

MPS 380 – The Practice of Christian Ritual

Fall 2021

Course Outline

14 September 2021 to 7 December 2021

Class Meeting Time, Location, and Room

Tuesday Morning 8:30 – 11:20 a.m. at Newman Theological College, St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Room

Instructors Name: Fr. Sylvain Casavant, PSS
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Course Description

Theological and pastoral principles for presiding within the liturgical assembly. A practicum for presiding at sacramental liturgies and other rites.

Course Objectives

This course is intended to enable the student to understand and articulate the principle liturgical actions of the Roman Catholic Church, their guiding prescriptions as found in the liturgical books used in Canada, and the liturgical style necessary to accomplish them.

M.DIV. Program Students

- a) **Intellectual Formation** – The rituals of the Roman Catholic Church are expressions of the faith revealed by Jesus Christ. These rituals express the lived faith of the Church. This course delves into the theology of the rituals and outlined in the ritual books themselves in order to better understand the richness of the ceremonies.

- b) **Cultural Context** – By comparing and contrasting the reforms of the missal, a greater understanding will be explored of the Biblical influence being expressed within today's cultural context.
- c) **Personal and Spiritual Formation** – Christian ritual is the Church's expression of Her life through, with, and in Christ. These rituals must be presided in faith. Through reflection and understanding of the rituals, deeper faith should be fostered.
- d) **Capacity for Ministerial Leadership** – A major role of a Christian leader is to help guide the faithful to the Lord so that they may grow in their love of Him and offer that love to all they meet. Christian ritual is always an expression of the Father's love offered through His Son, Jesus Christ, by the working of the Holy Spirit. Faithfully presiding at Christian rituals enlivens the Christian community. In order to accomplish this, understanding the rituals in themselves and how they relate to each other to manifest the presence of Christ is essential.

Course Assignments and Evaluation

1. MEETINGS/CLASSES. As this class is a practicum, it will be necessary to meet on a weekly basis to discuss the readings and prepare the students to preside at their liturgies. Students will have assigned readings and questions and must come prepared for the classes. The students and professor will put together a class schedule at the beginning of the semester.
2. TEST indicating knowledge of the "General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar", "Introduction to the Lectionary", "General Instruction of the Roman Missal"; The Roman Missal as a Liturgical Book (Sacramentary and Lectionary). (25%) **DATE: October 26, 2021.**
3. TEST indicating knowledge of the General Introductions and Contents of the Rites of Christian Initiation, Holy Week, Penance, Marriage, Pastoral Care of the Sick, Book of Blessings, Order of Christian Funerals, Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside Mass, General Instruction to the Liturgy of the Hours and Instruction "Ad resurgendum cum Christo." (25%) **DATE: December 14, 2021.**
4. Prepare a video of one assigned rite. (25%) **DATE: Due throughout the course, as assigned.**
5. Prepare a video of yourself presiding and preaching at the Holy Eucharist. (25%) [Lay students will prepare another appropriate rite as agreed with the instructor.] **DATE: November 23, 2021**

Textbooks

Paul Turner, *At the Supper of the Lamb: A Pastoral and Theological Commentary on the Mass*. Chicago: LTP 2010.

The following texts and resources will be used at various times in the course. Students will be expected to do assigned readings which will consist of the introductory material and other parts of these. These ritual books do not need to be purchased.

Ceremonial of Bishops Revised by Decree of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council and Published by Authority of Pope John Paul II. English Translation by ICEL. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1989.

“General Instruction of the Roman Missal” in *The Roman Missal Revised by Decree of the Second Vatican Council and Published by Authority of Pope Paul VI.* English Translation according to the Third Typical Edition. Ottawa: Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops 2011.

“Introduction” to *The Roman Missal Revised by Decree of the Second Vatican Council and Published by Authority of Pope Paul VI: Lectionary – Sundays and Solemnities.* Second Typical Edition. Ottawa: CCCB, 2009, xiii-xxxvi.

The Roman Missal Revised by Decree of the Second Vatican Council and Published by Authority of Pope Paul VI: The Lectionary - Sundays and Solemnities. Ottawa: CCCB, 2009.

The Roman Missal Revised by Decree of the Second Vatican Council and Published by Authority of Pope Paul VI: The Lectionary - Weekdays A and B. 2 vols. Ottawa: CCCB, 1994.

The Roman Missal Revised by Decree of the Second Vatican Council and Published by Authority of Pope Paul VI: The Lectionary – Ritual Masses, Mass for Various Needs and Occasions, Votive Masses and Masses for the Dead. Ottawa: CCCB, 2014.

“Introduction” to the *Book of Gospels for Use in the Dioceses of Canada according to the Typical Edition of the Order of Readings for Mass.* Ottawa: CCCB, 2015.

Sunday Celebrations of the Word and Hours. Edited by the National Liturgical Office. Ottawa: CCCB, 1995.

The Order of Baptism of Children. Ottawa: CCCB, 2020.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Ottawa: CCCB, 1987.

Rite of Confirmation. Ottawa: CCCB, 1987.

Rite of Penance. Ottawa: CCCB, 1975. [This edition is now out of print. The US edition may thus be consulted: Washington, NCCB 2010. This latter edition brings the text into conformity with the *Code of Canon Law* which was promulgated in 1983.]

The Order of Celebrating Matrimony. Ottawa: CCCB, 2017.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: Rites of Anointing and Viaticum. Ottawa: CCCB, 1983.

Order of Christian Funerals. Emended. Ottawa: CCCB, 2016.

Book of Blessings. New York: Catholic Book Publishing Co., 1989.

“Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass” (Vatican City: June 21, 1973). See *The Rites of the Catholic Church*, Vol. 1. Revised Edition. A Pueblo Book. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1991, 631 – 698. [Canadian Edition in Preparation]

The Liturgy of the Hours. Four vols. NY: Catholic Book Publishing Co., 1975.

Recommended Reading

Benedict XVI. *Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation SACRAMENTUM CARITATIS on the Eucharist as the Source and Summit of the Church’s Life and Mission.* Vatican City: Feb. 22, 2007. (See Nos. 34 – 69 on the *ars celebrandi*, the art of celebrating)

Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, *Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy: Principles and Guidelines* Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2001.

Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. *Instruction REDEMPTIONIS SACRAMENTUM on Certain Matters to Be Observed or to Be Avoided Regarding the Most Holy Eucharist.* Vatican City: March 25, 2004.

Peter. J. Eliot. *Ceremonies of the Modern Roman Rite: The Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours.* Revised Edition. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2005.

Course Requirements

This course is a combination of lecture, discussion and practicum. Class lectures will primarily familiarize the students with general principles, pertinent literature and resources. Discussions will review the assigned readings. The students will prepare and preside at a Eucharistic Celebration (digitally-recorded), and prepare as well as execute a major liturgical rite (digitally-recorded) with evaluation by the instructor and by their peers.

There are no academic papers for this course. The learning goals will be assessed through the practica which will be evaluated by the teacher and students as well as the discussions and tests on the contents of the ritual books which will show the students’ knowledge of the rubrics, and contents of the various rites.

Providing a means by which student learning, in view of the course objectives can be measured.

Possible items such as attendance, reading, class participation, term papers (papers, presentations, book reports, group work, and projects), and exams.

Late Submission Policy.

Course Schedule

Because of the nature of this course (as a practicum) and considering the enrolment of the students, much of the organization will take place at the beginning of the semester. Among lectures, input and presentations of actual rites are the following:

Introduction and Organization of Course

Liturgical Principles from Vatican II; Stewardship of the Mysteries; Ordinary Form and Extraordinary Using the *Roman Missal*

Deacon; Concelebration; Mass with the Participation of a Single Minister

Leading the Community in Prayer

 Preparing to Preside

 Liturgical Gestures/Actions

 Units of Liturgical Prayer

The *Order of Mass*

Liturgical Space: Altar, Nave, Narthex (Porch); Ambo; Tabernacle; Spaces for Baptism and Reconciliation

 Celebration of the Eucharist

 Sunday Celebration of the Word

 Rite of Welcoming Candidates for Confirmation and Eucharist

 Rite of Baptism for One Child

 Rite of Baptism for several Children within Mass and without Mass

 Rite of Reconciliation of an Individual Penitent

 Rite of Reconciliation of Several Penitents with Individual Confession and Absolution

 Rite of Marriage within Mass and outside Mass

 Rite of Christian Initiation of Children

 Rite of Anointing of the Sick

 Rite of Viaticum

 Vigil for the Deceased with Reception at the Church

 Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Homily

 Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction

General Academic Information

Course Attendance

No credit will be given for a course if the student has been absent, for any reason whatever, from one-third or more of the lectures and/or seminars scheduled for the term. Likewise, no credit will be given if term assignments or other assignments are or remain incomplete.

Leave of Absence and Policy for Incompletes

Extensions to an incomplete grade may be granted in extenuating circumstances, but may not exceed 16 weeks following the end of the course. Students who fail to complete course work by the agreed deadline will have a grade assigned which is based on work completed.

Academic Integrity

Acts of academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc.) are subject to an appropriate penalty. The grade "F" may be assigned to a student guilty of such acts by the professor of the course in which the infraction occurred. A second offense against academic integrity renders the student liable to automatic dismissal from NTC. Further details are available in the Student Handbook in the Academic Misconduct Policy.

Academic Grievances

Students may appeal grades received; the procedure is outlined in the Student Handbook in the Grade Appeal Policy. For other grievances, students will refer to the Student Grievances Policy also outlined in the Student Handbook.

NOTE: The GPA is computed on the basis of cumulative grade point (letter) values, not percentage values. All courses are included in this calculation except those exceeding degree requirements and/or received as transfer credits from other recognized institutions.

Grading System

Undergraduate Studies		
Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point
Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0
	A-	3.7

Graduate Studies		
Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point
Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0
	A-	3.7

Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0
	B-	2.7
Adequate	C+	2.3
	C	2.0
	C-	1.7
Marginal	D+	1.3
	D	1.0
Fail	F	0.0

Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0
	B-	2.7
Adequate	C+	2.3
	C	2.0
	C-	1.7
Fail	D+	1.3
	D	1.0
	F	0.0

Written Assignments - Style and Format

Newman Theological College requires that all written work be submitted in acceptable academic format and style. Please note the following regulations:

Regulations

Research papers, book reports, article summaries, reflection papers, and essays should be double-spaced, printed on one side only, and submitted on white, 8.5" x 11" paper.

A standard type style, such as Times New Roman, with a 12-point font size, must be used. The instructor will specify the most recent edition of the style manual to be used:

1. Kate Turabian, "A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations" (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).
2. Joseph Gibaldi & William Ahters, eds., "MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers" (New York: Modern Language Association of America).
3. American Psychological Association "Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association" (Washington: APA Publications).

Copies of these standard references may be purchased in the NTC bookstore.

Ignorance of standard form is not considered an acceptable excuse for deviation from required standards of format and style.

Academic Regulations

The following Academic Regulations are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Changes in Registration: Add/Drop/Withdraw Notice

- Course Work
- Final Examination Schedule
- Incomplete Grade Policy
- Inclusive Language

Related Academic Matters

The following Related Academic Matters are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Grade Reports & Posting
- Glossary of Academic Terms

Other Related Policies

The following policies are located in the Student Handbook for your reference:

- Academic Misconduct Policy
- Grade Appeal Policy

Recording of Lectures

Audio or video recording of lectures, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior consent of the instructor. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Student Accessibility Services:

A student with special needs that could affect their performance in class should contact their professor during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. They should also register with Student Services by contacting Sr. Zoe Bernatsky at 780-392-2450 ext. 2213; email zoe.bernatsky@newman.edu

Bibliography (To be distributed in class.)