ST 862: THEOLOGY OF HOLY ORDERS
WINTER SEMESTER ’16
Fr. Louis Madey

lmadey@sscms.edu
TH 10:00 – 11:50
CAC 108 2CR

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A theological examination of the orders of bishop, priest and deacon. Discussion of ordained ministry in general will focus on the priesthood of ancient Israel, Jesus’ ministry and priesthood, church office in the early church, the development of Catholic teaching, and ecumenical dialogues. Attention will be given to the history and theology of each order as well as such contemporary issues as the ordination of women, mandatory celibacy, collegiality, and the work for justice as constitutive of preaching the Gospel.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

To be able to critically differentiate the degrees of the Sacrament of the Holy Orders and see their unity in the Apostolic Mission of the Church

To understand the dynamic relationship of the divine and the human in sacraments in general and in Holy Orders specifically

To comprehend the divine “institutio sacramentorum” in Christ as the UR-SACRAMENT
To learn to appreciate the distinct hierarchy of orders in the Church; the principle of participation and the “fullness of orders;” the distinction and the interrelationship between the common and the ministerial priesthood in the Church

To see in a clearer light the Church as the guardian of the deposit of faith and the divinely instituted sacraments

To be able to answer the question: Who can be validly ordained? The conditions for and the impediments to ordination, the role of celibacy in the ministerial priesthood

To obtain a deeper insight into the ecclesial constitutive relationship between the Sacrament of Holy Orders and the Holy Eucharist

To be able to see clearly the Christ-centrality of Priesthood

REQUIRED TEXTS


Vatican II Documents

*Catechism of the Catholic Church* (Doubleday) New York, 1995

*Pastores Dabo Vobis,*
*Program of Priestly Formation* by USCCB, Washington, D.C. (PPF, the latest edition)


*Instruction on the Ecclesial Vocation of the Theologian*, by the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, Vatican City 1990 (Attention: the text should be viewed in the light of the role of priest as preacher, teacher and theological thinker)


ADDITIONAL REFERENCE TEXTS


COURSE CALENDARIUM

1. INTRODUCTION: THE CONCEPT OF ORDER, SACRAMENT, SACRAMENTS AND THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS, INSTITUTIO SACRAMENTORUM AS THE DIVINE GIFT TO THE CHURCH, THE NATURE OF CREATION AND THE NATURE OF REDEMPTION, LANGUAGE SIGN, SACRAMENTAL SIGN AND SIGNIFICATION, ANTHROPOLOGICAL AND THEOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF PRIESTHOOD, DIACONATE, PRESBITERATE AND EPISCOPACY IN THE HIERARCHY OF HOLY ORDERS; An attention will be given to the possible topics and method of writing of the research paper.

2. THE SACRAMENTS IN GENERAL AND SACRAMENTAL THEOLOGY (Sacramentum Mundi, pp 1477-1488)

3. AN OVERVIEW OF THE TEACHING OF ST. THOMAS AQUINAS ON THE SACRAMENT OF ORDERS (Summa Theologica)


5. THE PETRINE PRINCIPLE OF HOLY ORDERS (HIERARCHICAL UNITY), THE PRIMACY OF PETER AND THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH (Ratzinger, pp 47-74)

6. THE TASK OF THE BISHOP (Ratzinger, pp 75-104)

7. THE ESSENCE OF PRIESTHOOD IN THE CONTEXT OF THE RENEWAL OF THE CHURCH (Ratzinger, pp 105-165)

8. THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH ON HOLY ORDERS (Part II, Article 6) MID-TERM EXAM

9. CELIBACY AND MATURITY; THE HOUR OF CHOICE, PRIESTLY CELIBACY AND FRATERNITY, CELIBACY IN THE WORLD RELIGIONS CONTEXT (in Priesthood and Celibacy, pp 801-833; 895-917)

10. FREEDOM AND OBEDIENCE IN THE PRIESTLY SERVICE TO THE ECCLESIAL COMMUNION (cf. Instruction on the Ecclesial Vocation of the Theologian)

11. AN OVERVIEW OF THE PPF (USCCB DOCUMENT)
ATTENTION

The course is taught in the mode of “writing to learn.”

Review the standard requirements for writing an academic research paper.

Grading is according to the system of the SSCMS Catalogue

Personal academic integrity of a student is fully expected: intellectual honesty – no plagiarism!

Systematic attendance, timely assignments and active participation in the classes are necessary for a good grade