

**Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology
Institute of Salesian Spirituality – Spring 2015
STSP 2398– Christology: Jesus As Companion**

3.0 units (5 ECTS) – Monday/ Thursday: 11:10 AM – 12:30 PM, at the Institute of Salesian Spirituality located at Don Bosco Hall, 1831 Arch Street in Berkeley.

Instructor: John Roche, SDB
1831 Arch Street Phone: 510-204-0801
Berkeley, CA 94709 E-mail jrochesdb@aol.com

Course Description

Salesian scholar, Sr. Giuseppina Del Core has written with conviction that this moment of history is marked by confusion and a desperate search for the spiritual. It is a time marked by disjointed spiritual and human formation which often leads to a lonely search for meaning. It is her belief that the world needs a spirituality of accompaniment: “A spirituality of accompaniment is a grace and a necessity for this moment.” Sr. Del Core refers specifically to a Salesian Spirituality which reveals Jesus as companion and points the way to holiness as a path that is shared by pilgrims one to the other and with their God. It is appropriate to thrust into the scene of rising new Christologies a specifically Salesian Christology as this grace and necessity demands. This course will present this Christology with its roots in the spiritualities of St. Francis de Sales and St. John Bosco and the many inspired paths borne of these two spiritual giants. Taken together, the image of Christ is a precise one that is profoundly new while rooted deeply in the Gospel encounters. This Christology begs Jesus the traveler to stay awhile in this globalized chaos that we might break bread and return to our communities enlivened.

Requirements: Reading of required materials, three theological reflections based on the material and its application to pastoral experience, and one classroom presentation.

Course Outline and Calendar

Week beginning February 2, 2015

Introduction:

1. Class requirements and understanding theological reflection
2. The many images of God: Surveying Christology

Week beginning Monday, February 9, 2015:

Examining the history of Christology:

1. Roman and first centuries depictions of Christ
2. Pauline images of Christ: "Being in Christ"

Week beginning Tuesday, February 17, 2015 (Class on February 19):

Continuing history of Christology:

1. Monastic Traditions east and west
2. Scholastic treatment of Christology

Week beginning Monday, February 23, 2015:

Christ in the age of Enlightenment and Humanism

1. Post-reformation understanding of Christ
2. The age of personal holiness and communal responsibility

Week beginning Monday, March 2, 2015:

St. Francis de Sales: Live Jesus!

1. Salesian understanding of Christ and universal call to holiness
2. The Sacred Heart of Jesus for a world of revolutions

Week beginning Monday, March 9, 2015

The formation of John Bosco during the Restoration

1. St. John Bosco and the God of creation
2. The person of Christ for St. John Bosco: Rigidity versus a Liguorian heart

Week beginning Monday March 16, 2015

The Calling of John Bosco as Companion

1. Companions for holiness
2. A pedagogy and spirituality of friendship

Week beginning Monday March 23, 2015: Spring Break

Week beginning Monday March 30, 2015 (Holy Week):

Don Bosco's Vision of Christ

1. Revisiting Don Bosco's vision of Christ
2. The translation of that vision in to Mission

Week beginning Monday, April 6, 2015:

Christ, the Compassion of God:

1. Monika Hellwig's 20th century Christology
2. Hans Urs von Balthazar's Incarnational vision

Week beginning Monday, April 13, 2015:

Prophetic Presence in the midst of Pseudo Community

1. Naïve Nostalgia, Apologetics, and Contemporary Reactions
2. Movements Not Born of Institution

Week beginning Monday April 20, 2015, Holy Week:

Diffusing the Gospel to the Capillaries: Responding to the Disappearance of Significant Christian Presence in Society

1. The Arenas of Science and Culture, Family Life, Social and Political Activity
2. A Flexible and Immediate Church: New Models

Week beginning Monday April 27, 2015:

New Models of Spirituality in a Time of Purification

1. The Kenotic Gift of God in Christ: the Biblical Model of our Time
2. Missionaries to Our Time and Culture

Week beginning Monday May 4, 2015:

Models of Accompaniment

1. Capturing Hearts, Ministers of Beauty, Transcending and Transforming Fears
2. Ministers of Mystery, Weavers of Wholeness and Organic Unity

Week beginning Monday May 11, 2015:Semester ends May 15

Catching the Love of God

1. Sacraments of Compassion
2. Holiness and Experience

Required Reading

HELLWIG Monika *Jesus the Compassion of God*. (Theology of Life Series, V. 9), Washington, D.C.: Health Policy Advisory Center, 1985.

ISBN-10: 0814654525 ISBN-13: 978-0814654521

JOHNSON Elizabeth A., *Consider Jesus: Waves of Renewal in Christology*. New York: The Crossroad Publishing Company, 1990.

ISBN-10: 0824511611 ISBN-13: 978-0824511616

NOLAN Albert, *Jesus Before Christianity*. New York: Orbis Books, 1976.

ISBN-10: 1570754047 ISBN-13: 978-1570754043

WRIGHT Wendy M., *Sacred Heart: Gateway to God*. New York: Orbis Books, 2001.

ISBN-10: 157075389X ISBN-13: 978-1570753893

Sources

BORG Marcus J., *Jesus: Uncovering the Life, Teachings, and Relevance of a Religious Revolutionary*. New York: Harper Collins, 2006.

COUSINS Ewert H., *Christ of the 21st Century*. New York: Continuum, 1998.

FOX Richard Wightman, *Jesus in America, a History: Personal Savior, Cultural Hero, National Obsession*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 2004.

HAIGHT Roger, *Jesus, Symbol of God*. New York: Orbis Press, 1999.

HELLWIG Monika *Jesus the Compassion of God*. (Theology of Life Series, V. 9), Washington, D.C.: Health Policy Advisory Center, 1985.

JOHNSON Elizabeth A., *Consider Jesus: Waves of Renewal in Christology*. New York: The Crossroad Publishing Company, 1990.

KASPER Walter, *Jesus the Christ*. Mahwah: Paulist Press, 1976.

LENTI, SDB Arthur, *Don Bosco, History and Spirit*. Vol. 3, *Don Bosco Educator, Spiritual Master, Writer, and Founder of the Salesian Society*. Rome: Libreria Ateneo Salesiana, 2008.

MC DONNELL, SDB Eunan, *God Desires You: St. Francis de Sales on Living the Gospel*. Dublin: The Columba Press, 2001.

MC INTOSH Mark A., *Christology from Within: Spirituality and the Incarnation in Hans Urs von Balthasar*. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1996.

- MOLTMANN Jürgen, *The Way of Jesus Christ: Christology in Messianic Dimensions*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1989.
- NOLAN Albert, *Jesus Before Christianity*. New York: Orbis Books, 1976.
- NOUWEN Henri, *Jesus, a Gospel*. New York: Orbis, published by Michael O’Laughlin and The Estate of Henri J.M. Nouwen, 2001.
- O’COLLINS SJ Gerald, *Jesus, A Portrait*. New York: Maryknoll, 2008.
- O’COLLINS SJ Gerald, *Christology: A Biblical, Historical, and Systematic Study of Jesus*. 2nd ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.
- PROTHERO Stephen, *American Jesus: How the Son of God Became a National Icon*. 1st ed. New York: Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2003
- RATZINGER Joseph, *On the Way to Jesus Christ*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2004.
- Salesian Youth Ministry Department. *Salesian Youth Ministry: A Basic Frame of Reference*. Translated and edited by George Williams, et al. English 2nd ed., Rome: Istituto Salesiano “Pio XI,” 2001.
- SHEA John, *The Challenge of Jesus*. Chicago: The Thomas More Press, 1984 (Encore Edition).
- STELLA Pietro, *Don Bosco: Religious Outlook and Spirituality*. Translated by John Drury. New York: Salesiana Publishers, 1996.
- TICKLE Phyllis, *The Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2008.
- VECCHI, SDB Juan E. et al., eds., Translated by George Williams, SDB. *Salesian Youth Pastoral Work*. Rome: LAS, 1990.
- _____. *Dire Dio Ai Giovani*. Collana “Meditazioni per Educatori,” a cura del Centro Salesiano Pastorale Giovanile, no. 5, Torino: Editrice ELLEDICI, 1999.
- _____. *Spiritualità salesiana: Temi Fondamentali*. Torino: Editrice ELLEDICI, 2001.
- WRIGHT Wendy M., *Sacred Heart: Gateway to God*. New York: Orbis Books, 2001.
- _____. *Heart Speaks to Heart: The Salesian Tradition*. New York: Maryknoll, 2004.

Journal & Articles

- CHO, S.J., Hyun-Chul, “Interconnectedness and Intrinsic Value as Ecological Principles of the World: An Appropriation of Karl Rahner’s Evolutionary Christology,” *Theological Studies* 70, no. 3 (2009) : 622-637.

COOK, S.J. Michael L., "The African Experience of Jesus," *Theological Studies* 70, no. 3 (2009) : 668-692.

ELIZONDO Virgilio, "Jesus the Galilean Jew in Mistizo Theology," *Theological Studies* 70, no.2 (2009) : 262-280.

FREYNE Sean, "The Galilean Jesus and a Contemporary Christology," *Theological Studies* 70, no. 2 (2009) : 281-297.

GROODY, C.S.C. Daniel G., "Jesus and the Undocumented Immigrant: A Spiritual Geography of a Crucified People," *Theological Studies* 70, no. 2 (2009) : 347-376.

PARK, S.N.J.M. Sophia, "The Galilean Jesus: Creating a Borderland at the Foot of the Cross (Jn 19:23-30)," *Theological Studies* 70, no. 2 (2009) : 419-436.

Written Work, Reflection, and Presentations

An important component of this study of Christology is interaction with the participants and an investment in deeper reflection and study. To that end, the participants in the classes are required to do personal reading, read the required texts, and to prepare written and presentational materials to be shared with the instructor and with the other participants.

A theological reflection paper is required 3 times during the course and is described below. One presentation is also required. There is no written final exam, but these three papers and the one classroom presentation are necessary for full engagement with the material.

Please refer to this chart for a schedule of required work:

Written Theological Reflections: *A theological reflection is not a research paper. It is the attempt on the part of the participant to bring her or his life to the materials in the lectures and those prompted by the lectures and resources listed. Such a reflection should be written on a word processing program in Times Roman font size 12, double spaced within 1 inch left and right margins on a standard 8.5 inches by 11 inches sheet of paper. The content should extend between 5 and 10 pages.*

Theological Reflection 1: The Development of Christology and Its Impact Upon Human History and Culture. This reflection is due on March 2, 2015.

Theological Reflection 2: “Live Jesus!” and the Devotions to Jesus in the 16th to 17th Centuries. The impact of *The Introduction to the Devout Life* on the understanding of the Jesus of faith. This reflection is due on April 6, 2015.

Theological Reflection 3: Modern and Post-modern Images and Models of Christ: What works and what is missing? This reflection is due on May 4, 2015.

Classroom Presentation:

Each participant is asked to prepare a 20 minute presentation for the class on any topic related to the discussions in the class. All are urged to explore and share some dimension of the class that has pastoral implications for your own ministry or touches upon an important issue related to the material. These presentations will begin on the Thursdays of the lecture days beginning March 11, 2015. Participants in the class are asked to submit a topic and reserve a lecture time by March 4, 2015. The scheduling of the presentations will be determined by the instructor and requested dates will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Grading for Credit

All participants are encouraged to engage in the written and presentational portions of the class as a necessary dynamic for the group learning and adult learning processes. If a person is taking a Pass/Fail track, the work is still an obligation. Auditing students are urged to participate in this dynamic as well. Those taking the course for full credit will understand that there are three parts given equal weight in the assessment of the final grade: 1) Class attendance with active participation and fulfillment of reading work; 2) The completion of three written theological reflections; 3) a classroom presentation on a salient topic (20 minutes).

Participants wishing to suggest other topics for theological reflection are welcome to make suggestions with the instructor. Variations on these requirements may be arranged by private consultation.

Contacting the Instructor

John Roche, SDB

E-mail: JRochesdb@aol.com

(510) 204-0823 office

(510) 725-5520 cell

Catalogue Description

A Salesian Spirituality reveals Jesus as companion and points the way to holiness as a path that is shared by pilgrims one to the other and with their God. It is appropriate to thrust into the scene of rising new Christologies a specifically Salesian Christology as a grace and necessity for our times. This course will present this Christology with its roots in the spiritualities of St. Francis de Sales and St. John Bosco and the many inspired paths borne of these two spiritual giants. Taken together, the image of Christ is a precise one that is profoundly new while rooted deeply in the Gospel encounters. This Christology begs Jesus the traveler to stay awhile in this globalized chaos that we might break bread and return to our communities enlivened.

STSP_____ – Christology: Jesus as Companion

Faculty (DSPT)

3.00 units

Mondays and Thursdays 11:10-12:30 at ISS or DSPT depending upon enrollment.

Textbooks

HELLWIG Monika *Jesus the Compassion of God*. (Theology of Life Series, V. 9), Washington, D.C.: Health Policy Advisory Center, 1985.

ISBN-10: 0894533657

ISBN-13: 978-0894533655 Out of print. Many used copies available online.

JOHNSON Elizabeth A., *Consider Jesus: Waves of Renewal in Christology*. New York: The Crossroad Publishing Company, 1990.

ISBN-10: 0824511611

ISBN-13: 978-0824511616 Priced at Amazon.com for \$12.89 down from \$18.95

NOLAN Albert, *Jesus Before Christianity*. New York: Orbis Books, 1976.

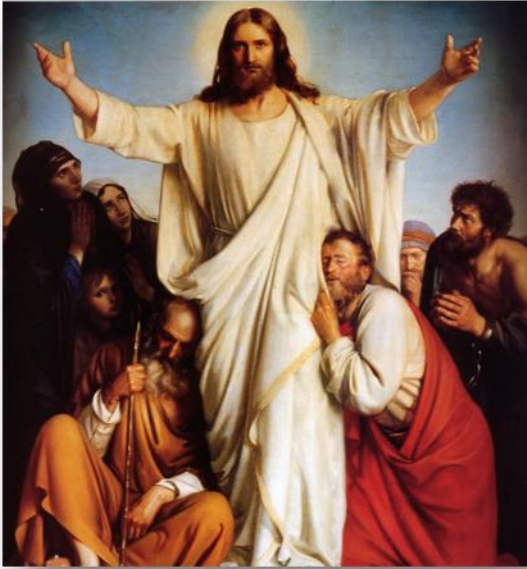
ISBN: 1570754047

ISBN-13: 978-1570754043 Priced at Amazon.com for \$10.20 down from \$15.00

WRIGHT Wendy M., *Sacred Heart: Gateway to God*. New York: Orbis Books, 2001.

ISBN-10: 157075389X

ISBN-13: 978-1570753893 Priced new at Amazon for \$18.00 but also available new for \$10.00 and up.



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Jesus As Companion

Participation Options for STSP 2390

Option One: 3 Smaller Theological Reflection Papers

Theological Reflection: The Development of Christology and Its Impact Upon Human History and Culture. This reflection is due on March 5, 2015

1. Theological Reflection: "Live Jesus!" and the Devotions to Jesus in the 16th to 17th Centuries. The impact of The Introduction to the Devout Life on the understanding of the Jesus of faith. This reflection is due on April 2, 2015.
2. Theological Reflection: Modern and Post-modern Images and Models of Christ: What works and what is missing? This reflection is due on May 6, 2015.

Option Two: 1 Longer Theological Reflection Paper

1. Perhaps you would prefer to tie together the many themes of a Salesian Christology and bring your own experiences, projections, ideas, and questions to the class. This paper would reveal in detail your own cultural and ministerial context or the context into which you will bring your ministry in the near future. This longer paper (10-15 pages) would be due the week of May 3, 2015.
2. This paper may be shared with the group for reaction and comment if you feel comfortable with that opportunity.

Option Three: A Class Presentation

1. In lieu of a written paper, you have the option to make a theological reflection as described in Option Two to be shared with the class by presentation. This may employ the aid of audio-visuals, PowerPoint, and other means for highlighting points in the presentation. These presentations would begin in March according to a schedule arranged with the instructor and participants. These presentations will be reserved for Thursday lecture days and should be planned for 20 minutes in duration.

