

Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology (DSPT)

Syllabus for HM 2230 Liturgical Preaching

Fall 2019, Thursdays, 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this course, we will explore the criteria for a homily imposed by the liturgical celebration of the sacraments. Each Sacrament will be treated as to the requirements that it places on the preacher so that the homily is full accord with Catholic liturgical practices. We will also consider what is required in preaching in non-liturgical settings such as retreats, days of recollection, etc. (3.0 units)

PHILOSOPHY: The primary concern of this course is that the student studies, thinks and prays so as to deepen his or her personal appreciation for the act of liturgical preaching and the nuances called for by preaching in various liturgical moments. The student is expected to sincerely try to absorb and reflect on what is offered in this course and apply it to their own act of preaching.

INSTITUTIONAL OUTCOMES and COURSE GOALS:

The Expected Outcomes of the DSPT MDiv are as follows:

1. **[communication]** to communicate simply, accurately, and effectively the theological tradition of the Roman Catholic Church through preaching, teaching, and writing;
2. **[evaluation]** to analyze, assess, and critique theological perspectives and situations through scriptural, historical, systematic, and pastoral theological methods, and to assist others in doing the same;
3. **[application]** to apply Catholic teaching and theology, especially as exemplified by St. Thomas Aquinas, to pastoral situations, recognizing both the difficulties and the opportunities they present;
4. **[collaboration]** to lead and to work collaboratively with others in a just, charitable, and generous manner, respecting the relevant cultural, social, and ecclesial circumstances, all the while maintaining professional, ethical boundaries;
5. **[Church-uniting]** to foster Church communion, demonstrated through consistent dedication to community life, participation in prayer, and leading others in worship and theological reflection.

The goals of this course are in line with those outcomes (the number in parentheses are from the list above). The primary goal is to enable the student to preach appropriately and effectively in the various liturgical celebrations of the Catholic Church and to use the homily on the assigned Scriptural text to unify and direct the sacramental and liturgical celebration (1, 2, 3). In pursuing this end, the student will investigate the place and function of the proclamation of Scripture and preaching in liturgical celebrations and its theological foundations (2, 3, 5). The student will be asked to evaluate and understand the role of the preacher in liturgical moments vis-à-vis the particular congregation, those whose lives and life-defining events are being celebrated in a given liturgy, and the broader culture (1, 4, 5) Finally, the student will be asked to grasp the specific demands the various liturgical and sacramental celebrations make on the development of the homily and its presentation in the celebration(1,2,5).

Because of the variations in enrollment and the differing needs of the students, this syllabus may be amended in response to the concrete needs of the students. This Syllabus is provisional!

FORMAT: Lecture and practicum. Students will be expected to preach a 5 minute or less homily for each sacrament or liturgical celebration.

INTENDED AUDIENCE: This course is intended for DSPT MDiv and other clerical students, male or female, but lay students are also invited to attend and participate.

EXPECTATIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

1. During the course the student will develop and deliver at least seven liturgical homilies. The text of the homily will be due 48 hours before its presentation.
2. After each presentation, the class will critique the act of preaching in a positive way so as to help the presenter improve his or her preaching skills.
3. To assist the students in developing their liturgical preaching skills, a lecture on one or more aspects of liturgical preaching and its theology/spirituality will be delivered and then this will be discussed in the following class.
4. When necessary, one or more short research papers will be required.
5. The final grade will depend upon the effort made by the student to improve their liturgical preaching skills, class participation and the required research papers.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. ATTENDANCE: Because the student is needed not only to present their own work and critique the work of others, absence for more than 3 classes makes them ineligible for a grade for the course. (10% of grade)
2. PROCLAMATION: Before every homily, the student will be required to proclaim the text of Scripture upon which it is based. (20% of grade)
3. PREACHING: During the course, each student will be expected to prepare and preach several 5 min homilies based on a specific text of Scripture. (50% of grade)
4. CRITIQUE: Every student will be expected to critique the preaching of the other students ... **not in order to tear down or embarrass the preacher but to point out ways in which the preacher can improve and grow!** (20% of grade)

GRADES:

A summary of grade composition is given in the following table:

Attendance: 10% 2. Proclamation of Scripture: 20% 3. Preaching of homilies 50% 4. Critique of other students work 20% - Total 100%

Grading Scale: A=100, A-=97, B+=93, B=90, B-=87, C+=83, C=80, C-=77, D+=73, D=70, F=0.

No late work of any kind will be accepted (except, at my discretion, for very serious reasons). Grading of papers and presentations, proclamations and homilies and critiques are assigned according to the following criteria:

1. Demonstration of a clear and positive understanding to the elements of liturgical preaching.

2. Demonstration of a clear grasp of the ‘grace of the text of Scripture’ as it relates to the concrete need and condition of the people addressed within the context of liturgical celebration.
3. Demonstration of a positive effort to improve their understanding of the elements of preaching in various liturgical contexts and their ability to prepare and deliver a 5-minute homily.

REQUIRED TEXTS

(All these texts are available online, in the GTU library or will be handed out by the professor):

Benedict XVI, *Sacramentum caritatis*

Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, 2010.

Bible: A Complete Bible with all the books of recognized as canonical by the Roman Catholic Church, Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition, Jerusalem Bible, New American Bible, etc.

Code of Canon Law

Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, Sacred Congregation of Rites, Instruction *Eucharisticum mysterium* (25 May 1967)

Congregation for Divine Worship, Instruction *Liturgicae instaurationes* (5 September 1970)

Congregation for the Clergy, General Catechetical Directory (11 April 1971)

Homiletic Directory, Vatican City, 2014

Francis, Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelium gaudium*

General Introduction to the Lectionary, third edition General Instruction of the Roman Missal

John Paul II, Apostolic Exhortation, *Pastores dabo vobis*

John Paul II, Apostolic Exhortation, *Pastores gregis*

John Paul II, Apostolic Letter, *Dies Domini*

Paul VI, “Evangelii Nuntiandi”, 1976

Pontifical Biblical Commission, “The Interpretation of the Bible in the Church”, 1994

Rozakis, Laurie E., “The Complete Idiot’s Guide to Public Speaking (2nd Edition), 1999 or similar book on the principles of public speaking. Your choice. (See the GTU Library)

Sachs, John R, S.J., “Holy Spirit in Christian Worship” in the “The New Dictionary of Sacramental Worship”, editor Peter E. Fink, S.J., The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minnesota.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Documents of Vatican II

USCCB, “Directory for Masses with Children” 1975

USCCB, “Fulfilled in your hearing: Homily in the Sunday Assembly”, National \ Council of Catholic Bishops, 1982

USCCB, Preaching the Mystery of Faith, the Sunday homily

Catholic Ritual Texts and their Praenotanda (See GTU or St. Albert’s library for these)

NB: Students are required to **access** the books and documents listed here. However, the available printed editions are often prohibitively expensive. Therefore, **students are not required to purchase any texts**. Although specific editions are listed below, students may use any approved translation of the liturgical texts of the Latin Church, as long as they are the most recent edition (*editio typica*). Students who have difficulty getting access to any of the texts may see the

Instructor for alternatives. Many of these texts are available in English on the following websites: www.vatican.va, www.usccb.org, and at www.catholicliturgy.com

USCCB, "Rite of Baptism for Children"
USCCB, "Rite of Confirmation"
USCCB, "Rite of Penance"
USCCB, "Rite of Anointing and Care of the Sick"
USCCB, "Order for the Celebration of Matrimony"
USCCB, "Rite of Funerals"
USCCB, "Rite for Christian Initiation for Adults"

NB: If students (especially those preparing for ordination or work in liturgical ministry) wish, they can acquire: *The Rites of the Catholic Church: The Roman Ritual as Revised by Decree of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council and Published by Authority of Pope Paul VI*. Prepared by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy. Vols. 1-2. Study edition. Collegeville, Minn.: Liturgical Press, 1990-91. [vol. 1: 978-0814660157, \$22 new/\$12 used; vol. 2: ISBN-13: 978-0814660379, \$25 new/\$9 used, bookfinder.com]

Class Calendar and Assignments:

This syllabus is very provisional due to the varying number of students and the practical needs that they will encounter in preparing and delivering homilies. Other specific reading assignments may be added as the course progresses.

The Basic Structure of Each Class will include 1) Discussion of the Assigned Reading for the Class, 2) Lecture on the Topic of that session's subject and 3) Preaching and critique of homilies delivered by students. The Emphasis of the Class will be the preaching. (For each practical assignment – the actual deliverance of the reading or homily will be in the class following its assignment below (e.g. the practicum of Week 1, will be delivered in Week 2, etc.).)

WEEK 1 – Introduction to Course /Review of the Theology and Spirituality of Preaching

Assigned Reading: Second Vatican Council: "Dei Verbum" and *Sacrosanctum Concilium*

Assigned Reading: Pope Francis, *Evangelium Gaudium*

Practicum: Students will prepare an assigned Text from the Divine Office for Proclamation

Week 2 – Review of the Mechanics of Preaching and Centrality of Scripture

Assigned Reading: Rozakis, Laurie E., "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Public Speaking (2nd Edition), 1999 or similar book on the principles of public speaking.

Practicum: Prepare a Homily on the text of the Divine Office

Week 3 – Preaching in the Sunday Mass

Assigned Reading: USCCB, "Fulfilled in your hearing: Homily in the Sunday Assembly", National \ Council of Catholic Bishops, 1982 , USCCB General Instruction of the Roman Missal 55-66

Practicum: Prepare texts of Sunday Mass for Proclamation

Week 4 – Preaching in Specific Liturgical Moments and Seasons

Assigned Reading: General Instruction for the Liturgy of the Hours, General Instruction for the Lectionary

Practicum: Each student will be assigned a specific liturgical feast (e.g. “Third Sunday of Lent, year C,” “Ash Wednesday,” “Feast of the Sacred Heart”) to present to the class. They will examine the entire liturgy for that feast or day (Propers for Mass and Liturgy of the Hours, etc.) and prepare a 5 minute presentation on the specific tones and tenors of that come from the liturgical texts of the day. They will also prepare to proclaim a text from the liturgy of that feast.

Week 5 – The Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults

Assigned Reading: Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults, Periods of Evangelization, Catechumenate, and Purification and Enlightenment

Practicum: Students must read and be prepared to discuss the various ritual elements of the RCIA They will prepare a Homily for one of the Rituals of the Catechumenate or Period of Purification and Enlightenment

Week 6 – Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults - Initiation

Assigned Reading: RCIA - Initiation

Practicum: Students will prepare a Homily for the Easter Vigil or other Liturgy of Adult Initiation

Week 7 – Baptism of a Child

Assigned Reading: Rites of Baptism for Children

Practicum: Each Student will prepare a homily for a Baptism ritual (It will be specified that some will prepare a homily for a baptism at a Sunday Mass.

Week 8 – Confirmation and First Communion

Lecture: Preaching to children and adolescents

Assigned Reading: Rite of Confirmation, USCCB: Directory for Masses with Children (1975) (the entire text of this document is available at:

<http://www.catholicliturgy.com/index.cfm/FuseAction/DocumentContents/Index/2/SubIndex/11/DocumentIndex/477>

Practicum: Students will prepare a homily for a Mass of Confirmation – those being confirmed are adolescents – or for a Mass for Children’s 1st Communion

Week 9 – The Rite of Penance

Assigned Reading: The Rite of Penance with focus on the Communal Penance Services in the Appendix

Practicum: Each student will choose a scripture text for a communal penance service, proclaim the text and prepare a homily for such a service.

Week 10 – Anointing of the Sick

Assigned Reading: The Rite of Anointing

Practicum, each student will prepare a homily for a communal anointing service

Week 11 – Marriage

Assigned Reading: The Order for Celebrating Matrimony

Lecture: Wedding as a Unique Opportunity for Evangelization

Practicum: Prepare a Homily for a Wedding

Week 12 – Funeral

Assigned Reading: The Rites of Funeral

Lecture: Homily vs. Eulogy

Practicum: Each student will prepare a Homily for a Funeral Vigil or Funeral Mass

Week 13 – Preaching in non-liturgical Setting (retreats, missions, days of reflection)

Assigned Reading: TBD

Week 14 – Concluding Practicum

No assigned reading. This week will allow us time to complete the preaching assignments