

MATTHEW S. C. OLVER

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Assistant Professor of Liturgics & Pastoral Ministry Nashotah House Theological Seminary, Nashotah, WI	2016 - present
Teaching Fellow in Liturgics Nashotah House Theological Seminary, Nashotah, WI	2014 - 2016
Assistant Rector for Worship & Adult Formation Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX	January 2010 - August 2013
Assistant Rector for Christian Formation Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX	July 2008 - December 2009
Curate for Youth and Young Families Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX	May 2006 - June 2008
Curate & School Chaplain St. John's Episcopal Church and School, Dallas, TX	September 2005 - April 2006

EDUCATION

Doctoral Student , Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI Doctoral Candidacy - April 1, 2016	August 2013 - present
Durham University, England • Research in patristic precursors to conciliarism under the direction of Prof. Lewis Ayres	2009-2010
Master of Divinity (<i>magna cum laude</i>), Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC	2005
Bachelor of Arts , Wheaton College, IL	2001

SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Articles in Refereed Journals

"The Bavarian's Surprise: Ratzinger's *Spirit of the Liturgy* as the Spirit of the Council," *Nota et Vetera*, (Spring 2016), 15.1, 185-218.

"The Eucharistic Materials in Enriching our Worship 1: A Consideration of its Trinitarian Theology," *Anglican Theological Review*, 98, no. 4 (Fall 2016), 661-680.

"A Note on the Silent Canon in the Missal of Paul VI and Cardinal Ratzinger," *Antiphon*, 20.1 (2016), 40-51.

“Contraception’s Authority: An Anglican’s Liturgical and Synodical Thought Experiment in light of ARCUSA’s ‘Ecclesiology and Moral Discernment,’” *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*, Summer 2015, Volume 50, No. 3 (pp 417-451).

Book Chapter

“Documented Ecumenism: Why the Anglican Covenant is the Hope for Anglicanism and its Ecumenical Calling,” in *Pro Communion: Theological Essays on the Anglican Covenant*, ed. Benjamin M. Guyer (Pickwick Publications/Wipf and Stock 2012), 149-165.

Book Reviews

Christ’s Gift, Our Response: Martin Luther and Louis-Marie Chauvet on the Connection between Sacraments and Ethics by Benjamin Durham (Michael Glazier/Liturgical Press), *Anglican Theological Review*, 98, no.3 (Summer 2016): 564-65.

The Ecumenical Councils of the Catholic Church: A History by Joseph F. Kelly (Liturgical Press), *The Living Church*, June 17, 2012, 25-26.

Conferences and Academic Paper Presentations

“Although We Be Unworthy: Anglicans and Liturgical Revision in an Ecumenical Light” at “Joseph Ratzinger and the Healing of the Reformation-Era Divisions,” Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, IL (October 2017).

“Scripture as Liturgical Source: A Call to Consider and a Proposal to Classify,” North American Academy of Liturgy, Washington D.C. (January 2017).

“The Priestly Angel in the Roman Canon: A Case Study in Scriptural Exegesis,” North American Academy of Liturgy, Houston, TX (January 2016).

“Thomas Aquinas & Louis-Marie Chauvet: A Consideration of Oblation in their Theologies of the Eucharist,” Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, IL, Graduate Student Conference on St. Thomas Aquinas, sponsored by the Center for Scriptural Exegesis, Philosophy, and Doctrine (October 2015).

“The Priestly Angel: An Inquiry into the Identity of the Angel in the Roman Canon,” Societas Liturgica, Quebec City, Quebec (August 2015).

“The Bavarian’s Surprise: Ratzinger’s *Spirit of the Liturgy* as the Spirit of the Council,” Mundelein Seminary, *The Nouvelle Theologie, Ressourcement, and Contemporary Theology*, Mundelein, IL. Received First Place prize. (October 2014)

“The Downfall of Darkness: A canonical and theological reading of 1 John 3:8c,” Joint University of Chicago and University of Notre Dame Graduate Student Conference, *Eschatology and Moral Order*, Chicago, IL (April 2014).

“Anglican Moral Reasoning about Contraception: A Working Paper for the Anglican-Roman Catholic Consultation in the USA,” Washington, DC (2009)

“The Ecumenical Burden of a Covenanted Future,” a submission to the Anglican Communion’s Covenant Design Group, November 2008,
<http://www.anglicancommunion.org/commission/covenant/docs/G09%2013%20Matthew.pdf>.

POPULAR WRITING AND PRESENTATIONS

Selected Church-Related Presentations

“Liturgy and the New Evangelization: An Ecumenical Response,” Notre Dame Center for Liturgy’s conference “Liturgy and the New Evangelization,” University of Notre Dame, IN (June 23, 2016).

“We Must Be Able to Breathe: 1979 American BCP & Future Challenges to the Anglican Liturgical Tradition,” at the Prayer Book Society of North America’s conference “Stirred Up to Godliness: A Colloquium on Daily Prayer in Anglicanism,” Dallas, TX (January 2016).

“Koinonia and the Anglican Communion: A Brief Primer,” Covenant Conference, Dallas, TX (2008)

“The Gift of Absence,” Society of Mary, Dallas, TX (2008)

“Mother of Unity? Mary, Ecumenism, and the Anglican-Roman Catholic Commission,” Catholic Clerical Union, Ft. Worth, TX (2006)

“Mother of Unity: Mary, Ecumenism and the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue,” Dallas, TX (2006)

- Conference Coordinator and Presenter
- One day event that examined the ARCIC document, “Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ”
- Engagement by Anglican, Greek Orthodox, Lutheran and Catholic scholars

Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ, The Anglican Centre, Rome, Italy (2005)

Course Participant and Presenter

- Intensive, one week course on the history of ARCIC and statement on the Virgin Mary
- Led by Dr. Mary Tanner. Conversation partners included Walter Cardinal Kasper and James Puglisi, S.A.

Selected Church-Related Writing

I am a regular contributor to [Covenant](#), the weblog of [The Living Church](#).

“Worship or Works? Engaging Michael Curry and Richard Rohr,” [Covenant](#) (December 14, 2016).

“Conformity, liturgy, and doctrine: 3 responses to Pearson’s ‘Anglican identity and common prayer,’” [Covenant](#) (September 30, 2016).

“Ritual Words in an Age of Drivel,” [PrayTellBlog](#) (August 21, 2016).

“Orientation and Eucharistic Sacrifice: Continuing a Discussion,” [Covenant](#) (August 15, 2016).

“Further facing into the Eucharist: A friendly response to Bishop Martins,” [Covenant](#) (August 2, 2016).

“Why the RCL is killing churches, and what you can do about it,” [part 1](#) & [part 2](#), *Covenant* (June 30 & July 1, 2016).

“A thought experiment: Where to place the baptisms at the Easter Vigil,” [Covenant](#) (May 12, 2016).

“The liturgy doesn’t ‘mean’ anything: It is something,” [Covenant](#) (May 11, 2016).

“Strive to enter that rest, on Psalm 95[94],” *Anglican Digest* (Spring 2016), 12-16.

“Can anyone speak (it) theologically?” [Covenant](#) (January 21, 2016).

“The Terror of the Nativity,” [Covenant](#) (December 29, 2015).

“Enriching our Worship: A Reading of its Trinitarian Theology,” [part 1](#), [part 2](#), [part 3](#), *Covenant* (November 9, 10, 11, 2015).

“To speak as a Christian,” [Covenant](#) (October 13, 2015).

“Three Streams (but not the ones you’re thinking of),” [Covenant](#) (August 25, 2015).

“A Friendly Amendment to Derek Olsen’s “Rite III EP for the Young: A Modest Proposal,” [Covenant](#) (August 7, 2015).

“The orientation of preparation,” [Covenant](#) (July 28, 2015).

“The burden of angels,” [Covenant](#) (April 29, 2015).

“Seven Theses on the Episcopacy,” [Covenant](#) (March 9, 2015).

“Confirmation of ACNA’s Revolutionary Theology?” [Covenant](#) (January 29, 2015).

“How radical a revision?” [Covenant](#) (January 5, 2015).

“Strive to enter that rest,” [Covenant](#) (October 24, 2014).

“One needful thing,” [Covenant](#) (September 4, 2014).

“Dallas Convention Given Wholly to Covenant,” *The Living Church* (2008)

Op-Ed, “[Christian Unity is a Mandate, Not an Option](#),” *Dallas Morning News* (2008)

“Impassioned Unity: The Spiritual Grammar of Canterbury’s Visit to Rome,” *Esprit* (2007)

“True Ecumenism,” with Christopher Wells, *The Living Church* (2007)

“Re-Reception: A Fundamental Tool for Christian Unity,” *The Living Church* (2006)

Film and Art

“Liturgy and Performance,” Dallas Museum of Art (2009)

HONORS

First Prize 2014

Graduate Student Conference on *The Nouvelle Theologie, Ressourcement, and Contemporary Theology*, Center for Scriptural Exegesis, Philosophy, and Doctrine, Mundelein Seminary

- “The Bavarian’s Surprise: Ratzinger’s *Spirit of the Liturgy* as the Spirit of the Council”

Marquette University 2013–2014

- Full scholarship and Teaching Assistantship (2013-14 only; relinquished in order to accept the position of Teaching Fellow in Liturgics at Nashotah House Theological Seminary)

Anglican-Roman Catholic Consultation in the U.S. (ARCUSA) 2008 - 2014

- Appointed by the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church
- The official dialogue between The Episcopal Church and the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB)

Member of American Delegation to Pope Benedict XVI November 2006

- The first official visit of the then-Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams
- Invited by the Anglican Centre in Rome

Duke University Divinity School 2005

- Recipient of the Hoyt Hickman Award for Outstanding Liturgical Scholarship and Practice by the Divinity School faculty

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Societas Liturgica (elected member)

North American Academy of Liturgy (NAAL) (elected member)

International Anglican Liturgical Consultation

Center for Catholic and Evangelical Dialogue

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

“The Sacrifice of the Word: The Roman Canon’s Use of Hebrews and its Unique Theology of Sacrifice”

Director: Dr. Susan L. Wood, SCL

Description: The dissertation focuses on an area oft neglected by liturgical scholars, namely, the way that Scripture functions as a source in the construction and redaction of early liturgical texts. The particular focus of my work is on the ways that interpretations of the Epistle to the Hebrews serve as a source for the

the Roman Canon (approx. 4th/5th century), the most widely used eucharistic prayer in Christian history. I hope to show that this usage contributes to some of the characteristics of the prayer that set it apart from other early eucharistic prayers, especially its unusual structure and its emphasis on the acceptance of the sacrificial offering. One of the reasons that it is so important to understand the way in which the Roman Canon evidences a careful reading of Scripture because the prayer sits at the center of the varied Reformation concerns with Catholic eucharistic practice and theology. This sort of work also introduces a new way to try and answer questions about the origins of early liturgical texts. Since so much evidence exists for the various exegetical strains and ways of reading and synthesizing Scripture in the early Church, disclosing the sorts of exegetical traditions that lie underneath early liturgies may very well provide greater clarity about dating, authorship, and provenance.

Articles in Consideration at Peer-Reviewed Journals:

- The Angel and the Heavenly Altar: Historical-Critical Questions in the *Supplices te* of the Roman Canon
- The Priestly Angel in the Roman Canon: An Exploration of the Scriptural, Pseudepigraphal, and Patristic Background
- The Muratorian Canon: The eighteenth-century roots of Vatican II's *Sacrosanctum Concilium* in Ludovico Antonio Muratori (1672-1750)
- The Numinously Shaped Liturgy: How Rudolph Otto's Concept of the 'Holy' Provides a New Lens for Fourth Century Eucharistic Liturgies
- The Downfall of Darkness: A canonical and theological reading of 1 John 3:8c

TEACHING INTERESTS

- History of Christian Worship
- Development of the Book of Common Prayer
- Scripture and Liturgy
- Anglican Pastoral Liturgy
- Sacramental Theology
- History of the Christian Sacraments
- Ecclesiology
- Development of Doctrine

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Academic

Pastoral Liturgy (LT601)

Spring & Fall, 2015

Nashotah House Theological Seminary, Nashotah, WI

- Covered the principles and types of ceremonial action, the types of liturgical constructions in Anglican liturgy, and the practical use of the traditional western ceremonial actions
- Taught to read the rites and rubrics of the 1979 BCP and other current Anglican liturgies
- Practical training in the conducting of all the rites in the 1979 BCP, especially the Daily Offices, the Holy Eucharist, Baptism and Confirmation

The History of Christian Worship (LT501)

Fall 2014, 2016

Nashotah House Theological Seminary, Nashotah, WI

- Presented the development of Christian worship from its biblical roots through the modern reforms of the twentieth century
- Particular focus was given to the development of the Anglican Prayer Books and their relationship to the Western rites that preceded it
- The approach was particular to those in priestly formation and thus approached the history with the purpose of providing a solid historical and theological foundation by which parish priests are then able to make sound liturgical decisions, a matter addressed with much specificity in LT601

The Eucharist (THEO 4359) - Teaching Assistant

Spring 2014

Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI

- Worked with liturgical scholar Fr. John Laurance, S.J.
- Grading and course management
- Taught class period on the Communion liturgy in *The Book of Common Prayer (1979)* in relationship to the current Roman Catholic *Novus ordo*

Introduction to Theology (THEO 1001) - Teaching Assistant

Fall 2013

Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI

- Worked with liturgical scholar Fr. John Laurance, S.J.
- Grading and course management
- Taught class period on St. Augustine and Book VIII of *The Confessions*; strong, positive student feedback

Sacraments and the Christian Life (THEO 4340) - Teaching Assistant

Fall 2013

Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI

- Worked with liturgical scholar Fr. John Laurance, S.J.
- Taught class period on the Baptismal rite in *The Book of Common Prayer (1979)* and its relationship to the Catholic "Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults" (RCIA)
- Strong, positive student feedback

Parochial

On the Canterbury Trail

Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX

2009 - 2013

- Developed and taught the bi-annual 14-week course to introduce the Creeds, sacraments, liturgy and worship, and the life of prayer for adults preparing for baptism and /or confirmation
- Strongly encouraged for entire congregation; over 500 attended in 4 years
- Taught the course nine consecutive semesters
- Consistent, positive course evaluations

The Deeper Life

Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX

2011 - 2013

- Developed and taught this six-week course
- Focused on the basics of Christian prayer and included teaching on the Scriptural grounding of liturgical prayer and exposition of the Our Father
- Purpose was to provide tools for the formation and implementation of Rule of Life based about the Mass, Daily Office and Private Devotion
- Taught five times; consistent, positive course evaluations

Buried with Christ

Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX

2009 - 2013

- Developed and taught class for parents who were about to have a child baptized
- Content: Old Testament basis; New Testament teaching; exposition of Baptismal rite
- Professionally filmed and continues to be used by the parish

ORDAINED MINISTRY

Ordination in the Episcopal Church

Deacon: November 1, 2005

Priest: May 27, 2006

Administered by the Rt. Reverend James M. Stanton, 6th Bishop of the Diocese of Dallas

- Canonically resident in the Diocese of Dallas
- Licensed in the Diocese of Milwaukee since 2013

Associate Priest

All Saints' Cathedral, Milwaukee, WI

November 2013 - present

Assistant Rector for Worship & Adult Formation

Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX

January 2010 - August 2013

Assistant Rector for Christian Formation

Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX

July 2008 - December 2009

Curate for Youth and Young Families

Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX

May 2006 - June 2008

Curate & School Chaplain

St. John's Episcopal Church and School, Dallas, TX

September 2005 - April 2006

Level 1, Clinical Pastoral Education

Children's Medical Center, Dallas, TX

June - August 2005

SERVICE IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Board Member, The Living Church Foundation, Inc.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

October 2016 - present

Board of Examining Chaplains

Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, TX

September 2012 - August 2013

Anglican-Roman Catholic Consultation in the U.S. (ARCUSA)

The official dialogue between The Episcopal Church and the
United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB).

October 2008 - 2014

Executive Council

Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, TX

November 2008 - October 2011

Organizer, Officiant and Preacher

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Lecture and Service, Dallas, TX

January 24, 2008

- Organized the event with accompanying lectures on behalf of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas
- Officiated and preached the Evensong service

Ecumenical Officer

Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, TX

November 2005 – November 2010

Episcopal Representative on “After God’s Own Heart” Planning Team

2005 - 2007

Ecumenical Conference for Young Clergy (Baltimore, MD, Oct 7-11, 2007)

- Appointed by the Bishop Christopher Epting, then-Ecumenical Officer of the Episcopal Church
- Part of a team of eight ordained ministers from four Christian traditions
- Organized, planned and executed every details of 5 day conference for clergy under 35 focused on spiritual refreshment and ministry empowerment

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Convener, Disaster Preparedness Plan for City of Dallas

2008

- Comprised of religious leaders from across the city, the Mayor’s Office and the Red Cross
- Developed plan to allow access to pastoral care in the event of a sizable disaster in response to the lack of any access for refugees in Dallas after Hurricane Katrina
- Plan also allowed for churches to be pre-trained prepared and an official Disaster Relief Site

MINISTERIAL DEVELOPMENT

Elliot House

2013

St. John’s Episcopal Church, Savannah, GA

- Three-day seminar to refresh the education of Episcopal clergy, and offers mutual support, reflection and prayer
- Detailed study of Divine Justice in *The Odyssey* and *The Oresteia* with Dr. Neil Robertson, University of King’s College, Halifax, Nova Scotia

The Gathering of Leaders

2012

Oviedo, FL

- Grassroots, three-day gathering with Episcopal clergy under 40
- Spiritual rejuvenation and mutual encouragement
- Presentations of successes and failures in growth and evangelism

Global Leadership Summit

2011 & 2012

Willow Creek Association, Dallas location

- Leadership event for those in Christian ministry
- Build leadership skills and educate ministers about structures and practices that lead to effective ministry

3DM Discipleship and Mission Conference

2011

Pawley’s Island, SC

- Led by experienced practitioners in discipling, planning, leading and growing
- Practical workshops on doing mission in a post-Christian context