



NOTRE DAME SEMINARY
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Professor: Fr. Nile Gross
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Room: Liturgy Practicum

Class: SL 511
Time: SAT 7:30AM-4:30PM
Dates: 8/17, 9/7, 10/5, 11/9, 12/7
Office Hours: By appointment

SL 511 – Liturgy and Sacraments
Syllabus

I. Course Description

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Liturgy is “a sacred action surpassing all others,” which “no other action of the Church can equal” in its efficacy, and the sacraments are “God’s masterpieces” (CCC 1070, 1091). In this course, designed for the M.A. Program, students will explore the celebration of the Christian mystery as embodied in the liturgy of the Mass and the sacraments of the Church. By studying the origins of worship in Sacred Scripture and the liturgy of the early Church, students will gain a deepened understanding of the liturgical dimension of Christ’s Passion, Death, and Resurrection and our participation in it by means of the sacraments. Particular emphasis will also be given to the liturgical restoration inaugurated by the Second Vatican Council and the controversies that followed in its wake. The overarching goal will be to gain a more biblical, Christological, and Trinitarian understanding of what takes place in the Mass and through the sacraments.

II. Envisioned Outcomes

Students will be able to demonstrate and articulate an understanding of the foundation, structure, properties and function of the liturgy as described in the Scriptures, Tradition, and the Magisterium, including Vatican II’s *Sacrosanctum Concilium*. In the liturgical context, they will be able to understand the Church’s teaching regarding the seven sacraments as well as their theological implications.

III. Graded Requirements

- A. Analysis of a sacramental rite (50%)
- B. Final Exam (40%)
- C. Class Participation (10%)

IV. Texts

REQUIRED RESOURCES

1. Joseph Ratzinger, *The Spirit of the Liturgy*
2. Paul Haffner, *The Sacramental Mystery*
3. *Rites of the Catholic Church*
4. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

V. Daily Schedule, Reading Assignments and Due Dates. Below is a list of all classes with topics to be covered as well as reading assignments to be completed.

Daily Breakdown

- 7:30-8:15 – Lecture 1
- 8:15-10:00 – Lauds/Mass/Breakfast
- 10:00-10:45 – Lecture 2
- 10:45-11:00 – Break
- 11:00-11:45 – Lecture 3
- 11:45-1:00 – Lunch Break
- 1:00-1:45 – Lecture 4
- 1:45-2:00 – Break
- 2:00-2:45 – Lecture 5
- 2:45-3:00 – Break
- 3:00-3:45 – Lecture 6
- 3:45-4:00 – Break
- 4:00-4:30 – Q&A/Lecture 7

Class Period 1

The Liturgy: *Legem credendi lex statuat supplicandi*

- a. General Introduction to the Course.
- b. Terminology.
- c. General History of Liturgical Thought.
- d. Liturgical Documents.
- e. Principles of Liturgical Prayer.

Readings: *Sacrosanctum Concilium, Mediator Dei, Spirit of the Liturgy, CCC 1066-1209, Sacramental Mystery Chapter 1*

Class Period 2

Baptism and Confirmation

- a. General History.
- b. Theology of the Sacraments.
- c. Study of the rites.

Readings: CCC 1210-1321, *Rites 1-515, Sacramental Mystery Chapters 2-3*

Due: Topic for Written Project

Class Period 3

The Eucharist: Source and Summit

- a. Historical Debates.
- b. Theology of the Eucharist.
- c. Brief theological study of the Mass.

Readings: CCC 1322-1419, Roman Missal handouts, *Sacramental Mystery* Chapter 4, Benedict XVI's *Sacramentum caritatis*.

Class Period 4

Matrimony and Orders

- a. General History.
- b. Theology of the Sacraments.
- c. Study of the rites.

Readings: CCC 1533-1666, *Rites* 715-758, *Sacramental Mystery* Chapters 7-8, Excerpts from numerous Church and papal documents.

Class Period 5

Morning: Penance and Anointing

- a. General History.
- b. Theology of the Sacraments.
- c. Study of the rites.

Readings: CCC 1420-1532, *Rites* 517-630, 759-908, *Sacramental Mystery* Chapters 5-6, John Paul II's *Misericordia Dei*, Intervention of Joseph Ratzinger 2002.

Due: Final Project

Afternoon: Final Exam

VI. EVALUATION

Grades are distributed and converted into letter grades as follows:

- 94 to 100 percentage points = A (4.00)
- 90 to 93 percentage points = A- (3.70)
- 88 to 89 percentage points = B+ (3.30)
- 84 to 87 percentage points = B (3.00)
- 80 to 83 percentage points = B- (2.70)
- 78 to 79 percentage points = C+ (2.30)
- 74 to 77 percentage points = C (2.00)
- 70 to 73 percentage points = C- (1.70)
- 68 to 69 percentage points = D+ (1.30)
- 64 to 67 percentage points = D (1.00)
- 60 to 63 percentage points = D- (0.70)
- 0 to 59 percentage points = F (0.0)

VII. Attendance, Late Papers and Assignment Submissions Policy

Unexcused absences and tardiness will adversely affect the class participation grade. A late assignment will lose two points for every day it is late after the assigned due date.

ATTENDANCE

Class attendance: Due to the nature of the program, no one can miss more than 3 consecutive hours of instruction without excuse and remain in the course. Also, no one can miss more than a total of four hours of instruction without 10% of the final grade being subtracted.

MISSING A SATURDAY SESSION

This course meets exclusively in an intensive five Saturday format. Because of this, missing a Saturday session is never allowable if a student has not sought and received permission from the instructor. If a student is allowed to miss a Saturday session, the following conditions apply:

A) The student must seek and receive permission to miss the session PRIOR TO the session;

B) The student must hand in all class requirements that are due on the date of the session missed no later than the date of that session;

C) The student must arrange in advance to have a fellow student tape the entire Saturday session, and notify the instructor of the name of the student who will be taping the session;

D) The student must take notes on all lectures and class activities from the taped session, and submit a typed copy of these notes to the instructor PRIOR TO the next class meeting (this can be done through email);

E) The student cannot achieve a grade higher than a “B” in the course;

F) If the student fails to meet the above requirements (A-D), then the student will receive an “F” for the course.

G) NO STUDENT IS ALLOWED TO MISS ANY ADDITIONAL SESSIONS. If a student misses an additional session they must withdraw from the course (with a grade of “W”, “WP” or “WF”) or receive an “F” for the course.

VIII. Major Assignment – Analysis of the Sacramental Rites

i. Select a Sacrament to be examined.

Please email me prior to our second class so that I can make copy of the rites to be examined for you. I will also provide a format for the paper at that time. I am not expecting original thought here. The theology for the sacraments can be found in **the Introductions** to each particular sacrament, the **required texts** for the course, the recommended works found in the **course bibliography**, **Church documents**, and references to **Scripture** within the action or prayer, as well as the **writings of the Church Fathers** which are too extensive to list.

(I would suggest against the Eucharist, but if you desire to examine this sacrament, the prayers to be examined will be the Eucharistic Prayers and the prayers of the Corpus Christi Mass.)

- ii. Look at each of the prayers of the rite and demonstrate how the prayers develop the theology of the particular sacrament (opening prayers, closing prayers, prefaces, ritual words, etc.).
- iii. Look at any ritual actions or gestures (i.e. immersion in Baptism, laying on of hands in Confirmation and Orders) and show how these symbolic actions emphasize the theology of the sacrament.
- iv. Look at the material elements/signs (i.e. water for Baptism, oil for Anointing) and describe how these symbols add to the proper understanding of the particular liturgy.

IX. COURSE BIBLIOGRAPHY

(not meant to be extensive)

Liturgy – History and Theology

Aquilina, M. *The Mass of the Early Christians*. Huntington: Our Sunday Visitor Publishing, 2007.

Bouyer, L. *Liturgical Piety*. South Bend, Indiana: University of Notre Dame Press, 1955.

Crouan, D. *The History and the Future of the Roman Liturgy*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2005.

Fagerberg, D. *Theologia Prima: What is Liturgical Theology?* Chicago: Hillenbrand Books, 2004.

Guardini, R. *The Spirit of the Liturgy*. New York: Crossroad Publishing Company, 1998.

Jungmann, J. *The Mass of the Roman Rite: Its Origins and Development (Missarum Sollemnia)*, Vol. 1. Westminster, Maryland: Christian Classics, 1986.

Martimort, A. *The Church at Prayer: An Introduction to the Liturgy*, Vol. 1: *Principles of the Liturgy*. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1987.

Mazza, E. *Mystagogy: A Theology of Liturgy in the Patristic Age*. New York: Pueblo Publishing Company, 1989.

Ratzinger, J. *The Feast of Faith: Approaches to a Theology of the Liturgy*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2006.

_____. *A New Song for the Lord: Faith in Christ and Liturgy Today*. New York: Crossroad Publishing Company, 1996.

Reid, A. *The Organic Development of the Liturgy*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2005.

Vagaggini, C. *Theological Dimensions of the Liturgy: A General Treatise on the Theology of the Liturgy*. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1976.

Sacraments – General

Martimort, A. *The Signs of the New Covenant*. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1963.

_____. *The Church at Prayer: An Introduction to the Liturgy*, Vol. 3: *Sacraments*. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1987.

Martos, J. *Doors to the Sacred: A Historical Introduction to Sacraments in the Catholic Church*. Liguori, Missouri: Liguori/Triumph, 2001.

Vorgrimler, H. *Sacramental Theology*. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1992.

Baptism and Confirmation

Neunheuser, B. *Baptism and Confirmation*. New York: Herder and Herder, 1964.

Riley, H. *Christian Initiation: A Comparative Study of the Interpretation of the Baptismal Liturgy in the Mystagogical Writings of Cyril of Jerusalem, John Chrysostom, Theodore of Mopsuestia, and Ambrose of Milan*. Studies in Christian Antiquity 17. Washington, DC: The Catholic University of America Press, 1974.

Eucharist

Abbot Vonier. *A Key to the Doctrine of the Eucharist*. Bethesda, Maryland: Zaccheus Press, 2004.

Benedict XVI. *Sacramentum caritatis* (found online).

John Paul II. *Dominicae cenae* (found online)

_____. *Ecclesia de Eucharistia* (found online)

O'Connor, J. *The Hidden Manna: The Theology of the Eucharist*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2005.

Priesthood

Galot, J. *Theology of the Priesthood*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2005.

Marmion, C. *Christ: The Ideal of the Priest*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2005.

Second Vatican Council. *Presbyterorum ordinis* (found online).

John Paul II. *Pastores dabo vobis*. (found online)

Congregation for the Clergy. *Directory on the Ministry and Life of Priests*. (found online)

Deaconate

Keating, J. *The Deacon Reader*. Paulist Press, 2006.

International Theological Commission. *From the Diakonia of Christ to the Diakonia of the Apostles*. Chicago: Hillenbrand Books, 2003.

Marriage

Kasper, W. *Theology of Christian Marriage*. New York: Seabury Press, 1980.

Reconciliation

John Paul II, *Reconciliatio et Paenitentia* (found online)

_____. *Misericordia Dei* (found online)

Congregation for the Clergy. *The Priest Minister of Divine Mercy* (found online).

Anointing of the Sick

Gusmer, C. *And You Visited Me: Sacramental Ministry to the Sick and the Dying*. New York: Pueblo Press, 1984.

Kasza, J. *Understanding Sacramental Healing: Anointing and Viaticum*. Mundelein, Illinois: Hillenbrand Books, 2006.