

**Reverend Dominic E. Serra**  
**The Catholic University of America**  
**School of Theology and Religious Studies**  
**Washington, D.C. 20064**

**ACADEMIC BACKGROUND**

- 1989            S.L.D. (Doctor of Sacred Liturgy)  
                  The Pontifical Liturgical Institute  
                  Pontificium Athenaeum Sancti Anselmi de Urbe
- 1976            M.A. (Theology, specialization in liturgical research)  
                  University of Notre Dame
- 1971            M.Div.  
                  St. Joseph Seminary, Yonkers, New York
- 1968            B.A. (Philosophy)  
                  St. Joseph Seminary, Yonkers, New York

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2006-Present    Associate Professor of Liturgical Studies and Sacramental Theology  
                  Director: Liturgical Studies/Sacramental Theology Academic Area.  
                  School of Theology and Religious Studies – The Catholic University of America  
                  Washington, D.C.
- 2000-2006        Assistant Professor of Liturgical Studies and Sacramental Theology  
                  School of Theology and Religious Studies – The Catholic University of America  
                  Washington, D.C.
- 1996-2000        Associate Professor of Sacramental Theology and Liturgy  
                  The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity, University of Saint Thomas  
                  Saint Paul, Minnesota.
- 1989-1996        Assistant Professor of Sacramental Theology and Liturgy  
                  (and Director of Worship 1989-1991)  
                  The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity, University of Saint Thomas  
                  Saint Paul, Minnesota.
- 1996 and >97    Adjunct Associate Professor of Sacramental Theology and Liturgy  
                  Permanent Deacon Training Program  
                  Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis

- 1992, 1997,  
summer 2000 Visiting Professor of Sacramental Theology and Liturgy  
St. John=s University  
Collegeville, Minnesota
- 1985-1989 Doctoral Studies at The Pontifical Liturgical Institute  
Pontificium Athenaeum Sancti Anselmi de Urbe.
- 1986-1995 Resource Consultant: Liturgical Commission of the Archdiocese of New York.
- 1980-1985 Associate Pastor  
Saint Lucy Parish, Bronx, New York
- 1972-1980 Associate Pastor  
Saint Augustine Parish, New City, New York.
- 1975-1978 Adjunct Instructor of Sacramental Theology and Liturgy  
New York Archdiocesan Catechetical Institute  
Master of Religious Education Program  
Saint Joseph Seminary, Yonkers, New York
- 1974 Visiting Instructor of Sacramental Theology and Liturgy  
Mount St. Alphonsus Provincial Seminary (Redemptorist)  
Esopus, New York.
- 1973 Visiting Instructor of Sacramental Theology and Liturgy  
Permanent Deacon Training Program  
St. Joseph Seminary, Yonkers, New York
- 1972 Ordained a Priest for Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York (May 27)
- 1971-1985 Member: Liturgical Commission of the Archdiocese of New York.  
Numerous presentations in parishes as a member of the Commission=s ASpeakers  
Bureau.@  
Consultant for the implementation of the RCIA in the Archdiocese of New York.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

The Catholic University of America:

Liturgy: Theological and Historical Perspectives (REL 725 – TRS 741A)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:

Theological, Ecumenical, and Pastoral Issues (THEO 705 – TRS 743C)

Introduction to Sacraments and Liturgy (THEO 612)  
The Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing (THEO 621 -- TRS 641C)  
The Ministry of the Liturgical Presider (THEO 687)  
The Holy Spirit in Liturgical Celebration (THEO 759 – TRS 749)  
The Sacraments of Initiation (TRS 641A)  
Liturgical Sources (TRS 740)  
The Liturgy of the Hours and Community Prayer (TRS 742B)

The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity, University of Saint Thomas:

The Eucharist (ST 601)  
The Sacraments of Initiation (ST 602)  
The Sacraments of Initiation and Reconciliation (ST 602)  
Liturgical Theology and Practicum (ST 702)  
Liturgical Presidency (PT 709)  
Liturgy and Time (ST 703)  
Early Liturgy Seminar (ST 800)  
Seminar on Holy Orders (ST 810)  
The Jerusalem Liturgy  
Liturgy and the Spirituality of the Parish Priest

Saint John=s University, Collegeville, Minnesota:

History and Sources of the Liturgy (LTGY 400)  
Eucharistic Liturgy and Theology (LTGY 406)

#### **ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AT THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA**

Area Director: Liturgical Studies/Sacramental Theology (Fall 2005 - present)  
Executive Council: School of Theology and Religious Studies (Fall 2005 - present)  
Ad Hoc Committee on the Word of God, Member (Fall 2008- Spring 2009)  
Search Committee, Member (Spring 2009)  
Advisory Board: Center for the Study of Early Christianity, Member (Fall 2008 - present)  
Search Committee, Chair (Spring 2007)  
PhD Committee, Member (Fall 2003 - present)  
Search Committee, Member (Spring 2003)  
MDiv Committee, Member (Fall 2000 - Spring 2002)

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

“The Baptistery at Dura-Europos: The Wall Paintings in the Context of Syrian Baptismal Theology,” *Ephemerides liturgicae* 120 (2006): 67-78.

“New Observations About the Scrutinies of the Elect in Early Roman Practice,” *Worship* 80 (2006): 511-527.

“Baptism: Birth in the Spirit or Dying with Christ,” *Ecclesia orans* 22 (2005): 295-314.

“Syrian Prebaptismal Anointing and Western Postbaptismal Chrismation,” *Worship* 79 (2005): 328-341.

“The Roman Canon: The Theological Significance of Its Structure and Syntax.” In *Primary Readings on the Eucharist*, ed. Thomas J. Fisch, 129-156. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2004.

“The Roman Canon: The Theological Significance of Its Structure and Syntax,” *Ecclesia orans* 20 (2003): 99-128.

“Baptism and Confirmation: Distinct Sacraments, One Liturgy,” *Liturgical Ministry* 9 (2000): 63-71.

“The Greeting of Peace in the Revised Sacramentary: A New Pastoral Option.” In *Liturgy for the New Millennium: A Commentary on the Revised Sacramentary Essays in Honor of Anscar J. Chupungco, O.S.B.*, ed. Mark R. Francis, C.S.V. and Keith F. Pecklers, S.J., 97-110. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2000.

“The Kiss of Peace: A Suggestion from the Ritual Structure of the Missa,” *Ecclesia orans* 14 (1997): 79-94.

“Spirit of God/Holy Spirit”, “Spirit, Human”, “Tongues,” and “Visions.” In *Pastoral Dictionary of Biblical Theology*, ed. Carroll Stuhlmueller. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1996.

“The Homily as Liturgy.” In *In Service of the Church: Essays on Theology and Ministry Honoring Reverend Charles L. Froehle*, ed. Victor J. Klimoski and Mary Christine Athans, 27-40. St. Paul, MN: University of Saint Thomas, 1993.

“The Blessing of Baptismal Water at the Paschal Vigil: Ancient Texts and Modern Revisions” *Worship* 64 (1990): 142-156.

“The Blessing of Baptismal Water at the Paschal Vigil: Its Post-Vatican II Reform” *Ecclesia orans* 7 (1990): 343-368.

“The Blessing of Baptismal Water at the Paschal Vigil in the *Gelasianum Vetus*: A Study of the Euchological Texts, Ge 444-448” *Ecclesia orans* 6 (1989): 323-344.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

Larson-Miller, Lizette. *The Sacrament of Anointing the Sick*. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2005. In *The Jurist* 67 (2007): 611-612.

Kunzler, Michael. *The Church's Liturgy*. Trans. Placed Murray, Henry O'Shea and Cilian ó Sé. London and New York: Continuum, 1995. In *The Jurist* 64 (2004): 417-418.

## **TRANSLATION**

Donghi, Antonio, *Actions and Words: Symbolic Language and the Liturgy*, trans. William McDonough and Dominic Serra, Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1997. [Original title: *Gesti e parole: un' iniziazione al linguaggio simbolico*, Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1993.]

## **RESEARCH PROJECTS CURRENTLY IN PREPARATION FOR PUBLICATION**

*The Catechumenate and Baptism in Early Roman Practice*. Book under contract with Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN.

"Baptisteries of Rome and Southern Italy." A contribution to a book that will catalogue ancient baptisteries and elucidate their liturgical contexts.

Articles on the Gelasian Scrutinies and on the Gelasian *Hanc igitur* for the Scrutiny Masses.

## **SCHOLARLY LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS**

"The Gelasian *Exorcismi Super Electos*," Paper read at the Problems in the Early History of the Liturgy Seminar – North American Academy of Liturgy (January 3, 2009).

"Baptismal Water: Eschatological Significance of the Liturgical Texts," Paper read at the Christian Initiation Seminar – North American Academy of Liturgy (January 4, 2008).

"East Syrian Prebaptismal Anointing and Western Postbaptismal Chrismation," Paper read at the Continuing Seminar on Problems in the Early History of the Liturgy -- North American Academy of Liturgy (January 5, 2002).

"Theology and the Roman Canon" -- Paper read at the Continuing Seminar on Problems in the Early History of the Liturgy B North American Academy of Liturgy (January 7, 1998).

"'In Persona Christi' and the Roman Canon" The Annual Archbishop Ireland Lecture, The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity of the University of Saint Thomas (October 27, 1997).

"The Kiss of Peace: A *Missa* is Not Always a Dismissal" -- Paper read at the Continuing Seminar on Problems in the Early History of the Liturgy -- North American Academy of Liturgy (January 5, 1996).

"Devotion and the Liturgy: Points of Connection and Conflict" -- Address to seminary professors of liturgy and of liturgical music at the national convention of The National Association of Pastoral Musicians. Convention Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. (July 24, 1995).

#### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

"History of the Eucharist" Lecture at Saint Matthew's Cathedral, Washington, DC. (September 28 -29, 2005).

"The Order of Mass: Theology, Spirituality, and Liturgical Celebration," Study Day for Priests, deacons, and other liturgical ministers in the Big Rapids Deanery of the Diocese of Grand Rapids, Michigan. (March 2, 2002).

Liturgical Consultant on a Lilly Grant Project examining the relationships between personal faith and public life. Corpus Christi Church, New York City. (Spring 2002).

"The Vatican II Reform of the Order of Mass" Lecture and discussion for Georgetown University Campus Ministry. Washington, D.C. (April 1, 2001).

"Liturgical Catechesis: Fourth-Century Mystagogical Homilies and the Instruction of Catechumens Today," -- Lecture and discussion for the Lutheran and Episcopalian pastors of South Minneapolis. (September 20, 1998).

"The Liturgical Homily" -- Lecture and discussion for the deanery of presbyters at Saint Richard Church. Richfield, Minnesota (February 26, 1998).

"The Baptism of Children: Theology and Liturgical Celebration" -- Workshop for the Catholic Education and Formation Ministry of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis (November, 1997).

"Penance: Theology and Liturgical Celebration" -- Workshop for the Catholic Education and Formation Ministry of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis (October, 1997).

Consultation with the leadership of the Order of Deacons of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. A discussion of the role and ministry of the deacon in the modern Church (February 27, 1996).

"The Baptism of Children: Theology and Pastoral Practice" -- Workshop for the Catholic Education and Formation Ministry of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis (September 23, 1995).

"Furthering the Spirit of Renewal in the Liturgical Life of the Parish" -- Presentation to the Liturgy Committee of Immaculate Conception Parish, Tuckahoe, New York (July 27, 1995).

"Sacrament of Penance: Theology and Pastoral Practice" Workshop for the Catholic Education and Formation Ministry of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis (February 16, 1995).

"Faith and Popular Culture" -- Retreat for University of St. Thomas alums. The Ganey Center (March 19 - 20, 1994).

Series of three lectures with discussion on the ecclesiology of three documents of the Second Vatican Council: 1. *Lumen Gentium* (February 17, 1994); 2. *Gaudium et Spes* (March 3, 1994); 3. *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (March 17, 1994). St. Raphael Parish, Crystal, Minnesota.

"The Eucharist as the Source of Spiritual Life and Apostolic Activity" -- Eucharistic Ministers' Continuing Education Session. St. Joseph, Hopkins, Minnesota (September 29, 1993).

"The Liturgical Rites of the Catechumenate" Consultation with Parish Staff. Immaculate Conception Parish. Tuckahoe, New York (June, 1993).

"The Paschal Mystery: Eucharistic Spirituality" Lecture: Provincial House Community -- Sisters of St. Joseph, St. Paul, Minnesota (April 22, 1993).

"The Paschal Mystery as the Pattern of Christian Life" Day of Recollection for Campus Ministers. University of St. Thomas. St. Paul, Minnesota (April 20, 1993).

"Communion Services in the Absence of a Priest" Guided Discussion: Provincial House Community: Sisters of St. Joseph, St. Paul, Minnesota (April 2, 1993).

"The Eucharist in Parish Life." Study Day for Parish Staff of St. Joseph, Hopkins, Minnesota. Two lectures with discussion (January 19, 1993).

Consultation on Church Renovation. Immaculate Conception Parish. Tuckahoe, New York (June, 1992).

"The Paschal Triduum" Lecture and Discussion: Provincial House Community -- Sisters of St. Joseph. St. Paul, Minnesota (April 6, 1992).

Numerous other presentations, consultations, and pastoral publications dealing with the liturgical reforms after Vatican II during years of service to the Liturgical Commission of the Archdiocese of New York, 1971-1985.

**MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

Since 1994	North American Academy of Liturgy
Since 1979	Societas Liturgica
Since 2001	Catholic Academy of Liturgy
Since 2006	Society of Oriental Liturgy