

DONOVAN/STHS 4468

Spring 2006

Tuesday 2:10 - 5:00 p.m.

INTRODUCTION TO ECUMENISM

Description: a seminar in two parts, theory and case. Topics in Part 1 include the history of the ecumenical movement, a review of the current situation of ecumenism, review of major Roman Catholic documents on ecumenism, ecumenical method, and the issue of the papacy. Part 2 topics include study of the Lutheran-Roman Catholic agreement on justification, with the issue of reception, and a study of relations with the Eastern Churches, with the issue of pneumatology.

Objectives: that students obtain suitable familiarity with the nature of the ecumenical movement; that they understand key Roman Catholic documents; and that they have basic awareness of two current ecumenical situations with key related issues. That familiarity, understanding, and awareness will be assessed via short weekly papers and discussions, and a more extensive paper or project.

Requirements: attendance, readings, participation in discussion, short weekly papers focusing on an issue or issues in the readings, and personal questions which those readings stimulate, and **either** a final 15 page paper, **or** a final project. All students will present their short papers each week. There will be further information forthcoming about the final paper or project, but you are expected to submit a proposal for the paper or project with some idea of the resources you will use on March 14. The outline of the paper or project is due April 11, and the completed work is due May 2, with presentations May 2 and 9.

Required Texts:

John Garvey. *Orthodoxy for the non-Orthodox. A Brief Introduction to Orthodox Christianity.* Springfield, Illinois: Templegate, 2002.

Jeffrey Gros, fsc, Eamon McManus, and Ann Riggs. *Introduction to Ecumenism.* New York: Paulist, 1998.

Walter Kasper. *That They May All Be One.* New York: Burns & Oates, 2005.

John R. Quinn. *The Reform of the Papacy: The Costly Call to Christian Unity.* New York: Crossroad, 1999.

Xeroxed reader; some handouts. If you do not already have a copy of the documents of Vatican II the following edition is strongly recommended: Austin Flannery, gen. ed. *Vatican Council II. Constitutions, Decrees, Declarations.* A completely revised translation in inclusive language. Northport, New York: Costello, 1995.

Grading: 35% on informed participation in discussion, 35 % weekly papers, and 30% on final paper, or project.

Contact info: phone 549-5027; e-mail mdonovan@jstb.edu; office hours Tuesday and Thursday 1:00-2:00. No appointment needed during office hours; other times, by appointment.

Course Outline and Readings

Part 1.1:

Jan. 31: History of Ecumenism and the Present Situation.

Readings: Gros, c.1 “The History of Ecumenism” and c. 7, “The Contribution of the World Council of Churches;” Kasper, c.2 “The Current Situation in Ecumenical Theology.”

Feb. 7: Ecumenical Principles. *Readings.* Gros, c. 2 “Catholic Ecumenical Documentation;” Gros, c. 3 “The Theology of Ecumenism;” Gros, c.4 “Ecumenical Principles;” Kasper, c. 4 “*Communio*: The Guiding Concept of Catholic Ecumenical Theology.”

Feb. 14: Catholic Church and Ecumenism. How to read Roman documents. *Readings.* 1) *Lumen gentium* cc. 1-2 (#s1-17); note titles of remaining 6 chapters. 2) *Unitatis redintegratio*. 3) Kasper, c.1 “The Binding Nature of *Unitatis redintegratio*.”

Feb. 21: Method of Dialogue. *Readings.* 1) *Ut unum sint*. 2) Gros, c.6 “The Nature, Goal, and Reception of Dialogues.” 3) Kasper, c.3 “The Nature and Purpose of Ecumenical Dialogue.”

Feb. 28: The Issue of the Papacy. *Readings:* 1) John R. Quinn, *The Reform of the Papacy: The Costly Call to Christian Unity*. 2) Kasper, c. 8 “A Discussion on the Petrine Ministry.”

Part 1.2: Application

Mar. 7: Stance Toward Ecumenism. Present plan for pastoral project, or for paper. *Reading:* Gros, c.5 “Ecumenical Formation.”

Part 2: Cases

2.1 Lutheran/Roman Catholic Agreement on Justification.

Mar. 14: Lutheran/Roman Catholic Agreement on Justification1. *Readings.* 1) “Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification,” *Origins* 28 (1998), 120-127. 2) “Joint Declaration on Justification to Be Signed Oct. 31,” *Origins* 29 (1999), 85, 87-92. Includes “Annex,” remarks of Cardinal Cassidy, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, and of Rev. Dr. Ishmael Noko, LWF general secretary. 3) Kasper, c7 “The Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification.” 4) Gros, c. 9 “Anglican, Lutheran, and Catholic Relations.”

March 21 Lutheran/Roman Catholic Agreement on Justification 2. Readings. 1) Peter Drilling, "Implications of an Ecumenical Agreement," *America* 183 (2000), 14-18. 2) Margaret O'Gara. "Lutherans & Catholics. Ending an Old Argument," *Commonweal* 127 (2000) 8-9. 3) Catherine Clifford, "The Joint Declaration, Method, and the Hermeneutics of Ecumenical Consensus," *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* 38 (2001) 79-91. 4) Mutombo Nkulu-N'Sengha, "*Bumunto*: An African Response to the Lutheran-Roman Catholic Agreement on Justification," *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* 38 (2001), 43-49.

Mar. 28 No class - Spring Break.

April 4 The Issue of Reception. Readings. 1) Separate article from Gros, "Reception and Roman Catholicism for the 1990s." 2) Gros, c. 10 "Relations with the Classical Protestant Churches;" 3) Gros, c. 11 "Evangelical and Pentecostal Communities."

2.2 Eastern Churches

April 11 Eastern Churches 1. Readings. 1) Kasper, c.5 "Open Questions in the Ecclesiology of Sister Churches." 2) Gros, c. 8 "Ecumenical Developments with the Eastern Churches;" 3) Garvey, cc. 1-5.

April 18 Eastern churches 2. Readings. 1) Garvey, cc.6-9. 2) John Paul II "The Address to Orthodox Bishops;" 3) Brian Murphy, "Optimism, Reality Clash in Efforts to Heal Catholic-Orthodox Rifts."

April 25 The Issue of Pneumatology. Reading. Kasper c.6 "The Renewal of Pneumatology in Contemporary Catholic Life and Theology: Towards a Rapprochement between East and West."

Conclusion

May 2 Ecumenism and Spirituality. Begin presentations of work. Readings. Kasper c. 9 "Spiritual Ecumenism;" 2) Gros, "Conclusion;" 3) Kasper c.10 "The Church and Contemporary Pluralism."

May 9 Complete Presentations of work. Final remarks.