

Department of Theology  
Spring Semester, 2013

University of Notre Dame  
DeBartolo Hall 209

## **THEO 20412 - CHRISTIAN INITIATION AND EUCHARIST**

**Tuesday/Thursday: 11:45-1:00pm**

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

### **Course Description**

The Rites of Christian Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist) and the Eucharistic Liturgy as the primary sacramental celebrations of and in the Church: their biblical and anthropological foundations, historical evolution, contemporary forms and pastoral effectiveness.

### **Goals and Objectives**

Through this course students will demonstrate:

1. an understanding of the historical evolution of Initiation and Eucharist in the life of the Church;
2. a critical understanding of the theological interpretation(s) of these primary sacramental rites within both the Roman Catholic and other (selected) Christian traditions;
3. a thorough awareness of the contemporary forms of these rites especially within the Roman Catholic tradition;
4. the ability to participate actively in these rites (if so desired) with intelligence and understanding.

### **Course Requirements**

The above goals and objectives will be met by:

1. Attendance at all class sessions. More than **three unexcused** absences will automatically lower the final grade.
2. Full, active, and conscious participation in class through preparation of assigned reading, discussion, Q/A, etc.
3. Three short papers assigned in the syllabus (**due on the dates**

indicated).

4. Two Take-Home Unit Exams and a Final Exam as announced on the syllabus.
5. Occasional quizzes, announced or unannounced.

**GRADING** for this course is based on the successful completion of Numbers 1-5 above. The grade **A** is reserved for "exceptional work," (95 - 100%) a level significantly above what is required; **A-** (92-94%); **B+** (89-91%) = very good work, the excellent completion of the necessary requirements; **B** (85-88%) = good work in successful completion of what was expected and required; **B-** (80-84%); **C+** (77-79%); **C** (74-76%); **C-** (70-73%); **D** (65-69%); **F** (below 65%). Grades will be computed according to the following point system:

<b>Unit Exams</b>	=	50 points each (100 points total)
<b>Final Exam</b>	=	<b>100 points total (comprehensive)</b>
<b>Papers</b>	=	25 points each (75 points total)
<b>Quizzes</b>	=	10 points each (total points will vary)
<b>Class Participation</b>	=	30 points total (30 points total)

#### **CLASS RULES:**

- 1) no lap tops
- 2) cell phones in off or vibrate settings – no texting, etc.
- 3) no reading of *The Observer* or other materials
- 4) no sleeping in class

#### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

P. Bradshaw and M. Johnson, *The Eucharistic Liturgies: Their Evolution and Interpretation* (Collegeville: Pueblo, 2012).  
*Celebrating the Eucharist* (supplied gratis from The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN)  
 M. Johnson, *The Rites of Christian Initiation: Their Evolution and Interpretation* Revised and Expanded Edition, Collegeville: Pueblo, 2007.  
 USCCB, *The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist: Questions and Answers*, United States Catholic Conference, 2001.

The Roman Catholic *Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults, The Baptism of Children, and the Rite of Confirmation* are available at:  
<http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Resources/Rites/RiteRitual.html>

The World Council of Churches' Faith and Order document, *Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry* is available at:

<http://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/wcc-commissions/faith-and-order-commission/i-unity-the-church-and-its-mission/baptism-eucharist-and-ministry-faith-and-order-paper-no-111-the-lima-text/baptism-eucharist-and-ministry.html#c10499>

**ON LIBRARY RESERVE:** M. Johnson (ed.), *Living Water, Sealing Spirit: Readings on Christian Initiation*. Some essays from this collection, **as noted in the Syllabus**, will be required reading. There will also be required reading from: R. Cabié, *History of the Mass*; G. Macy, *The Banquet's Wisdom*, and G. Austin, *Anointing With The Spirit* (Collegeville 1985).

## ***THEO 445 - CHRISTIAN INITIATION AND EUCHARIST***

### **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND CLASS TOPICS**

#### **INTRODUCTORY MATTERS**

##### **W, Jan. 16: INTRODUCTION**

1. Introduction to the Course
2. What is Liturgy? What are Sacraments?
3. The Anthropological Roots of Initiation: Initiation as a "Rite of Passage"

#### **PART ONE: HISTORICAL EVOLUTION/INTERPRETATION OF INITIATION**

**NOTE:** Reading assignments are correlated with the topic(s) assigned to each class session and are to be prepared **in advance**.

##### **M, Jan. 21: Christian Initiation Yesterday and Today**

##### **W, Jan. 23: The Biblical Roots of Christian Initiation:**

**Assigned Reading:** Mark 1, Matthew 3, Matthew 28, Luke 3, John 1, John 3, Romans 6, Titus 3; G. Austin, *Anointing with the Spirit*, pp. 3-10; and Johnson, *Rites*, Chapter 1.

##### **M, Jan. 28:**

**Historical Evolution/Interpretation of Initiation I:** The *Didache* and the *Apologies* of Justin Martyr; Tertullian, and the *Apostolic Tradition*, etc.

**Assigned Reading:** G. Austin, *Anointing with the Spirit*, pp. 3-10; and Johnson, *Rites*, Chapters 2 and 3.

**W, Jan. 30:**

**Historical Evolution/Interpretation of Initiation II:** Initiation in the Christian East during the Fourth and Fifth Centuries

**Assigned Reading:** Johnson, *Rites*, Chapter 4.

**M, Feb. 4:**

**Historical Evolution/Interpretation of Initiation III:** Initiation in the Christian West during the Fourth and Fifth Centuries

**Assigned Reading:** Johnson, *Rites*, Chapter 5

**W, Feb. 6:**

**Historical Evolution/Interpretation of Initiation IV:** Baptismal Controversies in the Early Church - Cyprian of Carthage and Augustine of Hippo

**Assigned Reading:** Johnson, *Rites*, Chapter 3 (review section on Cyprian of Carthage) and Chapter 5 (materials on Augustine, Donatism, and Pelagianism)

**M, Feb. 11:**

**Historical Evolution/Interpretation of Initiation V:** The Development of Easter Baptism and its Preparation Period

**Assigned Reading:** Johnson, *Rites*, Excursus.

**W, Feb. 13:**

**Historical Evolution/Interpretation of Initiation VI:** Initiation in the Medieval West

**Assigned Reading:** G. Austin, *Anointing*, pp. 11-37; Johnson, *Rites*, Chapter 6; Johnson, *Images*, Chapter 3

**M, Feb. 18: Historical Evolution/Interpretation of Initiation VII:** Initiation in the Christian East

**Assigned Reading:** G. Johnson, *Rites*, Chapter 7;

**W, Feb. 20:**

**Historical Evolution/Interpretation of Initiation VII:** Initiation in the Sixteenth-Century Protestant and Catholic Reformations

**Assigned Reading:** G. Austin, *Anointing*, pp. 11-37; Johnson, *Rites*, Chapter 8

**Take-Home Exam #1 Distributed**

## **PART TWO: MODERN RITES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION**

**Short Essay Assignment #1:** Describe an "initiation" rite, ceremony, or process you have been through and what it was for. **OR:** What does the **RCIA** mean by "conversion"? (No more than **four** double-spaced pages) - **Due on Mar 3.**

**M, Feb. 25: The Roman Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) -  
The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):**

- a. Anthropology of initiation processes
- b. **RCIA:** Its Structure and Dynamic

**Assigned Reading:**; A Kavanagh, "Christian Initiation in Postconciliar Catholicism," (on reserve in *Living Water, Sealing Spirit*); Johnson, *Rites*, chapter 9

**W, Feb. 27: RCIA: The Rites in Detail**

**Take-Home Exam #1 Due!**

**Assigned Reading:** same as above for Feb 21

**M, March 4: Rite of Baptism for Children (RBC)**

**Assigned Reading:** Paul Covino, "The Postconciliar Infant Baptism Debate..." in *Living Water, Sealing Spirit* (on reserve); E. Brand, "Baptism and Communion of Infants: A Lutheran View," in *Living Water, Sealing Spirit*; and M. Searle, "Infant Baptism Reconsidered," in *Living Water, Sealing Spirit*; Johnson, *Rites*, chapter 9

**W, March 6: The Roman Rite of Confirmation**

**Assigned Reading:** Austin, pp. 41-64; Johnson, *Rites*, chapter 9; Turner, "Confusion Over Confirmation" (supplied)

**Short Essay #1 due!**

**Short Essay Assignment #2:** Why I will (Not) Have My Children Baptized as Infants. **OR:** It is Right (Wrong) for churches to Baptize Babies. (**4 page limit**) -- **Due on March 24**

**March 11-22 – Mid-Semester Break**

**M, March 18: Ecumenical Convergence in Initiation Theology and Celebration**

a. *Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry* (World Council of Churches)

b. *Selected Rites from Contemporary Protestant Traditions*

**Assigned Reading:** Austin, pp. 65-96, 125-156; Section on "Baptism" from *Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry*; L. Stookey, "Three New Initiation Rites," in *Living Water, Sealing Spirit*; B. Spinks, "Vivid Signs of the Gifts of the Spirit?" in *Living Water, Sealing Spirit*; Johnson, *Rites*, chapters 9 and 10; Johnson, "Let's Stop Making 'Converts' at Easter;" "For Joiners, Not Switchers," and Turner, "Confusion" (supplied)

## Take-Home Exam #2 Distributed

### PART THREE: THE EUCHARISTIC LITURGY

#### W, March 20: Introduction to the Eucharistic Liturgy

1. Anthropological Foundations for Eucharist
2. Biblical Roots of the Eucharist

**Assigned Reading:** Mark 14:12-25; Matthew 26:17-29; Luke 24:13-53; John 6; John 13; Acts 2:37-47; 1 Corinthians 10:14-22; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Bradshaw and Johnson, *Eucharistic Liturgies*, 1-24; Cabié, pp. 1-20; Macy, pp. 5-36.

**Short Essay Assignment #3:** Describe a Eucharist celebrated in a Christian tradition other than your own and say how it seemed to affect the assembly what effect it had on you (4 page limit) -- Due on April 24.

#### M, March 25: Historical Development of the Eucharistic Liturgy I: The Early Churches before Nicea

**Assigned Reading:** Bradshaw and Johnson, pp. 25-60; Cabié, pp. 21-46 (on reserve); Macy, *Banquet's Wisdom*, pp. 37-66 (on reserve);

#### W, March 27: Historical Development of the Eucharistic Liturgy II: The Early Churches after Nicea

**Assigned Reading:** Bradshaw and Johnson, pp. 61-137; Cabié, pp. 21-46 (on reserve); Macy, *Banquet's Wisdom*, pp. 37-66 (on reserve);

#### Second Short Essay Due Today

#### M, April 1: Easter Monday – No Class

#### W, APR 3: Historical Development of the Eucharistic Liturgy III: The Medieval Period in East and West

**Assigned Reading:** Bradshaw and Johnson, 137-232;  
Cabié, pp. 47-84; Macy, *Banquet's Wisdom*, pp. 67-101;

#### M, APR 8: Historical Development of the Eucharistic Liturgy IV: Medieval Eucharistic Controversies

**Assigned Reading:** Review Bradshaw and Johnson, 193-232  
Cabié, pp. 75-84; Macy, *Banquet's Wisdom*, pp. 102-135;

#### W, APR 10: Historical Development of the Eucharistic Liturgy IV: Reformation and Counter-Reform

**Assigned Reading:** Bradshaw and Johnson, 233-292; Cabié, pp. 85-99; Macy, pp. 135-188;

**M, April 15: Eucharistic Liturgies Today**

**The Eucharistic Liturgy of Vatican II:**

- a. *Introductory Rites*
- b. *Liturgy of the Word*

**Assigned Reading:** Bradshaw and Johnson, 293-357; Order of Mass from *Celebrating the Eucharist* (supplied); Cabié, pp. 101-147.

**W, April 17:**

**The Eucharistic Liturgy of Vatican II:**

- a. *Preparation of the Gifts*
- b. *Eucharistic Prayer*

**Assigned Reading:** Same as above

**M, April 22:**

**The Eucharistic Liturgy of Vatican II:**

- a. *Communion Rite*
- b. *Concluding Rites*

**Assigned Reading:** Same as above

**W, April 24: Contemporary Eucharistic Theology/Ecumenical Convergence**

**Third Short Essay Due Today!**

**Assigned Reading:** Bradshaw and Johnson, pp. 336-357; USCCB, *The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist: Questions and Answers*, United States Catholic Conference, 2001; Section on Eucharist in *Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry*

**M, April 29: Contemporary Protestant Eucharistic Rites I**

**Assigned Reading:** Review Bradshaw and Johnson, pp. 318-336.

**W, May 1: Final Class Session**

**FINAL EXAM AS SCHEDULED DURING FINALS WEEK**