

**School of Theology and Ministry**  
**Seattle University**  
901 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, PO Box 222000  
Seattle, WA 98122-1090  
*Syllabus subject to change, if needed.*

**STMA 502 – Ecclesiology**     3 credits  
**Winter Quarter, 2010**  
**Wednesdays – 1:30 – 4:30 pm; FINR 120**  
Pre-requisite: STMM 500 or 501

**Instructor: Paul Janowiak S.J.**  
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Office: Hunthausen 220; 296-2534  
Office Hours: Thursday mornings and  
afternoons and by appointment

**Required Texts:**

**Rausch S.J., Thomas P.,** *Towards a Truly Catholic Church: An Ecclesiology for the Third Millennium* (Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 2005)  
**Doyle, Dennis M.,** *Communion Ecclesiology* (Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Press, 2000)  
**LaFont O.S.B., Ghislain,** *Imagining the Catholic Church: Structured Communion in the Spirit*,  
Trans. John J. Burkhard O.F.M. Conv. (Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 2000)  
**Stagaman S.J., David J.,** *Authority in the Church* (Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1999)  
Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (*Lumen gentium*), Vatican II, 21 November, 1964  
Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (*Gaudium et spes*), Vatican II, 7  
December, 1965

**Required Articles on Angel** (others may be added, if needed)

**Congar O.P., Yves,** “The Mystical Body of Christ,” in *The Mystery of the Church* (Baltimore: Helicon Press, 1960), 118-146.  
**de Lubac S.J., Henri,** “The Church as Mystery,” in *The Splendor of the Church* (1953) in *The Splendor of the Church* (San Francisco; Ignatius Press, 1999), 15-50.  
**Fahey S.J., Michael A.,** “Ecumenical Ecclesiology,” in *The Gift of the Church: A Textbook on Ecclesiology*, Peter C. Phan, ed. (Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 2000), 111-127.

**Course Content and Scope:**

Ecclesiology is the systematic and theological study of the Church, ‘one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.’ This Church, founded on the original revelation, is not simply a storehouse of faith, but she is a living, dynamic, Spirit-filled body of believers, Christ’s own Body, the People of God. To that extent, as Karl Rahner has said, “The Church presents revelation as something that takes place ‘now’ as it is uttered by the living voice and offers itself to be appropriated this day in the hearing of believers” (*TI 4, I*). The ecclesial communion has visible structures, an expressive, sacramental life, an understanding of authority and collegiality, and a way of being in the world that incarnates that revelation and proclamation (*LG 14*). It is all this we will try to appreciate during these weeks.

The readings and class discussion attempt to open up this complex reality we call “the Church,” and we will be asking ourselves how ecclesiology shapes the way we understand ourselves, the way we pray and act and move into the future. Since we have only ten weeks, the books and other materials focus on themes rather than on historical development, and special attention is given to the Vatican II documents on the Church, unfolding especially in the metaphors of communion, sacrament, mystery, and mystical Body of Christ. All through this, my hope is that you will wrestle with these

themes, seek to find an expression for your own ecclesial identity, and deepen your love for this communal identity out of which we all live our faith and serve as minister.

**Course Requirements and Evaluation:** This course is primarily Roman Catholic in focus, but attempts are made to see how the gift of ecumenical dialogue and exchange is mutually shaping our lives as followers of Jesus Christ. As in any shared learning context, students are expected **to read the materials assigned and participate actively** in the shared discussion each week. Learning to struggle with the text and to ask the right questions and to listen to alternative perspectives makes this a communal process. I need you to demonstrate that you are familiar with the reading and that you can engage all of us in discussion. **It follows from this that attendance affects the final grade. If you expect that you will be missing a number of classes due to outside commitments, this is not the quarter to take this class.** Kindly contact me if you are missing class, with a plan on how you will acquire the material and discussion for the session in question.

In addition, I would ask that you write an 8-10 page paper in which you respond to the following:

Imagine that as a pastoral minister you are speaking to a gathering of people interested in the Church, struggling with their faith, wanting something in which to believe and hope, a Church to love. Take what you have read and learned, and shape it into an essay that speaks to a contemporary community today. Feel free to use metaphors, the marks of the Church, and “the joy and hope, the grief and anguish of the people of our time” to which the Church can provide a home for their longing.

Please edit your work, as expression and readability will affect the grade. Please consult the *Handbook for Writers* (Troyka and Hesse) for guidelines and formats. Do not use contractions! These papers are due to me **no later than Tuesday, March 16, 2010**. I ask that you be responsible in this, so that I can be responsible to my own commitments. Thank you.

### **Some STM shared values we will share:**

- **Academic Honesty:** The School of Theology and Ministry strictly adheres to the Academic Policy concerning Academic Honesty as published in the Seattle University Student Handbook.
- **Students with Disabilities:** If you have, or think you may have, a disability (including an “invisible disability” such as a learning disability, a chronic health problem, or a mental health condition) that interferes with your performance as a student in this class, you are encouraged to discuss your needs and arrange support services and/or accommodations through Disabilities Services staff in the Learning Center, Loyola 100, (206) 296.5740.

### **Course Outline**

**Class #1: Wednesday, January 6** – Wednesday after Epiphany; Bl. André Bessette, C.S.C.

- Introduction, syllabus, structure, and evaluation – presented by Fr. Peter Ely S.J.
- In my absence, Fr. Ely will pre-lect the Vatican documents on the Church, *Lumen gentium* and *Gaudium et spes*. What led to their being the heart of the Vatican II achievement as a dogmatic and a pastoral “Constitution”?

- If there is time, you may wish to share with the class some reflections: *Why is the Church important to me? Why is the Church important to the world? How has it shaped my spiritual and ministerial identity?*
- Reading: You may wish to start with *Lumen gentium*; optional: Stagaman, Ch. 4, “The First Millennium” (for historical background from N.T. until early Councils), 65-89

**Class #2: Wednesday, January 13** - First Week in Ordinary Time; St. Hilary of Poitiers  
Vatican II and the Framing a Vision of the Church: The images of a Church, ‘ever ancient and ever new’ (St. Augustine)

- *Lumen gentium*, Vatican II (various editions available)
- Rausch, 1-33
- Optional: Stagaman, Ch. 5, “The Second Millennium” (Medieval Christendom until the twentieth century), 91-118.

**Class #3: Wednesday, January 20** – Second in Ordinary Time; St. Fabian and St. Sebastian  
“The joy and hope, the grief and anguish of the people of our time”: *Gaudiam et spes* and the solidarity of the Church with the world

- *Gaudiam et spes*, Vatican II (various editions available)
- Rausch, 38-44

**Class #4: Wednesday, January 27** – Third in Ordinary Time; St. Angela Merici  
Metaphors and Images to Name a Mystery We Are

- Rausch, 45-60
- Congar, “The Mystical Body of Christ” (Angel)
- deLubac, “The Church as Mystery” (Angel)

**Class #5: Wednesday, February 3** – Fourth in Ordinary Time; St. Blaise  
Communion in the Body of Christ: The Church as basic sacrament and a ‘bond of interwoven relationships,’ Part 1

- Doyle, 1-71
- Rausch, 69-86
- Stagaman, 1-17

**Class #6: Wednesday, February 10** – St. Scholastica  
Communion, Part II: Developments after Vatican II and the role of authority in a sacramental vision

- Doyle, 72-180
- Stagaman, 19-33

**Class #7: Wednesday, February 17** – Ash Wednesday  
Changing Paradigms: “Structured Communion in the Spirit”

- LaFont, Part I, 1-62 (*This is dense reading; hang in there – it is worth it!*)
- Rausch, 87-130
- Stagaman, 35-63

**Class #8: Wednesday, February 24** – First of Lent  
Imagining a New Form of the Church in the Modern World

- LaFont, 67-133
- Rausch, 131-151

**Class #9: Wednesday, March 3** – Second of Lent; St. Katherine Drexel  
Reception into a New Identity: *Diakonia in “A Truly Catholic Church”*

- LaFont, 135-219
- Rausch, 152-181

**Class #10: Wednesday, March 10** – Third of Lent  
Challenges for Catholicism and Other Christian Churches

- Rausch, 182-223
- Stagaman, 119-139
- Fahey, 111-127 (Angel)

Thank you all for your work this quarter. Please note that for the sake of thematic coherence, some weeks have more reading than others. Plan ahead. The materials are meant to overlap and expand on themes week upon week, as we grow more comfortable with the material. At the same time, I hope you are led to a deeper reflection on your own faith and your role as a minister and teacher of the Gospel life we are called to live. It was an honor to study and learn with you.

I ask that you remember that the final paper is due no later than **Tuesday, March 16**. If you wish your paper returned with my commentary, kindly leave me a self-addressed envelope or note that I should place it at STM for pick-up in the spring quarter.

This course fulfills the following learning outcomes as set forth by the School of Theology and Ministry:

- The ability to reflect theologically on the central themes of the Christian tradition
- Ability to articulate one’s relationship with God, as it is informed by theological reflection in one’s social context
- Ability to engage the community with the larger social context and to articulate and communicate the mission that guides the community