

Module Title:	Sacraments of Initiation and Healing
Module Code:	604 TIHE
Level:	6
Credit Rating:	20 Credits
Duration:	Student Learning Time: 200 hours
Teaching Hours:	40 Hours
Academic Responsibility:	David Blowey OFM Conv, STD

Module Aims:

This module is divided into two parts; first, sacraments of Initiation, in which students gain a thorough knowledge and understanding of the function and place of (a) baptism, confirmation and eucharist, and (b) rites surrounding the Sacraments of Initiation in the life of the Catholic Church. Within this context, an exploration of the biblical tradition of the Sacraments of Initiation is conducted as well as an examination of the historical development of the theological and liturgical aspects of those sacraments. Finally, the insights above are applied to issues encountered in modern ministry.

The second part of the module, dealing with the sacraments of Healing, will impart a thorough knowledge and understanding of the function and place of (a) reconciliation and penance, and (b) rites surrounding the care of the sick and dying in the life of the Catholic Church. A foundational approach is taken, taking into account the biblical tradition of the sacraments of Healing followed by an exposition of the historical development of the theological and liturgical aspects of these sacraments. Finally, as with the sacraments of Initiation, the insights are applied to issues encountered in a modern ministerial context.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the module students should be able to:

(first part of module)

1. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the history of how Christians have been initiated into the Church at different times in her history, and of the development of rites of initiation.
2. Exhibit familiarity with the biblical roots of each of the three sacraments.
3. Come to a realization of the richness of the Church's theological reflection upon Christian Initiation, and their future roles as ministers of these sacraments.

(second part of module)

4. Demonstrate a critical understanding of how Christians have been reconciled to the Church as different times, and of the development of rites for the sick and dying.
5. Examine the biblical roots of the ministry of healing, reconciliation, and grief.
6. Gain an understanding of the canonical responsibilities and ramifications involved in the sacraments of Penance and Anointing of the Sick.

Indicative Module Content:

(in the first part)

- The course will focus on the biblical, historical, and theological aspects of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Attention will be given to apply the abstract elements of Sacramentology with the pastoral need for their integration and expression in liturgy and spirituality. Special consideration will be given to the symbolic, liturgical aspects of Christian Initiation as presented in the Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection of Holy Saturday.
- The Catechumenate & the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
- Baptism: Jewish Initiation Rites; Biblical Aspects of the Sacrament; Essential Elements & Historical Development of the Sacrament; Controversies & Necessity; Baptismal Faith Today (incorporation & effects).
- Holy Oils; Sphragis & Kristos
- Confirmation: Biblical Pneumatology; Historical Separation of Confirmation from Baptism; Essential Elements: Controversy over Matter; Confirmation Faith Today (effects)
- Eucharist: Jewish Ritual Meals: Passover/Seder — Banquet; N.T. Institution Narratives; Johannine Elements: Service in Charity/Memorial; Essential Elements of the Sacrament; Transubstantiation, Consubstantiation, Sacrifice, Real Presence — Permanence, Adoration — Thanksgiving
- The Liturgy of the Roman Rite of the Mass

(in the second part)

- The sacraments of Healing are addressed towards a holistic healing of a baptized Catholic-Christian, addressing the individual's bodily, spiritual, emotional, and social brokenness. This module will build on the relevant elements already introduced to the sacraments module. It will present each of the two sacraments of Healing from a four-fold perspective: biblical, dogmatic, liturgical, and canonical.
- Sacrament of Reconciliation- The place of healing and reconciliation in human life; biblical foundations; historical development of the notion of the sacrament within the Catholic tradition (patristic, medieval, post-Tridentine & post- Vatican II periods); evolution of the Liturgical Rituals used (with particular study of the 1973 Rite of Penance); Canonical considerations; Indulgences.
- Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick- Sickness and death in the life of the Church; biblical foundations; historical development of the notion of the sacrament within the Catholic tradition; evolution of the liturgical rite; canonical considerations; pastoral care of the sick; Death and Dying: The Funerary Rituals.

Learning and teaching Strategies:

The basic format of presentation will be four weekly lectures systematically treating the subject matter as described in the Indicative Module Content. Students are given specific weekly reading assignments as well as directed toward extra-curricular reading proposed by the instructor. Research interests are quickly identified and tutorial sessions, depending on individual needs of the students, arranged for clarification and direction, inclusive of suggested extra-curricular reading. Within the classroom context of lectures, active participation of students in terms of questions and, especially, discussion is strongly encouraged as a primary way of developing analytical skills, critical thinking, and clarity of expression

Assessment:

Students will be assessed by the writing of two essays, each pertaining to part one and then part

two of the module, of no less than 2,500 words .

Indicative Essay Titles

1. Amidst the syncretic religious aspects of today's society the practice of individual confession has greatly declined, for, as is often stated, we can confess directly to God for forgiveness. Analyse the roots of this modern cultural challenge and, in a systematic way, present the Catholic Church's response.
2. The loving-mercy — $\rho\sigma\tau$ — of God is one with God's very essence and has been supremely manifested in the paschal mystery of Christ. Elucidate how the Sacrament of Reconciliation bespeaks God's nature through the Paschal Mystery, both for the penitent and for the minister.
3. "Baptism, the gateway to the sacraments, is necessary for salvation either by actual reception or at least by desire" (Code of Canon Law 849). What is the role of the sacrament of confirmation?
4. Compare and evaluate the Eucharistic theologies of any two of the following: St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Bonaventure, John Calvin and Martin Luther.

Illustrative Bibliography

Catechism of the Catholic Church (1994) Vatican City.

MACQUARRIE, John (1997) *A Guide to the Sacraments* Continuum.

MARTOS, Joseph (2001) *Doors to the Sacred: A Historical Introduction to Sacraments in the Catholic Church.* Liguori/Triumph.

The Rites of the Catholic Church (1990) Vol. I. Liturgical Press.

Rahner, Karl (1982) *Theological Investigations. Vol. XV: Penance in the Early Church.* Trans. Lionel Smith Crossroad.

VORGRIMLER, Herbert (1992) *Sacramental Theology.* Translated from the German by Linda M. Maloney. 3d ed. Liturgical Press.