

Bread, Wine, and Water: An Exploration of the Sacraments

THIS IS A DRAFT SYLLABUS - THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE
CHANGES UP TO THE DAY OF CLASS

WYT3406/6406HS

Prof. Joseph Mangina, Wycliffe College

Fall term 2014

Description

The goal of this course is to engage in careful reading of key primary and secondary texts in the doctrine of the sacraments, so that students may begin to develop their own sacramental theology.

Required texts - available at Crux Books, with the exception of the reading packet

John Colwell, *Promise and Presence: An Exploration in Sacramental Theology*

George Hunsinger, *The Eucharist and Ecumenism: Let Us Keep the Feast*

Alexander Schmemmann, *For the Life of the World: Sacraments and Orthodoxy*

READING PACKET - may be purchased at front desk, Wycliffe College

Requirements

- Regular and vigorous participation in seminar discussions
- Weekly bullet-point responses to the readings
- Eight- to ten-page paper. Due one week following the end of classes.

Each of these three elements will constitute roughly one third of the final grade.

Procedure - bullet points

Each student will come to class with six bullet-point *responses* to one or more of the readings for the day. Three of these should be purely descriptive in character— “this is what I think the author is trying to say here.” Three should be evaluative: “I know this is what the author is trying to say, but this part doesn’t make sense,” or “the author’s assertion X on p. 17 contradicts his position Y on p. 36.” The evaluative points don’t have to represent strong positions on your part, but may simply take the form of questions: “Does the author really mean to say thus-and-so? I can’t make any sense of this.”

Whether descriptive or critical, bullet points should be *points*—a couple of sentences at most, not full-blown paragraphs or mini-essays. All six of your bullet-points are to be printed out and turned in each class session.

Schedule of topics and readings

September 11

Introduction

September 18

Alexander Schmemmann, *For the Life of the World: Sacraments and Orthodoxy*

September 25

Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, III, selections from Questions 61, 62, 63, 65, 66, and 68 (reading packet)

October 2

Martin Luther, *On the Babylonian Captivity of the Church; On the Councils and the Church* (reading packet)

October 9

John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, Book 4, chapters XIV-XV (reading packet)

October 16

Richard Hooker, *Of the Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity*, Book 5, chapters 50-57 (reading packet)

October 23

READING WEEK - NO CLASS SESSION

October 30

John Colwell, *Promise and Presence*, Part I

November 6

John Colwell, *Promise and Presence*, Part II; Robert Jenson, "Church and Sacraments," in *The Cambridge Companion to Christian Doctrine*

November 13

John Colwell, *Promise and Presence*, Baptism-Confirmation-Lord's Supper

November 20

George Hunsinger, *The Eucharist and Ecumenism*, Part I: Real Presence
Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, Part III, questions 75 and 80 (selections)

November 27

George Hunsinger, *The Eucharist and Ecumenism*, Part II: The Sacrifice We Offer
Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, Part III, question 83 (selections)

December 4

Pro Ecclesia symposium on Hunsinger: Cohen, O'Gara, McIntosh, Saarinen, Hunsinger

Course outcomes	Course element	Assessment instrument(s)	M.Div outcomes (see College web site for a full listing of these)
By the end of this course, students will be able to	This outcome will be achieved by means of...	and will be demonstrated by...	This course outcome corresponds to this aspect of Wycliffe's MDiv outcomes: (note: this is a rough guide; other correlations are possible)
articulate the concept of a "sacrament"; describe the contours of historic debates over real presence and Eucharistic sacrifice; describe major issues in the theology of baptism, including debates between pedobaptist and believers' church traditions	Lectures, readings, seminar discussions	Seminar discussions, final exam	Aa1 - conversant with scripture, historic Christian faith Aa2 - history & theology of church; ecumenical sensitivity
say "why sacraments matter," in terms accessible to lay Christians	Lectures, readings, seminar discussions	Seminar discussions, final exam	Aa3 confident in evangelism, inspire enthusiasm in congregations
have improved their skills of theological reading, reasoning, and argumentation	bullet points, final exam		Aa1 - see above Ee4 - prepare and preach exegetically responsible & relevant sermons Ee6 - develop educational events for congregations

Bibliography

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This book on the Sacraments soulfully explores the mystical theology of the Eastern church. Not surprising as I'm told the predecessor and founder of the monastery Fr. Meletios now shepherds came to the East through Lossky 's book by that same title. Archimandrite Meletios is an Orthodox priest as well as as a psychotherapist . In " Bread and Water Wine and Oil " he presents a tightly woven two part book built around one word Mystery . We enter into the divine and the human by means of the four simple things in the book's title . Even more importantly, bread yeast produce alcohol that is plagued with a lot of off-flavors. The bread yeast becomes so stressed and has to work so hard that off-flavored enzymes and fatty acids are produced along with the alcohol. There are several other issues with using bread yeast to make your wine, but these are the big ones: the alcohol, the clearing, and the flavor. There are many, many different strains of wine yeast. These yeasts are bred over time to produce something of a "super" wine yeast.