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|  | **MTG232.5**  **Theology in Context: The Spirit and the Church** |
| **Semester 1, 2024** |



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| Lecturer & Unit Supervisor | [Fr](mailto:Name) Dr John D’Alton  [jdalton@frontier.com.au](mailto:jdalton@frontier.com.au) | | |
| Delivery | Dates and Times  Mondays 6pm – 8pm  Fully Online | | |
| AQF Level | 5 | Credit Points | 6 |

**UNIT DESCRIPTION**

This unit develops the students’ understanding of pneumatology and ecclesiology. The unit aims to help students discuss these topics inter-contextually: that is, alongside Orthodox theology and contemporary western evangelical scholarship, students will learn to effectively engage with theologians from various historical contexts (e.g. Patristics, Medieval Scholastics, Reformers), cultural contexts (e.g. indigenous, African, South American), ecclesiastical contexts (e.g. Orthodox, Catholic, Baptist), as well as other often-marginalised voices (e.g. women, African-Americans). Key topics include: the Holy Spirit’s role and relationship in the Trinity, including the Filioque clause; human interactions with the Spirit in salvation, worship, and sanctification; the dynamics of ecumenicalism and denominationalism; the nature of the Church, or the churches; methods and meanings of the sacraments, including baptism and the Eucharist.

**PREREQUISITES**

MTG130.5 Exploring the Christian Faith

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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| **ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THIS TASK THE STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:** | **RELATED CONTENT** | **RELATED ASSESSMENT** |
| 1. Explain the historical and cultural developments within pneumatology and ecclesiology | Lectures and Tutorials Weeks 1-13 | 1,2 |
| 2. Classify various approaches to these doctrines cogently, in order to effectively convey them in various contexts the students may encounter, both inside and outside the academic sphere | Lectures and Tutorials Weeks 1-13 | 1,2,3 |
| 3. Explain their own position on key issues within one of the relevant theological topics, with reference to relevant scholarship | Lectures and Tutorials Weeks 1-13 | 2,3 |

**CHANGES MADE SINCE LAST OFFERED** (in response to Student Unit Evaluations)

N/A - first time offered by SCMOI

**REQUIRED TEXTS** (Students should purchase this/these texts)

Athanasius and Didymus the Blind, *Works on the Spirit* (Popular Patristics Series) (Yonkers, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press; New ed. 2022)

Lossky, Vladimir, *The Mystical Theology of the Eastern Church* (Crux Press, 2023)

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Afonsky, Gregory, *Christ and the Church* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2001).

# Alfeyev, Metropolitan Hilarion*, Mystery of Faith* (London: Darton, Longman and Todd, 2002).

Alfeyev, Hilarion, *Orthodox Christianity: vol 5 Sacraments and Other Rites* (Yonkers, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2020)

Allison, Gregg, Andreas J. Köstenberger, and David S. Dockery. *The Holy Spirit*. Nashville: TN: B&H, 2020.

Avis, Paul (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of Ecclesiology* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018).

# Barker, Margaret, “Temple and Liturgy,” (Lambeth, 2009). Online at: http://www.margaretbarker .com/ Papers/TempleandLiturgy.pdf

Baramosy, Seraphim El. *Kenotic Ecclesiology*. Springfield, VA: Agora University, 2020.

Bevans, Stephen B, and Katalina Tahaafe-Williams. Contextual Theology for the Twenty-First Century. Cambridge, UK: James Clarke, 2012.

Bevans, Stephen B. ‘God Inside Out: Toward a Missionary Theology of the Holy Spirit’. *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* (July 1998): 102-105.

Boersma, Hans and Matthew Levering, *The Oxford Handbook of Sacramental Theology* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015).

Boice, James Montgomery, and Philip Ryken. Foundations of the Christian Faith: A Comprehensive & Readable Theology. Revised and Expanded ed. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2019.

## Bouyer, Louis, *Eucharist: Theology and Spirituality of the Eucharistic Prayer* (Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1989).

Brock, Sebastian, *The Luminous Eye: The Spiritual World Vision of St Ephrem the Syrian* (Kalamazoo, MI.: Cistercian Publications, 1992).

Christo, Gus George, *The Church’s Identity: Established through images according to Saint John Chrysostom* (Rollinsford, NH.: Orthodox Research Institute, 2006).

Cunningham, Mary, *The Cambridge Companion to Orthodox Christian Theology* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009).

Cyprian of Carthage, *On the Church* (trans. Allen Brent; Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2006).

Di Berardino, Angelo (ed). *We believe in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church* (Ancient Christian Doctrine 5; ‎Westmont, Illinois: IVP Academic, 2010).

*Didache* (trans. and ed. J. B. Lightfoot; The Apostolic Fathers; https://ccel.org/ccel/lightfoot/fathers/fathers.ii.xii.html).

Dix, Dom Gregory, *The Shape of the Liturgy* (London: Dacre Press. Adam and Charles Black, 1945).

Fiorenza, Elisabeth Schüssler, *In Memory of Her: A Feminist Theological Reconstruction of Christian Origins* (London: SCM Press, 1983).

Fiorenza, Francis Schussler, and John P. Galvin, eds. *Systematic Theology: Roman Catholic Perspectives.* 2nd Edition. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2011.

Fee, Gordon, *Paul, the Spirit, and the People of God* ( Hendricksen: 1996).

Frost, Carrie, *Maternal Body: A Theology of Incarnation from the Christian East* (New York: Paulist Press, 2019).

Green, Gene L., Stephen T. Pardue, and Khiok-Khng Yeo. *The Church from Every Tribe and Tongue: Ecclesiology in the Majority World*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2018.

———, eds. *The Spirit over the Earth: Pneumatology in the Majority World.* Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2017.

Greenman, Jeffrey P., and Gene L. Green. *Global Theology in Evangelical Perspective: Exploring the Contextual Nature of Theology and Mission.* Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012.

Gregory the Great, *The Book of Pastoral Rule* (trans. George Demacopoulos; Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2007).

Gregory of Nazianzus, *Oration 2:21-36* (trans. Charles Browne and James Swallow; Philip Schaff, ed.; NPNF 2.9; https://ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf207/npnf207.iii.iv.html).

Gregory of Nazianzus, *Oration XL: The Oration on Holy Baptism*, (trans. Charles Browne and James Swallow; Philip Schaff, ed.; NPNF 2.9; https://ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf207/npnf207.iii.xxiii.html).

Gregory of Nyssa, *From Glory to Glory: Texts from Gregory of Nyssa’s Mystical Writings* (trans. Herbert Musurillo; Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2001).

Hatzidakis, Emmanuel, *The Heavenly Banquet: Understanding the Divine Liturgy* (Clearwater, FL.: Orthodox Witness, 2008).

Hierotheos, Metropolitan of Nafpaktos, *The Mind of the Orthodox Church* (trans. Esther Williams; Lavidia, Greece: Birth of the Theotokos Monastery, 1998).

Hierotheos, Metropolitan of Nafpaktos, *Orthodox Psychotherapy* (trans. Esther Williams; Lavidia, Greece: Birth of the Theotokos Monastery, 1994).

Horton, Michael. *Pilgrim Theology: Core Doctrines for Christian Disciples.* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2013.

## Ignatius of Antioch, *The Epistle of Ignatius to the Philadelphians* (ed. Philip Schaff; The Apostolic Fathers with Justin Martyr and Irenaeus; ANF01; https://ccel.org/ccel/ignatius\_antioch/epistles\_of\_ignatius/anf01.v.vi.html).

John Chrysostom, *Six Books On the Priesthood* (trans. Graham Neville; Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1984).

##### Justin Martyr, First Apology (trans. M. Dods; ed. Philip Schaff; The Apostolic Fathers with Justin Martyr and Irenaeus; ANF01; https://ccel.org/ccel/justin\_martyr/martyrdom\_of\_justin\_martyr/anf01)

Karkkainen, Veli-Matti, *An Introduction to Ecclesiology* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2002).

Kim, Grace Ji-Sun. The Holy Spirit, Chi, and the Other: A Model of Global and Intercultural Pneumatology. New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.

Leach, Joseph, and Lawrence Cross, *Image, Symbol and Mystery: An Eastern Christian View of the Sacraments* (Fairfax, VA.: Eastern Christian Publications, 2009).

Lehto, Adam, *The Demonstrations of Aphrahat, the Persian Sage* (Piscataway, NJ.: Gorgias Press, 2010).

Lewis, Donald M., and Richard V. Pierard. Global Evangelicalism: Theology, History and Culture in Regional Perspective. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2014.

Louth, Andrew, *St John Damascene* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002).

Mahoney, John. *The Holy Spirit and Moral Action in Thomas Aquinas*. Minneapolis, MB: Fortress, 2021.

Maximovitch, John (Author), Fr. Seraphim Rose (Editor), *The Orthodox Veneration of the Mother of God* (St. Herman of Alaska Brotherhood; 4th edition 2012).

Maximus, *Maximus Confessor: Selected Writings* (trans. George Berthold; New York: Paulist Press, 1985).

McGrath, Alistair, *Christian Theology: An Introduction* (Hoboken, NJ.: Wiley Blackwell, 2016).

McGrath, Alister E. *Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*. 2nd edition. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

McGuckin, John Anthony, *The Orthodox Church: An Introduction to its History, Doctrine, and Spiritual Culture* (Hoboken, NJ.: Wiley Blackwell, 2011).

Migliore, Daniel L. *Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology.* Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2014.

Oleksa, Michael, *Orthodox Alaska: A Theology of Mission* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1992).

# Oliver, John W. *Giver of Life: The Holy Spirit in Orthodox Tradition* (Paraclete Press, 2011).

Pomazansky, Michael, *Orthodox Dogmatic Theology* (trans. Seraphim Rose; Platina, CA.: Saint Herman of Alaska Brotherhood, 1997).

Saliba, Philip, *Feed My Sheep* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1987).

Schmemann, Alexander, *The Eucharist; Sacrament of the Kingdom* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2003).

Schmemann, Alexander, *For the Life of the World* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1963).

Schmemann, Alexander, *Introduction to Liturgical Theology* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2003).

Shahokvskoy, John, *The Orthodox Pastor: A Guide to Pastoral Theology* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2008).

Smail, Tom, *The Giving Gift* (Sydney: Hodder and Stoughton, 1988).

Troitsky, New Hieromartyr Hilarion, “Holy Scripture and the Church,” *The Orthodox Word* 264/265 (2009): 28– 72.

Volf, Miroslav, *After Our Likeness: The Church as Image of the Trinity* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998).

Wybrew, Hugh, *The Orthodox Liturgy* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press 2003).

# Zizioulas, John D., *Eucharist, Bishop, Church:* *The Unity of the Church in the Divine Eucharist and the Bishop During the First Three Centuries* (trans. [Elizabeth Theokritoff](https://www.amazon.com.au/s/ref=dp_byline_sr_book_2?ie=UTF8&field-author=Elizabeth+Theokritoff&text=Elizabeth+Theokritoff&sort=relevancerank&search-alias=books-single-index); Brookline, MA.: Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 2001).

Further resources, including recommended texts, websites and an extended bibliography, are listed on the unit site.

**SEMESTER PROGRAM**

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| **Week beginning OR actual Date** | **Week** | **Lecture / Workshop Topic** | **Pre-Readings** |
| 19 Feb | 1 | **Church:** Ecclesiology in the Early Church; Ignatius, Irenaeus, Cyprian. OT and NT models. | Ignatius to the Philadelphians, Hierotheos Mind 24-37 |
| **26 Feb** | 2 | **Church and the Holy Spirit:** Church, Spirit and Kingdom (Church, sacrament, ministry, and Kingdom in Chrysostom and Basil liturgies) | Kingdom-Alfeyev, Mystery of the Faith 96-121. |
| 4 Mar | 3 | **Church:** Nature of the Church in Chrysostom, Maximos, Pomazansky, and Alfeyev. | Chrysostom (3 sections in Christo) |
| 11 Mar | 4 | **Church:** Church and Sacraments in Cyril of Jerusalem, John of Damascus, Gregory of Nyssa | Gregory of Nyssa,  John Dam. Expos. 82,86. |
| 18 Mar |  | No classes |  |
| 25 Mar | 5 | **Church, the Holy Spirit, and Sacraments:** Eucharist in Early Church (Didache, Ignatius, Justin Martyr), Ministry and Eucharist (Schmemann), | *Didache*, Justin Martyr First Apology 61, 65-67. |
| 1 Apr | 6 | **Church, the Holy Spirit, and Sacraments:** Baptism, Chrismation, Anointing, Marriage, Monasticism. Gregory of Nazianzus, Ephrem. | Ephrem on Body, Baptism, Brock 36-38, 85-97. |
| 8 Apr | 7 | **Holy Spirit and the Sacraments:** Confession/Repentance and Healing (Gregory the Great, Hierotheos); | Gregory 87-99, |
| 15 Apr | 8 | **Holy Spirit and the Church:** Ordination, Priests, Deacons, Bishops, and other orders (Chrysostom and Gregory). | Chrysostom Priesthood chaps 2, 9. |
| 22 Apr | 9 | **The Holy Spirit, the Church and the Theotokos**: The Holy Spirit in the Incarnation of Christ, and the Orthodox Veneration of the Mother of God | Maximovitch, John (Author), Fr. Seraphim Rose (Editor), *The Orthodox Veneration of the Mother of God* |
| 29 Apr,  6 May |  | No classes |  |
| 13 May | 10 | **The Holy Spirit and the transforming Ministry of the Church:** Ministry for and to the world (Schmemann), transformation of space and time. Gregory of Nazianzus Oration 2. | Schmemann chap2 |
| 20 May | 11 | **Holy Spirit, Church and Ministry:** Holy Spirit as Healer of the Soul, Ministry as psychotherapy (Hierotheos) | Hierotheos 57-87. |
| 27 May | 12 | **Holy Spirit, Church and Ministry:** Holy Spirit and Pastoral Theology (Shahovskoy), | Aphrahat Dem 10 |
| 3 June | 13 | **Holy Spirit and the transforming Ministry of the Church:** Mission, St Cyril and Methodius, Alaska Case Study, Saliba. | Oleksa chap, Saliba chap TBA |

**ASSESSMENT TASKS**

**Due Dates Summary:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Assessment** | **Words** | **Value** | **Due Date** |
| 1. **Class Discussion Papers on Assigned Readings:** Describe various theological positions and contexts for each week’s topic, based on the readings under discussion each week. (2000 words equivalent) | 2000 | 40% | Weekly starting week 2  (Papers start from week 2, but week 1 reading should be prepared before class ready for discussion in week 1) |
| 2. **Textbook Review**: Review one of the two required texts. Discuss essential characteristics and debates for this unit’s various theological topics, and their contemporary relevance. (1000 words) | 1000 | 20% | Week 6 |
| 3. **Research Essay:** Investigate one or two major issues within the unit’s various topics, with reference to relevant scholarship. (2000 words) | 2000 | 40% | Week 13 |

**Task Description:**

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| **ASSESSMENT TASK 1**  **Class Discussion Papers on Assigned Readings**  **40%**  *Due: Weekly starting week 2*  *2000 words* |
| **Instructions**  Students are to produce and deliver 5 papers of 400 words length and deliver them in class for approx. 5 minutes, with an analysis of key points of the week’s assigned reading. During week 1 students will pick which of the 12 possible week’s readings they will focus on. This presentation should include the following elements (key points from the reading related to the themes of the Holy Spirit and/or the Church, some analytic comment for example its relationship to other writers, and 1 or 2 points about the context of the text). |
| **Rationale and Expectations**  There are many writings relevant to the topics of the Holy Spirit and the Church across 2000 years that need to be understood in context and in relation to other texts. Students are expected to become aware of the breadth of views and their historical and theological contexts. |
| **ASSESSMENT TASK 2**  **Textbook Review**  **20%**  *Due: Week 6*  *1000 words* |
| **Instructions**  Read thoroughly and then Review one of the two required texts. Discuss essential characteristics and debates in the text in relation to this unit’s various theological topics, and their contemporary relevance. |
| **Rationale and Expectations**  The theology of the Church and Holy Spirit must be understood and applied at a significant level and this assessment requires students to engage at least 1 author at a deeper level, drawing out relevant applications. Students should review the book and relate it to three different theological schools of thought, for example Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Pentecostal, Reformed. |
| **ASSESSMENT TASK 3**  **Research Essay**  **40%**  *Due: Week 13*  *2000 words* |
| **Instructions**  Students are to write an analytical paper that demonstrates critical analysis and research on a topic, including patristic, biblical and modern understandings and implications. The paper should critically engage with the theological, literary, and socio-historical contexts for various texts. Possible Essay Questions include:   * Discuss the view that the Eucharist is the centre of the church’s life and ministry. * Compare and contrast the views of the church of Ignatius and some modern author e.g. Hierotheos. * What is the role of the Holy Spirit within the Church in relation to either worship or sanctification. * In what sense is every Christian part of the “royal priesthood” (1 Pet. 2:9) and how does this affect the church’s ministry? * What were the functions of meals among Jews of Christ’s time? And how does this inform our understanding of the Eucharist? * How do the texts for the blessing of the baptismal waters and the Eucharistic anaphora compare? * How is the baptismal imagery of “putting on the robe of glory” relate to Christian growth, and to the role of the Holy Spirit in the person within the Church? * In what sense is the Holy Spirit “another Comforter” and how does this inform our understanding of the Church? * What is the relationship between baptism and chrismation? * In what sense is the Eucharist a meal? A sacrifice? A memorial? * In what ways is the Church the Body of Christ? * How did the filioque clause distort the role of the Holy Spirit in Western church practice and theology? * How is the Orthodox view of confession and repentance different to other Christian views? * What are the main differences between the roles of the bishop, priest, and deacon in the Church, and how did this develop historically? * How does the imagery of the Syrian fathers help us understand the Holy Spirit and the Church? * Another question as agreed with the lecturer. |
| **Rationale and Expectations**  The topics of the Holy Spirit and the Church encompass many related areas, and students need to be able to engage these themes in depth and with breadth. This major essay requires students to read widely and analytically, and discuss a topic at significant depth, relating to the material from theological, historical, and practical angles. |

**OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT ASSESSMENTS**

Please refer to this Unit’s website tile *Assignments* (hyperlink) for further information about assignments, assessment criteria, grading scale, and the process for late submission of assignments.

Refer to the [*Student Academic Toolkit*](https://learn.tabor.edu.au/course/view.php?id=3718)for information about academic integrity and avoiding plagiarism, referencing, formatting, and for relevant links to Tabor and faculty policy. If you are unsure, consult your lecturer or program coordinator for advice.

**FURTHER INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS UNIQUE TO THIS UNIT**

N/A