

THERESE B. DE LISIO, J.D., M.Div., Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

Union Theological Seminary, New York, NY

Doctor of Philosophy, May, 2007 (Systematic Theology and Worship)

Master of Philosophy, May, 2005

Master of Divinity, May, 2000

Awards:

Robert Wood Lynn Fellowship, for showing promise of excellence in teaching or in a ministry of education, May, 2007

Daniel Day Williams Fellowship, for outstanding work in theology, May, 2004

Jonathan Kneeland Award, for best exegetical sermon, "Jacob's Dream," Spring, 1999

Major Research Projects:

Dissertation:

"Stretching the Sacramental Imagination in Sacramental Theology, Liturgy, and Life: A Trinitarian Proposal for a Cosmologically Conscious Age"

Doctoral Field Exams:

"The Sacramental Imagination as Earth Ethos" (contemporary theological issue)

"Imagination as an Aspect of Theological Anthropology in the Thought of St. Augustine, Immanuel Kant, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Reinhold Niebuhr and Howard Thurman" (history of a doctrine)

"Taking Back The Best Words: Lessons for Prophetic Christians from the Metaphorical School of Sallie McFague and Gail Ramshaw" (theological method)

"The Mystery of God in the Theology of St. Thomas Aquinas, Karl Rahner, and Elizabeth A. Johnson" (comparison of three theologians)

M. Div. Thesis:

"Grace Acted Out: Eucharistic Ritual, Theology, and Ethical Praxis"

St. John's University School of Law, Jamaica, NY

Juris Doctorate, June, 1983

St. Francis College, Brooklyn, NY

B.A. Psychology, June, 1977

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Level:

Seabury-Western Theological Seminary (Evanston, IL)

Adjunct Professor of Theology and Liturgy

Jan-Term, 2012; Jan-Term and Fall, 2010: “Anglican Liturgy and Music,” an interdisciplinary course co-taught in hybrid online/residential intensive formats

Fall, 2008: “Worship of the Episcopal Church,” an historical, theological, and liturgical study of the *Books of Common Prayer*, *Book of Occasional Services*, and *Enriching Our Worship*

Spring, 2008: “Introduction to Systematic Theology,” a comprehensive foundational course covering all major doctrinal areas from historical and contemporary perspectives

Epiphany Term, 2006: “Liturgy II,” a required foundational course in ecumenical liturgical history, theology and practice, with an emphasis on Baptism and Eucharist

Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary (Evanston, IL)

Fall, 2009: directed independent study of a Methodist liturgy doctoral student on the topic of sacrifice in feminist Eucharistic prayers

Fall, 2007: directed independent study of a Lutheran liturgy doctoral student on the topic of the liturgical year as observed in “non-liturgical” churches

Chicago Theological Seminary (Chicago, IL), Adjunct Faculty

Spring, 2009: “Feminist Liturgical Traditions,” a seminar in a hybrid on-line and face-to-face format that explored the history, theology, and practices of feminist worship, with a strong experiential learning emphasis

Catholic Theological Union (Chicago, IL)

Fall, 2007: Adjunct Instructor, “Liturgical Year: History, Theology, and Spiritual Practices,” an advanced-level seminar

March, 2006: Guest Lecturer, “Sacraments I,” a course on Roman Catholic Rites of Christian Initiation and Reconciliation. Topic: “What is a sacrament? A Critical Historical and Theological Overview”

Summer, 2005: Instructor, Summer Institute, “The Mystery of God in Thomas Aquinas, Karl Rahner and Elizabeth A. Johnson”

Union Theological Seminary (New York, NY)

Fall, 2003: Guest Lecturer, “Deep Christian Traditions as Earth Faiths,” a course in ecological ethics. Topic: “Sacramental Theology and Ecological Ethics”

October, 2003: Lecturer at a seminary sponsored public symposium on “The Continuing Relevance of Reinhold Niebuhr.” Topic: “The Theological and Ethical Significance of the Serenity Prayer”

Spring, 2003: Teaching Assistant to Dr. Christopher Morse, “Foundations in Christian Theology”; conducted a weekly seminar; graded student assignments, papers and exams; and prepared student evaluations

Undergraduate Level:

Saint Xavier University, (Chicago, IL)

Spring, 2010: Adjunct Faculty, “Christian Sacraments,” an introductory course in sacramental theology, with special emphasis given to the sacramentality of creation

Fall, 2007: Instructor, Pastoral Ministry Institute, “Seeing the Universe as Sacrament”

Fall, 2006: Instructor, Pastoral Ministry Institute, “Feminist Theology: Roots and Fruits”

Dominican University (Chicago, IL) Adjunct Faculty

Fall 2011 and 2009: “Women and Religion: Christian, Jewish, and Muslim Women in North America,” an undergraduate course that took an historical, theological, and comparative approach to North American women in Christianity, Judaism, and Islam

Spring, 2010: “Technology, Work and Leisure: What is Our Great Work?” an interdisciplinary Liberal Arts Seminar in which students considered the nature and interplay of work, leisure, and technology in the context of contemporary ecological concerns

Fall, 2009: “Beyond a Reasonable Doubt,” co-taught a Freshman honors seminar on the topics of truth, faith, and doubt; responsible primarily for teaching that part of the course concerning Augustine’s *Confessions*

Loyola University (Chicago, IL), Adjunct Faculty

Spring, 2009: “Introduction to Theology,” a core undergraduate course introducing students to all major doctrinal areas and to contemporary constructive theologies, with special emphasis given to insights from contemporary cosmology and the new sciences

Fall, 2008: “Women and Religion,” a comprehensive core undergraduate course that explored the religious imaginations of Christian women in the Americas

Adult Continuing Education:

Theology South (Chicago, IL)

April, 2008: Series Lecturer, "Reinhold Niebuhr's Serenity Prayer: No Peace Without Justice." Theology South is a group of retired professional Chicagoans who sponsor continuing education lectures at St. Xavier University

St. Gertrude's Institute (Chicago, IL)

Fall, 2007: Instructor, "Seeing the Universe as Sacrament," a four-week seminar for the adult education program at St. Gertrude's Roman Catholic Church

Fall, 2005: Instructor, "Feminist Theology," a five-week adult education seminar

Broadway Presbyterian Church (New York, NY)

May, 2002: Lecturer, "The Trinity and the Mystery of God," for the Sunday lecture series

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Brooklyn Regional Community (Brooklyn, NY)

February, 2001: Lecturer, "Feminist Theology," for a Theological Education Day sponsored by and for the Sisters and Associates of Mercy

Holy Apostles Episcopal Church (New York, NY)

Spring, 1999: Instructor, "Theology of Atonement," a six-week course for the parish adult education program

PRESENTATIONS and PUBLIC LECTURES

November, 2011: Presentation entitled "Baptism and Creation Care: Making the Connections," presented at the 174th Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago

October, 2011: Public lecture entitled "Reflections on the Theology of Karl Rahner and Contemporary Cosmology," presented at The Well Spirituality Center, La Grange, IL

February, 2010: Public Lecture entitled "Swimming Together in Holy Water: Re-imagining Baptismal Ecclesiology in a Sacramental Universe," presented at Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge, MA

April, 2009: Presentation to the Ecumenical Roundtable on Science, Technology and the Church on the significance of including science and technology in seminary education, presented in Chicago, IL

January, 2008: "Luther's 'Flood Prayer' and Lutheran Prayers at the Font," a paper delivered to the Christian Initiation Seminar at the annual meeting of the North American Academy of Religion, Savannah, GA

January, 2006: Presentation: "Considering the Cosmos as Primary Sacrament: A viable basis for an ecological sacramental theology, liturgy, and ethics?" for the Liturgical Theology Seminar, North American Academy of Liturgy, San Diego, CA

May, 2003: Conducted a one-day retreat for Sisters and Associates of Mercy on the history and significance of "A Comfortable Cup of Tea," a symbol of identity, spirituality, and mission in the Mercy tradition

May, 2001: Founded and managed "New York Metro Women in Theology," a web-based discussion forum for women studying systematic, ethical and practical theology in New York Metropolitan Area graduate schools

October, 2000: Conducted a one-day workshop on the topic, "Women's Friendships in Theological and Ethical Context," for the Mercy Feminist Network, New York

PUBLICATIONS

"Did Reinhold Niebuhr Really Care About Racism in America?" *Union Seminary Quarterly Review* 61:3-4 (Winter, 2009): 1-16 [juried publication].

"Considering the Cosmos as Primary Sacrament: A viable basis for an ecological sacramental theology, liturgy, and ethics?" *Proceedings of the North American Academy of Liturgy* (2006): 160-184 [juried publication].

"A Comfortable Cup of Tea: A Symbol of and for the Sisters of Mercy," *The Mast Journal* 14/3 (2004): 29-39.

ECUMENICAL WORSHIP PROJECTS

January, 2010: Designed the worship space for the annual meeting of the North American Academy of Liturgy in Milwaukee, WI

Summer, 2007: Created media art for two liturgies at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Worship Jubilee and Church-wide Assembly, Chicago Navy Pier

January, 2005: Served on the planning team and co-produced media art for the opening worship at the annual gathering of the North American Academy of Liturgy, New York City

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

An Attorney of the New York State and Federal Bar since 1984

December, 2004 to June, 2005
Matkov, Salzman, Maddoff & Gunn, P.C.
55 East Monroe Street (Suite 2900)

Chicago, IL 60603 (312) 332-0777
Part-time contract attorney and legal consultant

December, 2000 to June, 2004
Supreme Court of the State of New York
County of Nassau
100 Supreme Court Drive
Mineola, New York 11501 (516) 571-2480
Principal Law Clerk to the Hon. F. Dana Winslow, Justice (half-time)

September, 1997 to December, 2000
Part-time solo practitioner; per diem independent contractor to the profession;
pro bono consultant to human service organizations and non-profit corporations

January, 1985 to August, 1997
Zawacki, DeLisio & Everett, Esqs.
116 John Street
New York, New York 10038 (212) 732-3377
Partner (1991-1995); Associate Trial Attorney (1985-1991)

October, 1979 to December, 1984
Vincent, Berg, Russo, Marcigliano & Zawacki, Esqs.
127 John Street
New York, New York (dissolved in 1987)
Full-time Associate Attorney (1983-1985);
Part-time Law Clerk (1981-1983); Full-time Paralegal (1979-81)

NON-LEGAL BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

September 1977, to October, 1979
The Sherman Group, Inc., Great Neck, New York (dissolved)
Market Research Project Director

MINISTRY and COMMUNITY SERVICE

Bishop's Task Force on Sustainability, Episcopal Diocese of Chicago (since 2010)
The Night Ministry (Chicago, IL, 2005-2007)
Episcopal Church of the Holy Apostles and
Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen (New York City, 1998-2000)
Mothers Together (New York City, 1998-2002)
Center for Community Leadership "Business Group" (New York City, 1998)
Mercy Advocacy Program (Islip Terrace, NY, 1998)
Farmworker Ministry, Inc. and *Mujeres Valientes*, Inc. (Auburndale, FL, 1996-97)
Mercy Center Ministries, Inc. (Patchogue, NY)
President, Board of Directors (1997-99); member (1994-99)
Dorothy Bennett Mercy Center (Brooklyn, NY, 1996)
Mercy Medical Center (Rockville Centre, NY, 1995-96)

ASSOCIATIONS

American Academy of Religion (since 2003)

Associate Member of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas (since 1995)

Associated Parishes for Liturgy and Mission (since 2010)

Catholic Theological Society of America (since 2010)

College Theology Society (since 2008)

Episcopal Ecological Network (since 2010)

Episcopal Church Network for Science, Theology, and Faith (since 2009)

North American Academy of Liturgy (since 2002)

North American Association of the Catechumenate (2010)

Society for the Arts in Religious and Theological Studies (since 2005)