



**BRISBANE COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY  
UNIT OUTLINE**

**BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY**

UNIT TITLE	INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN LITURGY
UNIT CODE	C51050
UNIT STATUS	Elective
HOST FIELD	C
PREREQUISITE/S	Nil
INCOMPATIBLES	C/D/E51060 Introduction to Roman Catholic Liturgy
CREDIT POINTS	10cp
REQUIREMENTS	3 hours per week contact and 7 hours per week study over a 13-week semester.
FREQUENCY OF OFFERING	Annually
PREPARED BY	Rev Dr Tom Elich
UNIT COORDINATOR	Rev Dr Tom Elich
TEACHING STAFF	Sr Ursula O'Rourke
DATE PREPARED	14 September 2006

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**Rationale**

This unit is one of several which provide students with knowledge and skills pertaining to the theology and practice of liturgy within the Christian church. It introduces students to a range of theological issues pertaining to Christian liturgy. It acknowledges the central importance of worship in the life and mission of the Christian church and, by providing an overview of issues and practices in liturgy, this unit provides a solid foundation for further study.

**Relation to program**

*Introduction to Christian Liturgy* is the first in a suite of units for students who may wish to undertake further studies in this area of specialization. The unit is centrally located within the field of systematic theology (Field C) but also has strong links with church history (Field D) through its consideration of the historical dimensions of Christian liturgy, and with ministry and mission (Field E) through its consideration of the implications of liturgical practice for contemporary worship and pastoral care.

**Aims**

The unit has two aims: first to introduce students to the field of liturgical studies; and second to equip the student with an understanding of some of the fundamental issues common to all liturgical studies.

<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	
At the end of this unit the student should be able to:	
1.	Define and explain a wide range of liturgical terms, rites and patterns;
2.	Detail the historical shifts and assess the theological and cultural issues that have influenced liturgical rites in the Christian church;
3.	Evaluate the arguments in several of the fundamental issues related to liturgical studies;
4.	Analyse a number of liturgical practices within the context of pastoral ministry.

### Content

- 1 What is liturgy - nature and place in the life of the church
- 2 The liturgical assembly, participation and ministry. Who celebrates the liturgy, and what are the roles of the various liturgical ministries within the Christian community?
- 3 Elements of the liturgy: word, song, silence, gesture and symbol – the specific place of each element in the action of worship
- 4 Overview of liturgical change in 20<sup>th</sup> century. Key ideas of *Sancrosanctum Concilium* [Vatican II] and other key documents of the Christian churches
- 5 Outline of the structure of the eucharist and its historical development in the various Christian traditions – discussion of the various seasons within the Liturgical Year
- 6 Exploring pastoral issues pertaining to the liturgy – rites of the Christian churches related to liturgical celebrations
- 7 Study some of the following:
  - Liturgical families, East and West
  - Liturgical inculturation
  - Liturgy and language
  - Liturgy and justice
  - Liturgy and the Bible
  - Liturgical theology
  - Liturgical law
  - Liturgical spirituality
  - Ecumenical liturgy

### Organization and Teaching Strategies

The contact time comprises lectures and seminars, including both small group and whole class discussion of issues raised in lectures, the students' own reading and selected primary texts.

### Assessment

	<b>Type of assessment</b>	<b>No of words</b>	<b>Weighting %</b>	<b>Due date</b>	<b>Learning Outcomes covered</b>
1	Short essay	1000	20	Early semester	1
2	Long essay	2500	40	Mid-semester	2
3	Short essay	1000	20	End-semester	3, 4
4	Class presentation	½ hour	20	Weekly	3, 4

## Notes on Assessment

- Item 1 Will develop the student's knowledge of theological concepts and terminology as applied to liturgy.
- Item 2 Will develop the student's ability to reflect critically on the historical processes involved in liturgical development, and to retrieve, evaluate and use relevant information.
- Item 3 Will develop the student's understanding of the theological foundations of Christian liturgy by applying this understanding to the evaluation of different opinions and practices related to liturgy.
- Item 4 Will develop the student's ability to evaluate opinions, make decisions and reflect critically on the justifications for decisions, and to convey opinions and ideas clearly and fluently in oral form.

## Bibliography

### Textbooks

*The Sacramentary*

*The Lectionary*

*Catechism of the Catholic Church*

*The Rites of the Catholic Church*. Vol 1; New York: Pueblo Publishing Company, 1990.

*Uniting in Worship 2*. Sydney: Uniting Church Press, 2005.

*A Prayer Book for Australia*. Sydney: Broughton Books, 1995.

### Recommended

*Documents on the Liturgy 1963-1979, Conciliar, Papal and Curial Texts*. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1982.

*Multi-faith worship: Questions and Suggestions from the Inter-Faith Consultative Group*. London: Church House Publishing, 1992.

*Worshipping Ecumenically: A Guide to Preparing and Evaluating Ecumenical Worship*. Melbourne: Victorian Council of Churches, 1998.

Bugnini, Annibale. *The Reform of the Liturgy 1948-1975*. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1990, 5-28, 39-48.

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Chupungco, Anscar (ed). *Fundamental Liturgy*. Handbook for Liturgical Studies II; Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1998.

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Jean Corbon. *Wellsprings of the Liturgy*. Trans Matthew O'Connell; New York: Paulist, 1988.

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Hoffman, Elizabeth (ed). *The Liturgy Documents: a Parish resource*. Vols I & II; Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 1991.

Hoffman, Lawrence A. *The Art of Public Prayer: Not for Clergy Only*. Washington DC: The Pastoral Press, 1988.

Hughes, Kathleen & Mark Francis (eds). *Living No Longer for Ourselves: Liturgy and Justice in the Nineties*. Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1991.

Irwin, Kevin. *Liturgy, Prayer and Spirituality*. New York: Paulist, 1984.

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McRae-McMahon, Dorothy. *Rituals for Life, Love and Loss*. Paddington, NSW: Jane Curry Publishing, 2003.

- Martimort, AG (eds). *The Church at Prayer: Volume I Principles of the Liturgy*. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1987.
- Moore, Gerard. *Eucharist and Justice*. Catholic Social Justice Series #39; Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, 2000.
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- Van Olst, EH. *The Bible and Liturgy*. Trans John Vriend; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991.
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- White, James F. *Documents of Christian Worship*. Louisville: Westminster, 1992.
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- FDLC Conference Papers (1988) "Liturgy and Social Justice". Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1989, 26-61.
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### References - Online and Other IT resources

- Vatican. The Holy See. [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)
- The Liturgical Commission. [www.litcom.net.au](http://www.litcom.net.au)
- Built of Living Stones: Art, Architecture and Worship, *United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) 2000*, [www.nccb/uscc.org/liturgy/livingstones](http://www.nccb/uscc.org/liturgy/livingstones)
- [www.rca.org/worship/lectionary](http://www.rca.org/worship/lectionary)
- [www.commontexts.org.rcl/faq](http://www.commontexts.org.rcl/faq)