

STMM 505: Sacramental and Liturgical Theology

Spring 2008

Monday – 1:30 p.m. – 4:20 p.m., Hunthausen Hall 100

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Office Hours: Mondays before class by appointment

Course Description

This course will examine Christian worship and sacramental life in light of both its historical and theological development and the liturgical action that shapes this communal faith. Readings/discussions will focus on why a Christian community of faith gathers and what claims this sacramental expression make concerning God's gracious self-communication in Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit; they presume the community's identity as the Body of Christ, proclaiming Good News in the contemporary world. Special attention will be given to Catholic parish life and its corporate celebrations, particularly of Eucharist, where the community's act of praise and thanksgiving is most concretely expressed. Attempts will be made at every opportunity to show how current Protestant communions are appropriating recent scholarship and praxis in liturgical and sacramental theology.

Texts

- **Louis-Marie Chauvet, O.P.**, *The Sacraments: The Word of God at the Mercy of the Body* (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 2001).
- **Joseph Martos**, *Doors to the Sacred: A Historical Introduction to Sacraments in the Catholic Church* (Liguori, MO: Liguori Publications, 2005).
- **Dennis C. Smolarski, S.J.**, *Sacred Mysteries: Sacramental Principles and Liturgical Practice* (Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1995).
- **Alexander Schmemmann**, *For the Life of the World* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2002).
- **Gordon Lathrop**, *Holy Things: A Liturgical Theology* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1998).
- **Course Pack**

Optional:

- **Kenan B. Osborne, O.F.M.**, *Christian Sacraments in a Postmodern World: A Theology for the Third Millennium* (Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1999).
- **Romano Guardini**, *Spirit of the Liturgy* (New York: Crossroad Publishing, 1998).

Outline of the Course

Our study will involve reading, reflecting, and discussing together what Sacraments and Liturgy mean in our tradition and in the lives of Christian worshipers today. Questions we will explore each week are framed by foundational question for the whole quarter.

- How does liturgical worship express the Paschal Mystery and the Christ-life of the gathered Body and how does that identity suffer when we do not worship "in spirit and in truth?"

A Helpful Way to Prepare for Each Class

- Read the material carefully and highlight sections you feel are important or raise significant questions for clarification, agreement, or disagreement. Outline the main points.
- Always, ask the question: how does what we are reading/discussing take flesh in my own experience and practice in the Church, as a member of the People of God and as a minister and servant of the Gospel?

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Structure of the Course

Each class session will have a variety of components that reflect both the nature of the topic and the various ways in which students absorb material and share expertise. This class will be an active exercise of shared learning: learning to talk to one another, to engage in dialogue to deal with difficult issues together, and even to agree to disagree together is important pastoral preparation for your work. Please, our time together is not about “out-doing” or “one-upping” one another, which is antithetical to collaborative study.

Objectives

- To demonstrate a knowledge of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*)
- The ability to interpret the liturgical tradition for the present pastoral life of the Church
- To develop an understanding of the interaction of religion and culture
- To demonstrate an understanding of the role of liturgy in the life and mission of the church
- To reflect on the pastoral implications of the full, conscious, and active participation of those assembled for liturgy
- To develop a deeper and fuller understanding of the liturgies of the church
- To draw more readily and fruitfully upon the riches of the liturgy in order to develop and nurture your own spirituality and sense of ministry
- To acquire an understanding of the Sacramental Economy (*oikonomia*)
- To engage the connection between Liturgy and a faith that does justice
- To develop an appreciation of the role of liturgy in forming belief

Students with Disabilities

If you have, or think you may have, a disability (including an “invisible disability” such as a learning disability, a chronic health problem, or a mental health condition) that interferes with your performance as a student in this class, you are encouraged to discuss your needs and arrange support services and/or accommodations through Disabilities Service staff in the Learning Center, Loyola 100, (206) 296-5740.

Academic Honesty

The School of Theology and Ministry strictly adheres to the Academic Policy concerning Academic Honesty as published in the Seattle University Student Handbook.

Evaluation & Grading

All participants are expected to read the assigned materials for each weekend and contribute significantly to our discussions by their thoughtful participation. Attendance is essential, since the class is interactive and dialogical. Absences will affect your final grade. In writing utilize the principle: “An individual layman by reason of his knowledge, competence or outstanding ability which he may enjoy is permitted and sometimes even obliged to express his opinion on things which concern the good of the Church” (*Lumen Gentium* #37).

Criteria for grading (according to the standards of Seattle University) is listed below and can be summarized as concerning comprehension and integration of material, clarity (grammar and syntax), organization (structure and argument), and evidence of original engagement or integration of the material (self-appropriation). All work must be original and the product of the student’s own reading, thought, and writing. Footnoting or parenthetically citing all directly quoted or paraphrased material is essential to academic integrity.

Note: Seattle University’s parameters will be used in grading.

For example, a letter grade “B” indicates a very good performance, meaning that student complied with all requirements as specified in syllabus; accordingly, “B+” will indicate a little extra work from student. “A-” indicates that student went above and beyond the requirements; “A” indicates *superior* performance by student.

Liturgical Praxis

It is precisely in on-going participation over time that makes liturgy formative in Christian life. Therefore, each student will attend at least one Morning Prayer Service in Saint Ignatius Chapel and write a 2-page reflection on the experience to be submitted by May 19, 2008.

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Assignments

The purpose of the assignments is for each student to integrate the material read and discussed in class into their own understanding and practice of the faith. No further research beyond the required reading of the course will be necessary; rather, the assignments are exercises in the hard but rewarding work of mastering material through thoughtful and clear writing and presentation.

- **Critical Question – Due Sunday evening before each Monday class session**
 Think of these as “talking points.” Students should demonstrate that they have engaged the assigned readings for the week. Some questions will be used during upcoming class discussion. You will be graded by your ability to think critically and by your engagement of the readings as well as your class contribution.
- **Paper #1 – Morning Prayer Reflection (2 pages)**
- **Paper #2 – Due on April 7, 2008 (2-3 pages)**
 Write a sacramental and liturgical autobiography, which you will present in class.
- **Paper #3 – Due on April 21, 2008 (2 pages)**
 A reflection paper answering the questions: Where do you go to pray when you want a sacred place? What makes an environment prayerful?
- **Paper #4 – Due on May 5, 2008 (5-6 pages)**
 Attend one liturgy/worship where a sacrament or rite (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Marriage, Penance, Anointing or Ordination) is celebrated. Write a “thick description” of that liturgy/rite in a six to eight page paper, doing the following: a.) Describe the ritual text in written ordo (if Roman Catholic consult Catholic Rites; if another denomination, consult that text of your denomination. How is the rite organized; can you name the structures? b.) Describe the ritual as celebrated or as performance “text.” For instance, can you describe features of the ritual action or space that do not appear in the written ordo? c.) Describe how contextual and cultural factors such as the setting, the language, popular religion and other dominant cultural forces affect the liturgical celebration? d.) How does doctrine or theology affect the piety and assembly’s interpretation of the liturgy or sacrament? Engage the overarching questions: How is the Paschal Mystery expressed in this parish celebration? Does the liturgy in which you participated express a faith that does justice?
- **Paper #5 – Due on June 9, 2008 (5-6 pages)**
 Select one issue that has captured your interest and attention this quarter. Write an essay that might be the seed of a parish presentation on Liturgical Basics, some suggestions:
 - Participation in the liturgy as expressive of the true nature of the Church
 - Why Catholics should/should not share Eucharist with other Christians
 - The role of hospitality in Christian worship
 - The Paschal Mystery in its centrality to Christian worship
 - Catholic devotional life and the role it plays in the universal Church
 - The Church as local and gathered around the Bishop
 - Liturgy: The privileged place of catechesis
 - Liturgy as the evangelizing event

In Papers #4 and #5 you are to demonstrate your ability to communicate what you have learned about Sacramental and Liturgical Theology and the lived reality of it through your own experience as a member of the Body of Christ. Clear and thoughtful presentation, along with the correct grammar and quoting of sources is important. You are expected to utilize the STM writing guidelines and style.

- Papers must be double-spaced, paginated, and in 10/12 pt. Times New Roman typeface
- All margins are to be 1 inch (right, left, top, and bottom) and left justified only
- **Papers are only received using the SU Angel system**
- **Class Presentation – Assigned by professor**
 Employing all your creativity, craft a visual presentation for a parish presentation on one sacrament/rite as it is celebrated within the Liturgy. Use the required texts as the basis for your presentation. This will be a one-hour catechetical presentation highlighting the history, theology, and current practice of the sacrament/rite.

Weight	Questions, Class Contribution, & Papers #1-3	Paper 4	Paper 5	Class Presentation
	25%	25%	25%	25%

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STMM 505	Tentative Assignment Schedule <i>Subject to change as needed</i>	Spring 2008
Class #1 March 31	Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord Introduction: Syllabus, Structure & Evaluation Liturgical Basics: What Liturgy Is Not!	
Class #2 April 7 Paper Due	Memorial of Saint John Baptist de la Salle <i>Read Chauvet, pp. ix-xxv, 1-17; Martos, pp. xiii-xvii, 3-16; Sacrosanctum Concilium;</i> <i>Critical Question</i> Historical & Methodological Overview Liturgical Time and The Church Year	
Class #3 April 14	Monday of the Fourth Week of Easter <i>Read Chauvet, pp. 19-66; Martos, pp. 19-102; Schmemmann, pp. 7-22; Critical Question</i> Liturgical Basics: The Ordo Presentation: Liturgy of the Hours (Agee)	
Class #4 April 21 Paper Due	St. Anselm <i>Read Chauvet, pp. 67-114; Martos, pp. 103-140; Schmemmann, pp.23-46; Critical Question</i> Sacramental Basics Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism (Ebenhoe)	
Class #5 April 28	Saint Peter Chanel / Monday of the Sixth Week of Easter <i>Read Chauvet, pp. 117-154; Schmemmann, pp. 47-66;</i> <i>Smolarski, pp. 1-32; Lathrop, pp. ix-xi, pp. 1-83; Critical Question</i> Images of Church Sacraments of Initiation: Confirmation/Chrismation (Farrell & Harris)	
Class #6 May 5 Paper Due	Saint Hilary <i>Read Chauvet, pp. 155-200; Schmemmann, pp.67-94; Lathrop, pp. 87-138; Critical Question</i> Sacraments of Initiation: Eucharist (Malley & Ronk)	
Class #7 May 12	Monday of the Sixth Week of Ordinary Time <i>Read Lathrop, pp. 139-225; Schmemmann, pp. 95-134; Smolarski, pp. 33-84;</i> <i>Critical Question</i> Sacraments of Healing: Penance (Nabakaawa)	
Class #8 May 19 Paper Due	Monday of the Seventh Week of Ordinary Time <i>Read Schmemmann, pp. 135-151; Smolarski, pp. 85-137;</i> <i>Course Pack: Zimmerman A & B; Critical Question</i> Sacraments of Healing: Anointing of the Sick & Viaticum (Shier)	
No Class May 26	Memorial Day	
Class #9 June 2	Saint Marcellinus and Peter <i>Preparation: Read Smolarski, pp. 138-179; Course Pack: C, D, E ; Critical Question</i> Sacraments in Service of Communion: Marriage (Thomason) Orders (Kelly)	
Class #10 June 9 Paper Due	Saint Ephrem <i>Preparation: Read Course Pack: F, G, H, I; Critical Question</i> State of the Questions Funeral Rites: (Zahler)	

Thanks for all your hard work and creative exchange this quarter in our pilgrim journey together as church. It is an honor to journey with you!

Sacrosanctum Concilium: The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy

http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19631204_sacrosanctum-concilium_en.html

A-“Introduction” Joyce Ann Zimmerman, C.Pp.S., Ph.D., *Liturgy and Hermeneutics*, (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1999), pp. 5-9.

B-“Chapter 1: What’s at Stake?” Joyce Ann Zimmerman, C.Pp.S., Ph.D., *Liturgy and Hermeneutics*, (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1999), pp. 11-21.

C-“Baptism and ‘Sacramental Economy’ An Agreed Statement of The North American Orthodox-Catholic Theological Consultation,” (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Seminary, June 3, 1999).

D-“A Theology of the Liturgy,” David Fagerberg, from *Liturgical Ministry*, Volume 14, Fall 2005: Spirit of the Liturgy, Joyce Ann Zimmerman, C.Pp.S., Ph.D., ed., (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 2005), pp. 169-179.

E-“The Art of Interpreting Liturgical Instructions: A Guide to Navigating the Waters,” Donald G. LaSalle, from *Liturgical Ministry*, Volume 14, Fall 2005: Spirit of the Liturgy, Joyce Ann Zimmerman, C.Pp.S., Ph.D., ed., (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 2005), pp. 189-196.

F-“Presiding, Preaching, and Priestly Spirituality,” Kevin W. Irwin, from *Liturgical Ministry*, Volume 14, Fall 2005: Spirit of the Liturgy, Joyce Ann Zimmerman, C.Pp.S., Ph.D., ed., (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 2005), pp. 197-204.

G-“Chapter 1: Liturgy Forty Years After the Second Vatican Council: High Point or Recession,” *Liturgy in a Post Modern World*, Keith F. Peckler, S.J., ed., (New York: Continuum, 2003), pp. 7-25.

H-“The Sacramentality of the Word,” Timothy Radcliffe, O.P. from *Liturgy in a Post Modern World*, Keith F. Peckler, S.J., ed., (NY: Continuum, 2003), pp. 133-147.

I-“Women of Vatican II: Recovering a Dangerous Memory,” Carmel McEnroy, R.S.M., from *The Church in the Nineties: Its Legacy, Its Future*, Pierre M. Hegy, ed., (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1993), pp. 149-157.

“From Passover to Eucharist: God’s Liberating Love” by Rev. Lawrence E. Mick.