

San Joaquin Schools for Ministry (MBBS)
TE 560: Church, Ministry, and Sacraments

Credit Hours:3, Fall 2007

The Revd Daniel H. Martins, Adjunct Professor
209.639.4460 (fatherdan@sjoaquin.net)

Course Description

This course traces the biblical and theological roots of the Church, ministry within the Church, and the sacramental acts of the Church as set forth in the *Book of Common Prayer*—and then examines the development of traditional Anglican theology of the same.

Course Objectives

Students will acquire an integrated understanding of the biblical, theological, and experiential foundations of sacramental theology, and the elements of church life and ministry that flow organically from those sources. This will provide the tools by which to critically assess recent developments in the Anglican world, as well as the ecumenical context of Anglican ecclesiology. As a result, students will also sharpen their practical skills in the pastoral application of these theological insights.

Resources

All students are expected to have access to a copy of the *Book of Common Prayer* (1979), and a Bible.

Required texts:

Michael Ramsey. *The Gospel and the Catholic Church*

Cheslyn Jones, et al, Ed. *The Study of Liturgy*

Anne Field. *From Darkness to Light: How One Became a Christian in the Early Church*

Daniel Stevick. *Supplement to Prayer Book Studies 26* (available from Kelsey Stewart)

Gordon W. Lathrop. *Holy People: A Liturgical Ecclesiology*

Outline

First Session—September 14-15

- Orientation & Overview
- Phenomenological Foundation: Signs, Symbols, Sacraments
- Theological Foundation: Implications of Incarnation
- Biblical Models of the Church
- Anglican Ecclesiology

Second Session—October 12-13

- New Testament Roots of Christian Ministry
- Episcopacy
- Pastoral Care as Spiritual Formation
- Lay Ministry
- Christian Initiation

Third Session—November 9-10

- State-of-Life Sacraments
- State-of-Need Sacraments
- Eucharist
- Cultivating a Sacramental Worldview

Assignments

Before Session I

- Read *The Gospel and the Catholic Church* in its entirety.
- In *Holy People*, read Introduction & Part I (pp. 1-98).
- Write a short (1-2 page) personal response to Ramsey's work, demonstrating critical engagement with at least two of his major ideas.

Before Session II

- In *The Study of Liturgy*, read pp. 112-183 and 339-398.
- In *Holy People*, read Part II (pp. 99-158).
- Write a 2-3 page paper in which you explain to an evangelical Protestant friend the theological differences in the way ordained ministry is viewed in the Catholic (incl. Anglican) and Protestant traditions.

Before Session III

- Read *Prayer Book Studies 26* and *From Darkness to Light*
- In *The Study of Liturgy*, read pp. 184-338.
- In *Holy People*, read Part III (pp. 159-228)
- Write a short (1-2 page) personal response to Anne Field's work. Include your assessment of the pros and cons of a "high demand" approach to baptismal preparation.

Final Project (due by November 26):

You are in a position of pastoral responsibility (priest/deacon/lay vicar or staff member) in a congregation. You are approached by a young couple—Justin and Samantha—who are the parents of a three-year old daughter (Haley) and are expecting their second child. Justin was raised Roman Catholic; Samantha's background is Baptist—they settled on the Episcopal Church as a compromise. Haley was baptized as an infant, but has never received Holy Communion. Neither is inherently uncomfortable with this (Samantha: "How can she possibly understand what it means?" Justin: "I was seven before I made my First Communion."), but they have noticed other children in the parish who are even younger than Haley receiving, so they have questions. Moreover, Samantha is having second thoughts about having Spencer (their expected son) baptized as an infant ("I wasn't baptized till I was eleven and could make my own decision to receive Christ as my Savior.") Justin is alarmed at the thought of having an unbaptized child ("What if something happens to him before he's baptized? How will he go to Heaven?").

Compose an essay of approximately 1500 words in which you deal with Justin and Samantha's theological issues. Include some discussion of sacraments in general, as well as Baptism and Eucharist in particular. Also demonstrate an organic link between the sacraments and the larger

life of the Church. (Your professor is impressed if you can be pastorally adept, but he's mainly looking for theological substance!).

Evaluation

Class attendance and participation	20%
Short Papers	30%
Final Paper	50%

NOTE: Hard copy will be reluctantly accepted, but electronic copy is greatly preferred (via eMail or USB memory device transfer to my laptop)—in MS Word for Windows .doc format). Please use 12-point type, one-inch margins, and 1.5 spacing.