

Faculty profile:

Stéphane Saulnier

Job title: Assistant Professor of Sacred Scripture
Department: Sacred Scripture, History, and Foundation
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Personal:

Dr. Saulnier comes from Northern France. After a number of years in the UK and two years in the United States, Dr. Saulnier arrived with his family in Edmonton in June 2007.

Hobbies include, among other things, soccer (playing and coaching) and fishing.

Teaching:

Dr. Saulnier's teaching focuses on Sacred Scriptures (principally the New Testament) and the world from which they originated (Second Temple Judaism and Hellenistic World). Dr. Saulnier presently teaches New Testament courses at Newman Theological College on the MDiv and MTS programs (Theology), and the GDRE and MRE programs (Religious Education).

In the context of the mission and vision of Newman Theological College, an area of particular interest to Dr. Saulnier is that of Biblical Hermeneutics, and the importance of an all-encompassing approach to the preparation of future exegetes of Sacred Scriptures, who are called by the Church, as lay faithful, Religious, or ordained ministers, to the task of interpreting our texts of faith with the Mind of the Church.

To this end, an emphasis is put on two particular aspects, which fit under the wider umbrella of proper interpretation of Scripture with the Mind of the Church, as expounded in the various Church Documents on the interpretation of Scripture:

- 1) a mastery of the modern scientific approaches to the interpretation of Scripture;
- 2) an initiation to the interpretation of Scriptures as practiced by the Church Fathers.

Dr. Saulnier holds his Doctorate from the University of Kent (UK), recently held a Research position in the Theology Department of the University of Notre Dame (USA), and taught at the universities of Canterbury Christ Church (UK), and Notre Dame (USA), before taking up his current responsibilities for Sacred Scripture at Newman Theological College, here in Edmonton.

Outside the graduate classroom Dr. Saulnier has been teaching on the RCIA program for a number of years.

Research interests:

Dr. Saulnier is particularly interested in the background to Sacred Scriptures, and more specifically the Jewish roots of early Christianity. He has written on some aspects of Second Temple literature (Dead Sea Scrolls, Pseudepigrapha such as *1 Enoch* and the Book of *Jubilees*), and their significance for understanding the New Testament and Early Christianity in their context(s).

Dr. Saulnier is presently contributing to the *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (De Gruyter); officiates as secretary of the French Editorial Board of the journal *Henoch*; and has been working on a French translation of the Calendrical Fragments from the Dead Sea Scrolls Corpus for the multivolume *La Bibliothèque de Qumran* (Éditions du Cerf).