community-based death doula services

Second-Year CPE Fellow in Palliative Care

Ochsner Health | New Orleans, USA

February 2025 - December 2025

- Advanced clinical pastoral education fellowship specializing in palliative and end-of-life care
- Providing comprehensive spiritual care in acute care, ICU, and palliative care units
- Preparing for ACPE Certified Educator Candidacy
- Contributing to advanced clinical training and supervision of CPE students

Board Member & Chair Professional Advisory Group

Sunflower Spiritual Care & Education | New Orleans, USA

January 2025 - Present

- Strategic leadership in spiritual care program development and professional standards
- Advisory role in educational curriculum and professional training initiatives
- Oversight of professional development and certification programs

Volunteer Chaplain

LCMC and UMC Hospitals | New Orleans, USA

August 2024 - Present

- Provided spiritual care services across multiple hospital systems
- Specialized in trauma, pediatric, and critical care chaplaincy
- Collaborated with interdisciplinary healthcare teams

CPE Residency

Ochsner Health | New Orleans, USA

August 2024 - February 2025

- Intensive clinical pastoral education residency program
- Provided spiritual care across multiple hospital departments
- Participated in interdisciplinary healthcare team meetings
- Completed advanced training in crisis intervention and palliative care

Spiritual Director & Clinical Spiritual Caregiver

Tribuho vzw (Registered Non-Profit Healthcare Organization) | Belgium

January 2012 - March 2024 (12 years, 2 months)

Full-Time Professional Position | €2,600/month | Specialty Occupation

→ **Mental Health Care & Individual Services:**

- ◆ Provided one-on-one therapeutic counseling sessions utilizing advanced training in grief counseling, trauma support, and crisis intervention
- ◆ Delivered immediate therapeutic intervention during psychological emergencies and suicide risk situations, applying specialized ASIST suicide prevention and PTSD intervention techniques
- ◆ Conducted comprehensive mental health evaluations using clinical assessment protocols from postgraduate grief and bereavement counselor certification
- ◆ Developed individualized treatment plans incorporating evidence-based therapeutic approaches from Mental Health First Aid protocols and STAIR techniques

→ **Group Facilitation & Therapeutic Services:**

- ◆ Led therapeutic support groups for grief recovery, trauma processing, and spiritual healing using established therapeutic frameworks
- ◆ Created and delivered specialized workshops on end-of-life preparation using frameworks from CSU Shiley Haynes Institute and other specialized programs
- ◆ Managed complex group dynamics during emotionally challenging sessions, applying crisis intervention training and suicide prevention certification expertise

→ **Palliative Care & End-of-Life Support:**

- ◆ Provided spiritual and psychological support to terminally ill patients and families in hospital settings, applying Advanced Practice Board Certification in Palliative Care & Hospice
- ◆ Collaborated directly with medical teams across 10+ major healthcare facilities in Europe, utilizing knowledge from nursing school training and medical ethics certification
- ◆ Delivered comprehensive support to families of terminally ill patients, incorporating grief and bereavement counselor certification and compassionate inquiry training

→ **Ritual Creation & Ceremonial Services:**

- ◆ Designed personalized healing rituals and therapeutic ceremonial practices for individuals and families processing grief and trauma
- ◆ Created and conducted memorial services and life celebrations, applying celebrant training and extensive multicultural spiritual expertise

→ **International Program Leadership:**

- ◆ Founded and managed Ankari Huasi retreat center in Peru
- ◆ Developed innovative therapeutic programs combining traditional and modern healing approaches across four continents
- ◆ Successfully led multicultural teams across various international settings

CPE Residency (First)

Ochsner Health | New Orleans, USA

December 2022 - March 2023

- Completed initial clinical pastoral education residency
- Gained foundational experience in hospital-based spiritual care
- Developed skills in crisis intervention and grief counseling
- Participated in multidisciplinary healthcare team collaboration

Funeral Celebrant (PRN)

Diep Respect | Belgium

January 2020 - December 2023

- Conducted personalized funeral and memorial ceremonies
- Provided grief support to bereaved families
- Created meaningful rituals incorporating diverse spiritual traditions

Decedent Care and Embalming (PRN)

Thanalab | Belgium

January 2020 - December 2023

- Provided professional decedent care services
- Gained hands-on experience with end-of-life physical care
- Supported families during the immediate post-death period

Chaplain/Spiritual Caregiver Volunteer

Various Healthcare Facilities | Belgium & USA

January 2020 - Present (2000+ hours total)

→ Hospital-Based Experience:

- ◆ **AZ Alma, Eeklo:** 500+ hours chaplaincy services
- ◆ **AZ Sint-Lucas Hospital, Gent:** 250 hours palliative spiritual care
- ◆ **UMC Level 1 Hospital, New Orleans:** 200 hours trauma chaplaincy
- ◆ **AZ Sint-Janshospitaal, Brugge:** 200 hours palliative care
- ◆ **LCMC Children's Hospital, New Orleans:** 50 hours pediatric chaplaincy

→ Specialized Care Settings:

- ◆ **Palliative Home Care Team, Meetjesland:** 800 hours specialized palliative care
- ◆ **WZC Sint-Bernardus, Bassevelde:** 450 hours pastoral care/nursing internship
- ◆ **WZC Sint-Jozef, Assenede:** 150 hours care & pastoral care
- ◆ **Exalta Sint-Jozef, Gent (COVID ward):** 215 hours crisis spiritual care
- ◆ **Samana:** 100 hours telephone support/crisis care
- ◆ **Prison, Beveren:** 50 hours support activities

Nurse Trainee Internship

WZC Sint-Bernardus | Belgium

2021 (110 hours)

- Completed nursing internship as part of undergraduate-level nursing education
- Gained practical healthcare experience and patient care skills
- Learned medical procedures and healthcare team collaboration

Department Leader & Head Spiritual Director

Bolivia Mistica | Bolivia

2007 - 2010

- Team leader of local staff and head facilitator of holistic spiritual retreats
 - Manager of retreat centers Allkamari & Wizard's Mountain
 - Developed international spiritual care programs and multicultural team leadership
 - Supervised indigenous healing practitioners and international volunteers
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EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Theses:

- **Doctoral Dissertation: "Grief as Liminal Practice: Toward a Recognition Paradigm in Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care."** | Capstone University - Carolina Christian College | 2026
- **Master's Thesis: "Unearthing the root of Suffering: Dividedness as a Foundational Human Condition. A Lacanian Tragedy on Ignorance in Three Acts."** | Buddhist Chaplaincy Program, Upaya Zen Center | 2023
- Integrated Lacanian psychoanalytic theory with Buddhist practice to develop a clinical framework for understanding suffering in healthcare chaplaincy settings.
- **Bachelor's Dissertation: "Reconceptualizing Compassion as a Renewable Resource: Implementing the G.R.A.C.E. Model to Address Compassion Fatigue in Acute Care Settings."** | BSc (Hons) Applied Psychology, London Metropolitan University | 2025
Examines compassion fatigue affecting 85% of healthcare workers, analyzing Joan Halifax's G.R.A.C.E. model to develop organizational implementation frameworks.

2026

- **Doctor of Theology in Chaplaincy student** | Capstone University - Carolina Christian College, USA
- **Yoga, Social Justice, and Leadership: a 200-Hour Yoga Teacher Certification Training** | Prison Yoga Project, USA
- **MA in Theology** | Equivalency evaluated through New Brunswick Theological Seminary, USA
- **ACPE Certified Educator Candidate Preparation** | Ochsner Health, New Orleans, USA

2025

- **BSc. (Hons) in Applied Psychology** | London University, UK
- **BA in Theology** | Equivalency evaluated through George Fox University, USA

- **Path of Freedom Mindfulness-Based Emotional Intelligence (MBEI) Certificate** | Prison Mindfulness Institute, USA
- **Foundational Training: Yoga Through the Lens of Trauma and Incarceration Certificate** | Prison Yoga Project, USA
- **Certificate Humanist Chaplaincy** | Humanist Chaplaincy Network, UK
- **Advanced Practice Board Certification in Palliative Care & Hospice (APBCC-HPC)** | Spiritual Care Association, USA
- **Caring for the Smallest: Pediatric Chaplaincy Certificate** | Spiritual Care Association, USA
- **Board Certification (BCC) Chaplain** | Spiritual Care Association, USA
- **Second-year CPE Fellowship (Palliative Care)** | Ochsner Health, New Orleans, USA
- **ACPE Certified Educator Candidate Preparation** | Ochsner Health, New Orleans, USA
- **Certificate Advanced Palliative Care Chaplaincy Specialty Course** | Spiritual Care Association, USA
- **Six Sigma White Belt Certification** | C.S.S.C., USA
- **Living Funeral Training** | Steady Waves Center, UK

2024-2025

- **Compassionate Inquiry Training** | Gabor Maté, Canada
- **Ethical Referent Training** | Axel Liégeois, KULeuven, Belgium
- **CPE Residency** | Ochsner Health, USA
- **Mental Health First Aid for Adults Certificate** | Louisiana Public Health Institute, USA
- **ASIST Suicide Prevention Certificate** | SaveCenla, USA
- **Certificate PTSD 202: Skills Training in Affective and Interpersonal Regulation (STAIR)** | Veterans Health Administration, USA
- **Opioid Overdose Certificate** | End Overdose, USA
- **Ordination as Buddhist Chaplain** | Upaya Zen Center, USA (Roshi Joan Halifax)

2023

- **Death Doula Training** | INELDA, USA
- **Reducing Harm in Psychedelic Assisted Therapy** | ICEERS Academy, Spain
- **Board Certification as Chaplain** | RING-GV, Netherlands
- **Multidisciplinary Certificate in Pediatric Palliative Care** | CSU Shiley Haynes Institute for Palliative Care, USA

- **Essentials of Palliative Care Chaplaincy Certificate** | CSU Shiley Haynes Institute for Palliative Care, USA
- **Certificate Medical Ethics** | NextGenU, UK
- **Mindfulness Teacher Training** | Sean Fargo, USA

2022

- **Celebrant Training** | Rebel Ceremonies Academy, Belgium
- **Death Doula Training** | Esalen, USA
- **CPE Residency** | Ochsner Health, USA
- **Bodhisattva Ordination** | Prajna Mountain Buddhist Order, USA (Roshi Joan Halifax)

2021-2022

- **Certification Grief and Bereavement Counselor (Postgraduate)** | Artevelde Hogeschool, Belgium

2021

- **Socially Engaged Buddhist Training** | Upaya Zen Center, USA
- **Farewell-that-Connects Training** | Amfora, Belgium
- **Undergraduate Level 20-Week Basic Module Nursing School** | Vives Hogeschool, Belgium
- **Nurse Trainee Internship (110 hours)** | WZC Sint-Bernardus, Belgium
- **End-of-Life Care Training** | Present vzw, Belgium
- **The Wisdom of Trauma** | Gabor Maté, Canada
- **Gentle Clown Training** | Tom Roos, Belgium
- **Basic Training Contact Clown** | Clownsense, Belgium
- **Physicality of the Mind** | Tilburg University, Netherlands

2020-2021

- **Credit Courses in Psychoanalysis (Master's Clinical Psychology)** | University of Gent, Belgium
- **Certificate Course in Psychoanalytic Studies** | Center for Excellence, UK
- **First Aid Certificate** | Syntra, Belgium
- **Certificate End-of-Life Care Training** | Laudius, Netherlands

2019

- **Six months of intensive practice** | Zen Mountain Center, Crestone, CO, USA (Zenki Dillo Roshi, Shunryu Suzuki lineage)

2016

- **Bodhisattva Ordination** | Soto Zen (Deshimaru lineage), France

2009-2019

- **Continuous Spiritual Director Training: Field Research in Indigenous Spirituality** | Peru, Bolivia, Brazil
- **Sikhism Training** | Devotional practice under Babaji Baldev Singh, Sri Guru Grand Sahib, Punjab, India
- **Dzogchen Training** | Transmission by Namkhai Norbu Rinpoche, Tibet
- **Raja Yoga Training** | India and USA
 - ◆ Asana: Sophie Mahy (Belgium), Masterji (India), Andrew Hillam (USA), Tim Miller (USA)
 - ◆ Ashtanga Yoga Teacher Training: Richard Freeman & Mary Taylor, USA
 - ◆ Pranayama: Shri O.P. Tiwariji, India
 - ◆ Advaita Vedanta: Brahman Vidwan Vijava Manja, India

2002-2010

- **Indigenous Spirituality** | Andes & Amazon, South America
 - ◆ 8 years of vocational training under Miguel Kavlin (Bolivia), Hector Aguanari (Peru), Apolinar Ramos (Bolivia)

2001-2002

- **Ancient Greek Philosophical School** | Johannes, Belgium

2000

- **High School Diploma** | ASO, Latin-Greek | Sint-Vincentius College/Ten Doorn, Belgium
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LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES

- **Dutch:** Native proficiency
 - **French:** Fluent
 - **English:** Fluent
 - **German:** Fluent
 - **Spanish:** Fluent
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ADDITIONAL SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

- **Ashtanga Yoga Teacher** (Richard Freeman & Mary Taylor lineage)
 - **Rescue Diver** (PADI Certification)
 - **Death Doula** (Multiple certifications)
 - **End-of-Life Story Writer** (Amfora)
 - **First Aid Certified**
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PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- **Zen Peacemaker Order**
 - **Order of the Good Death**
 - **Orphan Wisdom School**
 - **VGZV**
 - **Spiritual Care Association**
 - **Upaya Zen Center**
 - **Just Love**
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REFERENCES

Professional references available upon request.
