THEO 60425 - 40405 1
MARY AND THE SAINTS
IN LITURGY, DOCTRINE, AND LIFE

T, Th: 11:00am-12:15pm - O'Shag 117

Maxwell E. Johnson
Office: Malloy 432
Office Hours: TBA
Or by Appointment (#1-4118)

Course Description:
This course explores the evolution and theology of Mary and the saints in their liturgical and doctrinal expressions in an attempt to discern, evaluate, and articulate their proper place within Christian liturgy, doctrine, and life today in relationship to the central mediatorial role of Christ. Issues of popular piety, "models of holiness," and ecumenical division, dialogue, convergence, the feminist critique, and liturgical renewal will also be examined.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:
Through this course students will demonstrate:

1) a knowledge of the historical development of the place of Mary and the Saints in the Christian liturgical/theological tradition;
2) a grasp of the basic theological principles involved in the question of prayer to and invocation of Mary and the Saints in relationship to the central mediatorial role of Christ in liturgical prayer, doctrine, and life;
3) an ability to critique theologically various manifestations of piety related to Mary and the Saints;
4) an ecumenical sensitivity related to this issue; and
5) greater facility in writing and discussion on the graduate and upper-undergraduate theological levels

REQUIREMENTS:
The above goals and objectives will be met by:
1) **Three** position papers on **ASSIGNED** Topics selected from topics assigned on the syllabus.

2) **Weekly** Preparation of Assigned Readings

3) "Full, conscious, and Active" participation in Discussions

4) **GRADUATE STUDENTS:** A research paper (10-15 pages) chosen from a list of topics (to be supplied later) or in consultation with Professor Johnson. Topic is to be chosen by mid-term.

5) **Two Take-home exams** around mid-term and final exam time.

**GRADING (for graduate students primarily):**

Grades will be determined on the basis of the **Requirements** listed above and are to be interpreted as follows:

The grades **A** and **A-** are reserved for what is considered to be *exceptional* work; a **B+** means that work is at a level of solid and very high quality, a level above what is necessary to successfully complete the course requirements; a **B** is a good solid work -- a "normal" grade indicating that the average and minimum required (and expected) for work has been met successfully; a **C+** is a passing grade for graduate-level study indicating that an assignment was completed but in need of improvement and considerable development/clarification; and a **C**, although a passing grade, indicates serious problems with graduate-level study.

**THE POSITION PAPERS:**

The assigned papers should contain the following:

1. A summary of the principal argument(s) in question;
2. A critical theological evaluation of the author's position; and
3. A concluding section in which either agreement or disagreement with the author (and why or why not) is clearly stated (hence, a **position**).

**CLASS FORMAT:**

Primarily **Discussion** of assigned Topics and Readings. Role of the instructor is more one of facilitator (and referee?) than content-provider. Students will play a **primary** role in facilitating discussion for the topics assigned by the presentation of position papers summarizing and evaluating the topic/readings for a given day in response to the questions/topics provided under each day in the syllabus. Each class session will begin with the presentation of at least two of the assigned/chosen papers, either as read or summarized by the student. When no specific papers are assigned it is expected that all students will have prepared the materials in advance for class discussion. Such preparation will be evidenced by the informed discussion of class participants and will be included as part of individual student work in the determination of the final grade.
REQUIRED TEXTS:

NOTE: References to these works appear according to Abbreviations in Reading Assignments below

L. Cunningham, *A Brief History of Saints* (BHS)
Elizabeth Johnson, *Truly Our Sister: The Virgin Mary in the Communion of Saints* (TOS)
M. Johnson, *American Magnificat: Protestants on Mary of Guadalupe* (AM)
Chris Maunder (ed.), *The Origins of the Cult of the Virgin Mary* (OCVM).
*The One Mediator, the Saints, and Mary* (Luths-Caths in Dialogue VIII, OMSM)
P. Brown, *The Cult of the Saints* (CS)

John Paul II, *Mother of the Redeemer* (MR) – available only on line
Paul VI, *Marialis cultus* (MC) – available only on line

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

Teresa Berger, *Fragments of Real Presence: Liturgical Traditions in the Hands of Women* (FRP)
John Paul II, *On The Most Holy Rosary* (HR; on line)
G. Tavard, *The Thousand Faces of the Virgin Mary* (TFVM)

Additional Readings on Electronic Reserve:
https://www.library.nd.edu/eresources/ereserves//course.cgi?course=2012S_THEO_40405_01

On Library Reserve: J. MacQuarrie, *Mary for All Christians* (MAC)

OUTLINE OF CLASS SESSIONS

T, Jan. 17: Introduction to the Course

For next class meeting: bring a favorite image of Mary or another saint to class and be prepared to discuss why this is a favorite image. NOTE: “image” may be interpreted broadly to include also music and poetry.

Also, be prepared to select up to 3-4 topics from the class sessions below for which you will be responsible by presenting 5 page papers to the class as directed under “Class Format” above.
Th, Jan. 19: Selection of Topics and Discussion of "Favorite" Images of Mary and the Saints

T, Jan 24: The Centrality of the Paschal Mystery and the Liturgy I (Lecture)

Th, Jan 26: The Centrality of the Paschal Mystery and the Liturgy II (Lecture)

T, Jan. 31: Mary and the Saints in the New Testament

Assigned Reading: Chapter 2 in MAC; OMSM, pp. 63-81; OCVM, 23-39, 57-70; TFVM, pp. 3-16; J. Fitzmeyer, "Biblical Data on the Veneration, Intercession, and Invocation of Holy People," in OMSM, pp. 135-148; and J. Reumann, "How Do We Interpret 1 Timothy 2:1-5 (and Related Passages)?" in OMSM, 149-158.

Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:
1. What can we say with certainty about the place and role of Mary in the New Testament tradition? ____________________________, ____________________________
2. Who is a "saint" and what role do "saints" play in Christian life and worship according to the New Testament? ____________________________

Th, Feb. 2 – THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (FEAST) - The Cult of the Martyrs

Assigned Reading: MS, pp. 50-64; CS (whole book), BHS, pp. 1-27; and OMSM, pp. 83-91.

Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:
1. Why were martyr memorials celebrated in the early Christian community? What is the theological understanding of martyrdom in Christian antiquity? ________________
2. What is the role of the tomb of the martyr in relation to the cult of the martyr? What does the movement of the tomb from private to public space signify? ____________________________.

T, Feb. 7: Mary in Liturgy and Doctrine in the Patristic Period:

Assigned Reading: OCVM, pp. 71-125; R. Eno, "Mary and Her Role in Patristic Theology" in OMSM, pp. 159-176; K. McDonnell, "The Marian Liturgical Tradition," in OMSM, pp. 177-192; TFVM, pp. 17-31, 49-64

Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:
1. Summarize the development of the Marian feasts. What is the primary theological focus of the four earliest Marian Feasts? ________________
2. What is the role of Mary theologically/dogmatically in the patristic period? ________________.

Th, Feb. 9: Mary and the Saints in the Western Middle Ages:


Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:
1. How do Mary and the saints themselves come to fill the Mediatorial role of Christ in the early Middle Ages? Why does this happen? ___________________

2. Describe the development of the process of canonization in the medieval period

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T, Feb. 14: Mary and the Saints: Reformation Critique; Counter/Catholic Reformation Response

**Assigned Reading:** OMSM, pp. 23-33; BHS, pp. 54-101; E. Gritsch, "The Views of Luther and Lutheranism on the Veneration of Mary," in OMSM, pp. 235-248; R. Bertram, "Luther on the Unique Mediatorship of Christ," in OMSM, pp. 249-262; and Carl J. Peter, "The Communion of Saints in the Final Days of the Council of Trent" in OMSM, pp. 219-233; TFVM, pp. 103-152.

**Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:**

1. For Luther and the Reformers what was believed to be at stake in the late medieval cult of Mary and the saints? Were these fears grounded and is there any need for them to still play a role in the Churches today? ________________

2. How does The Council of Trent respond to the Reformation critique? Does this response adequately answer the fears of the Reformers? Why or why not? ________________

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Th, Feb 16: Development of Marian Dogma I: The (Immaculate) Conception:

**Assigned Reading:** G. Tavard, "John Duns Scotus and the Immaculate Conception," in OMSM, pp. 209-218; F. Jelly, "The Roman Catholic Dogma of Mary's Immaculate Conception," in OMSM, pp. 249-262; MAC, pp. 51-77; and TFVM, pp. 190-201

**Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:**

1. Describe the development and theology of Mary's Immaculate Conception and evaluate that theology from the perspective of Christology, Ecclesiology, and Soteriology. ___________________

2. Critically evaluate J. MacQuarrie's attempt to articulate an ecumenically-sensitive theology of the Immaculate Conception. ___________________

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T, Feb. 21: Development of Marian Dogma II: The Assumption:

**Assigned Reading:** A Dulles, "The Dogma of the Assumption," in OMSM, pp. 279-294; MAC, pp. 78-97; TFVM, pp. 190-201.

**Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:**

1. Describe the development and theology of Mary's Assumption and evaluate that theology from the perspective of Christology, Ecclesiology, and Soteriology. ___________________

2. Critically evaluate J. MacQuarrie's attempt to articulate an ecumenically-sensitive theology of the Assumption. ___________________

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Th, Feb. 23: Mary and the Saints in the Documents of Vatican II and in Modern Papal Encyclicals:

**Assigned Reading:** TFVM, pp. 202-217; OMSM, pp. 101-115; BHS, pp. 102-126; C. Peter, "The Saints and Mary in the Eschatology of the Second Vatican Council," in OMSM, pp. 295-304; Paul VI, MC; John Paul II, RM

**Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:**
1. What is the significance of treating Mariology as part of Ecclesiology in *Lumen Gentium* VIII? Why is this so important theologically? ____________________

2. Compare and contrast the Marian theologies of Paul VI and John Paul II according to their important encyclicals. ____________________, ____________

T, Feb. 28: Mary and the Saints in the Christian East – guest lecturer – Fr. Stefanos Alexopoulos, Athens, Greece

Assigned Reading: TFVM, pp. 65-80 (cf. also pp. 32-45).

Th, March 1: Is Devotion to Mary and the Saints a Church-Dividing Question?


No Papers are due for this topic. Come prepared to discuss!

T, Mar. 6: Marian/Sanctoral Feasts in the Current Roman Rite and Ecumenical Recovery I


Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:

1. What is the relationship of the sanctoral cycle to the temporal cycle in the current Roman rite? What is the theological and spiritual importance of the sanctoral cycle? ____________________

2. Evaluate the proposals for Marian feasts suggested by Shawn Madigan. ____________________

Th, Mar 8: Marian/Sanctoral Feasts in the Current Roman Rite and Ecumenical Recovery II

Assigned Reading: Same as above plus AM

1. Analyze and critique the explicit and implicit theology in the *Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary*. ____________________

2. Analyze and critique the current *Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary* ____________________

MARCH 11 – 18: MID-SEMESTER BREAK

T, Mar. 20: The Angelus, Rosary, and Other Marian Hymns and Devotions (Lecture/Discussion)
 Assigned Reading: HR

**Th, Mar 22: Mary and the Saints in Devotion and Popular Piety**

**Assigned Reading:**

**T, Mar 27: Marian Apparitions:**

**Assigned Reading:**
- OCVM; TFVM, pp. 171-189;

**Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:**
1. On the basis of the theological criteria suggested by the reading select and evaluate a popular Marian "apparition." Does this event and/or its message have any binding authority for the faith and life of the Church as a whole or for Catholics in general?

Th, Mar 29: Mary and Modernity I

**Assigned Reading:**
- TOS, Parts 1 and 2; MAC, pp. 116-135;
- TFVM, pp. 221-266;
- BHS, pp. 127-147. **RECOMMENDED HIGHLY:** FRP

**Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:**
1. Summarize and critique part one of TOS _______________/ _______________. 2. Summarize and critique part two of TOS_________________________.

T, Apr 3: Mary and Modernity II

**Assigned Reading:**
- TOS, Parts 3 and 4, plus as above, Mar 29

**Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:**
1. Summarize and critique part three of TOS _______________/ _______________. 2. Summarize and critique part four of TOS_________________________.

Th, Apr 5 – S, April 8: PASCHAL TRIDUUM
T, Apr 10: Mary and Modernity II

Assigned Reading: TOS, Parts 3 and 4, plus as above, Apr 2

Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:
1. Summarize and critique part three of TOS ________________
2. Summarize and critique part four of TOS ____________________

Th, Apr. 12: Mary and Modernity III

Assigned Reading: TOS, Part 5, plus as above for Mar. 29

Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:
1. Summarize and critique part five of TOS ______________/______________

T, Apr 17: Models of Holiness I: Martyrs and Mystic Saints Today?

Assigned Reading: L. Cunningham, "Paradigms of Gospel Living," Liturgy: With All the Saints 5, 2 (Liturgical Conference 1985), 9-13 MS, pp. 87-190

Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:
1. Describe and evaluate the problems associated with the concept of "marytrdom" today. ________________
2. Describe and evaluate the role of mysticism in the process of making saints ________________

Th, Apr. 19: Models of Holiness II: Wonder Workers and the Discernment of Holiness

Assigned Reading: MS, 190-279

Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:
1. Describe and evaluate the role of miracles in the process of making saints ________________
2. Describe and evaluate the case for Cornelia Connelly ________________

T, Apr. 24: M, Apr. 26: Models of Holiness IV: Pope Saints?

Assigned Reading: MS, pp. 280-335

Question for Reflection/Position Papers:
1. How in relationship to the canonization of popes as saints does politics play an important role? ________________
2. Describe and evaluate the case for the canonization of Pius IX ____________________

Th, Apr. 26: Models of Holiness V: Saints, Sex, and Scholarship

Assigned Reading: MS, pp. 336-373

Questions for Reflection/Position Papers:
1. Describe and evaluate the theology of sexuality explicit or implicit in the canonization process _____________________
2. Describe and evaluate the difficulties faced in attempting to canonize scholars and intellectuals _____________________

T, May 1: Last Class Day: RESEARCH PAPERS DUE
MARY AND THE SAINTS:
A SUPPLEMENTAL SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

L. Bouyer, Le culte de la mere de Dieu dans l'église catholique (= Collection Irenikon 3) Chevetogne 1950.
P. Browe, Textus antiqui de festo Corporis Christis (= Opuscula et textus, series liturgica, fasc. 4) Münster 1934.
F. Cabrol, "Le culte de la Trinite dans la liturgie et l'insititution de la fête de la Trinite," Ephemerides Liturgicae 45 (1941), 272ff.
Y. Congar, Christ, Our Lady, and the Church Westminster 1957.
L. Cunningham and N. Sapiieha, Mother of God San Francisco 1982.
Brian Daley, On the Dormition of Mary: Early Patristic Homilies (Crestwood; St.


L. Gougad, "Why was Saturday dedicated to Our Lady?" in *Devotional and Ascetical Practices of the Middle Ages* London 1927.


E. Hardy, "The Transfiguration in Western Liturgical Usage," *Sobernost* 6, 9 (Summer 1974).

F. Jelly, "The Roman Catholic Dogma of Mary's Immaculate Conception," in H. Anderson, et. al. (eds.), *The One Mediator, the Saints, and Mary* (= Lutherans and Catholics in Dialogue VIII) Minneapolis 1992, 263-278.


M. Johnson, "The One Mediator, the Saints, and Mary: A Lutheran Reflection," *Worship* 67, 3 (1993), 226-238.

M. Johnson, *The Virgin of Guadalupe in Ecumenical Context: One Lutheran’s
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Perspective, Annual Theotokos Lecture, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (Marquette University Press, 2009).


National Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Behold Your Mother, Woman of Faith: A Pastoral Letter on the Blessed Virgin Mary* USCC 1973


J. Pelikan, *Mary Through the Centuries: Her Place in the History of Culture*
New York 1996.


