



*The John Cardinal Foley Chair of Homiletics & Social Communications*  
**SAINT CHARLES BORROMEEO SEMINARY, OVERBROOK**

100 E. Wynnewood Road • Wynnewood, PA 19096 • 610-785-6267 • [www.scs.edu/john-cardinal-foley-chair](http://www.scs.edu/john-cardinal-foley-chair)

# PTH 602

## Contemporary Homiletics

### *Spring 2020*



(CNS photo)

**Rev. THOMAS F. DAILEY, O.S.F.S., S.T.D.**

*The John Cardinal Foley Chair of Homiletics & Social Communications*

Class Information

Mondays  
1:35 - 4:15 p.m.  
Vianney Hall #106



Contact Information:

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*This syllabus was last revised on 2/8/20 at 10:58 AM.*

*All elements in it are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances and/or at the discretion of the instructor.*

## Description

This course explores the history of Homiletics in the Roman Catholic tradition, with a particular focus on preaching in the twenty-first century.

Formation for preaching benefits from examining the work of those recognized as masters of sacred eloquence. This course considers some key figures in Church history, with emphasis placed on the contemporary teaching and example of Pope Francis. It offers the opportunity for practice focused on delivering Sunday homilies in the Lent and Easter seasons.

Typically, the course methodology will be divided between a didactic element (readings and lectures) and a practicum for liturgical preaching, as scheduled in the proposed course calendar below.

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## Goals

### *Related Department Goals (Pastoral Theology)*

- The student will develop and practice skills for celebrating, proclaiming, preaching, teaching, evangelizing, listening, guiding and reconciling in the multi-cultural Catholic Christian community.

### *Specific Learning Outcomes*

By the conclusion of this course, students will gain ...

1. a basic understanding of the historical development of Catholic preaching, encompassing impacts of the new digital age
  - *assessed by class engagement and the final written examination*
2. a deeper appreciation of the essential qualities of good preaching today, with particular reference to the approach taught and exemplified by Pope Francis
  - *assessed by class engagement and the final written examination*
3. a stronger familiarity with the *ars praedicandi* related to the Lectionary for select Sundays during the seasons of Lent and Easter
  - *assessed by student/faculty evaluations and progress in preaching*
4. a continuing improvement in the communications skills employed in delivering a homily, with attention to public speaking and rhetoric
  - *assessed by student/faculty evaluations and progress in preaching*

## Assessment

(to be explained further during class)

*Growth in the art of preaching involves both didactic and practical learning. The course will alternate between both elements, as outlined in the proposed class schedule below.*

The DIDACTIC element focuses on the history of homiletics and contemporary preaching. In this learning, students have the following responsibilities:

- All students will **read** the **assigned texts** for the designated class period and be prepared to **discuss** the significant points raised therein.
- All students will **engage** the ideas presented in **class lectures** by raising critical questions and offering thoughtful responses.
- As specified, all students will complete **special assignments** on specific topics in the course.

The PRACTICAL element incorporates the didactic into the art of preaching. In this learning, students have the following responsibilities:

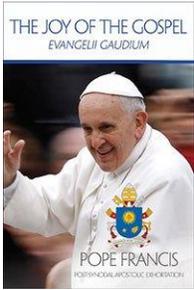
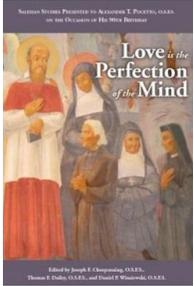
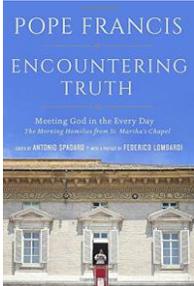
- During the assigned periods, students will **prepare and deliver** a 5-8 minute **homily** on the specified texts from the Lectionary, or complete a specific practicum exercise related to that day's homily.
- The class will offer "live" **feedback** to each homilist during the class period.
- The professor will provide a summary **evaluation**, in writing, to each homily practicum. Students are welcome to meet individually with the professor to review the evaluations and discuss areas of progress.

*Assessment of learning in this course will be based on accumulated knowledge of the theology of homiletics and developmental progress in the art of preaching. Grades will be distributed as follows:*

- (1) **Engagement** (17% of final grade) ... The professor will determine a grade based on the student's contributions to the class discussions about the assigned readings and lectures.
- (2) **Progress** (17% of the final grade) ... Students will determine their grade based on their growth in learning about homiletics and the art of preaching.
- (3) **Preaching** (33% of the final grade) ... An independent panel of reviewers will determine the grade for the final homily of the semester, as the culmination of the students' progress in the art of preaching.
- (4) **Writing** (33% of the final grade) ... The professor will determine the grade based on two (2) assignments given at the beginning and end (final exam) of the course.

Academic Resources

Required Readings for this Course (images linked to online versions ... info also posted on Populi)

 <p>NTR New Theology Review volume 31, number 1 October 2018</p>	<p>Dailey, Thomas. "Preaching as Praying: Complementary Methods for Sacred Eloquence."  <i>New Theology Review</i> 31/1 (Oct 2018): 11-17.  <a href="#">online text</a> (also posted on Populi)</p>	
 <p>THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL EVANGELII GAUDIUM  POPE FRANCIS PONTIFICATUS BENEDICTI XVI</p>	<p>Pope Francis <b><i>Evangelii Gaudium:</i></b> <b><i>Apostolic Exhortation on The Joy of the Gospel</i></b> USCCB, 2013  <i>selected sections ...</i> <a href="#">online text</a></p>	<p>ISBN-10: 1601374585 ISBN-13: 978-1601374585  Hardcover = \$10.85 Kindle = \$9.95</p>
 <p>Love is the Perfection of the Mind  Edited by Joseph F. Chomczynski, O.S.A., Thomas F. Coakley, O.S.A., and Daniel F. Wisniewski, O.S.A.</p>	<p>Dailey, Thomas. "From Francis to Francis: How a Saint and a Pope Share a Vision of Preaching."  <b><i>Love Is the Perfection of the Mind: Salesian Studies Presented to Rev. Alexander T. Pocetto, OSFS on the Occasion of His 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.</i></b> edited by Joseph Chorpenning, Thomas Dailey, and Daniel Wisniewski Center Valley, PA: Salesian Center for Faith &amp; Culture, June 2017, pp. 19-34.  <a href="#">online text</a> (also posted on Populi)</p>	
 <p>POPE FRANCIS ENCOUNTERING TRUTH  Meeting God in the Every Day The Morning Homilies from St. Martha's Chapel with ANTONIO SPADARO and MARIA TERESA LOMBARDI</p>	<p>Pope Francis (author) / Antonio Spadaro, SJ (editor) <b><i>Encountering Truth:</i></b> <b><i>Meeting God in the Every Day</i></b> <b><i>The Morning Homilies from St. Martha's Chapel</i></b> Image Books, 2015  <i>excerpts only ...</i> <a href="#">online text</a> (also on Populi)</p>	<p>ISBN-10: 1101903015 ISBN-13: 978-1101903018  Hardcover = \$10.48 Kindle = \$9.99</p>
	<p>Bishop Robert Barron &amp; Brandon Vogt <b><i>"Five Qualities of Good Preaching"</i></b> <b>Word on Fire Show</b> (podcast, 11/29/15)  <a href="http://wordonfireshow.com/episode3/">http://wordonfireshow.com/episode3/</a></p>	

**Recommended Reading:**

Congregation for Divine Worship & Discipline of Sacraments. *Homiletic Directory* (6/29/2014). [online text](#)

Foley, Edward (ed.). [A Handbook for Catholic Preaching](#). Pueblo Books, 2016

**Supplemental Reading** (listed in order of topics in the course ... articles/chapters posted on Populi)

Dailey, Thomas. ["The Soulful Homily."](#) *Homiletic & Pastoral Review* (May 2000): 56-60.

Cisetti, Joseph. ["On the Preacher and Preaching."](#) *Homiletic & Pastoral Review* (October 2005): 22-31.

Atwood, Ray. [Masters of Preaching: The Most Poignant and Powerful Homilists in Church History](#). Hamilton Books / Rowman & Littlefield, 2012.

Atwood, Ray. [Masters of Preaching: More Poignant and Powerful Homilists in Church History](#). Hamilton Books / Rowman & Littlefield, 2012.

Hermenegild, Brother. [Instructions from the Saints on How to Preach](#). Amazon Digital Services, 2017.

Cameron, Peter John. [Evangelii Gaudium and Pope Francis' Revolution in Preaching](#). CreateSpace Publishing, 2014.

Heille, Gregory. [The Preaching of Pope Francis: Missionary Discipleship and the Ministry of the Word](#). Liturgical Press, 2015.

Landry, Fr. Roger. "Pope Francis and the Missionary Reform of Sacred Preaching" ([seminar notes](#))

Gregory, Wilton. "Liturgical Preaching in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." *The Jurist* 76 (2016): 361-378.

**Proposed Schedule**

section "A"		section "B"	
group 1	group 2	group 3	group 4
Joseph Allen (LCN)	Henry Graebe (PHL)	Sang Woo Chi (PHL)	Andrew Auletta (PHL)
Walner Diaz (CM)	Joseph Creavey (HBG)	Augustus DeSimone (PHL)	Andrew Lane (PHL)
Michael Gokie (SCV)	Christopher Massaro (PHL)	Sean Phillips (SAC)	Timothy Graham (TRN)
Matthew Kuna (ALN)	Ryan Nguyen (PHL)	Daniel Reuwer (ARL)	Thomas Meinert (HBG)
Christopher Pujol (GBG)	Nobel Pathang (MYM)	Daniel Rice (ARL)	Erik Reyes (RAL)
Roneld St. Louis (PHL)	Ranjuna Perera (COL)	Ricardo Tobar (RM)	Dominic Winter (LCN)
Eric Tamney (PHL)	Tony Schukei (LCN)	Marlon Vass (COL)	

<i>Date</i>	<i>Class Focus</i>	<i>Preparatory Task</i>
Jan 13	<i>first class - The History of Homiletics!</i>	review: syllabus + presentation slides
<i>Jan 20</i>	<i>no class – MLK service day</i>	read: DAILEY, "Preaching as Praying" ( <a href="#">pdf</a> )
<i>Jan 27</i>	<i>no class – Cardinal Foley Lecture (7 pm)</i>	<i>FR. MIKE SCHMITZ – writing assignment</i>
Feb 3	practicum – <b>section “A” preaching</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 1 – on the <a href="#">First Sunday of Lent</a></li> <li>○ group 2 – on the <a href="#">Second Sunday of Lent</a></li> </ul>	practicum – <b>section “B” writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 3 – on the <a href="#">First Sunday of Lent</a></li> <li>○ group 4 – on the <a href="#">Second Sunday of Lent</a></li> </ul>
Feb 10 * CatholicPhilly.com podcast taping	practicum – <b>section “B” preaching</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 3 – on the <a href="#">Third Sunday of Lent</a></li> <li>○ group 4 – on the <a href="#">Fourth Sunday of Lent</a></li> </ul>	practicum – <b>section “A” writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 1 – on the <a href="#">Third Sunday of Lent</a></li> <li>○ group 2 – on the <a href="#">Fourth Sunday of Lent</a></li> </ul>
Feb 17	lecture – <b>the teaching of Pope Francis</b>	<b>read:</b> <i>Evangelii Gaudium</i> , nn. 135-159
Feb 24	practicum – <b>section “A” preaching</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 1 – on <a href="#">the Lord’s Supper</a></li> <li>○ group 2 – on <a href="#">the Lord’s Passion</a></li> </ul>	practicum – <b>section “B” writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 3 – on <a href="#">the Lord’s Supper</a></li> <li>○ group 4 – on <a href="#">the Lord’s Passion</a></li> </ul>
<i>Mar 2</i>	<i>no class –</i> read: DAILEY, <a href="#">"From Francis to Francis: How a Saint &amp; a Pope Share a Vision of Preaching."</a>	
Mar 9	practicum – <b>section “B” preaching</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 3 – on the <a href="#">Night (vigil) of Easter</a></li> <li>○ group 4 – on <a href="#">Easter Sunday</a></li> </ul>	practicum – <b>section “A” writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 1 – on the <a href="#">Night (vigil) of Easter</a></li> <li>○ group 2 – on <a href="#">Easter Sunday</a></li> </ul>
Mar 16	lecture – <b>the example of Pope Francis</b>	<b>read:</b> "Meeting God in Everyday Life" ( <a href="#">link</a> )
Mar 23	practicum – <b>section “A” preaching</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 1 – on the <a href="#">Second Sunday of Easter</a></li> <li>○ group 2 – on the <a href="#">Third Sunday of Easter</a></li> </ul>	practicum – <b>section “B” writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 3 – on the <a href="#">Second Sunday of Easter</a></li> <li>○ group 4 – on the <a href="#">Third Sunday of Easter</a></li> </ul>
Mar 30	practicum – <b>section “B” preaching</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 3 – on the <a href="#">Fifth Sunday of Easter</a></li> <li>○ group 4 – on the <a href="#">Sixth Sunday of Easter</a></li> </ul>	practicum – <b>section “A” writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ group 1 – on the <a href="#">Fifth Sunday of Easter</a></li> <li>○ group 2 – on the <a href="#">Sixth Sunday of Easter</a></li> </ul>
<i>Apr 6</i>	<i>no class – Holy Week</i>	
<i>Apr 13</i>	<i>no class – Easter Week</i>	
Apr 20	lecture – <b>contemporary concerns</b>	<b>listen:</b> BARRON, "Five Qualities" ( <a href="#">podcast</a> )
Apr 27	lecture – <b>research on parish preaching</b>	<b>final writing assignment due in class</b>
Apr 30 (TH)	conclusion to the course/year	<i>(complete online course evaluations)</i>
<b>Apr 28-29-30 7:00 - 9:00 PM</b>	final exam – public preaching <i>(special schedule &amp; instructions)</i>	<b>ALL preach</b> on <a href="#">Pentecost</a> (Mass during Day)

## Seminary Policies

### *Internet Use in the Classroom:*

While the internet is a valuable source of information that can facilitate the learning process, it can often be a distraction within the classroom setting. Therefore, unless explicitly permitted by the instructor, students in the classroom are not permitted to connect to the internet.

Because the digital world is the environment in which people live and work in the twenty-first century, students in this course are not only permitted to connect to the internet in the classroom, they are required to do so!

### *Attendance*

Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary strives to inculcate the best standards possible in academic study and does so in consultation and collaboration with other accredited institutions of higher learning. St. Charles Seminary requires attendance at all classes at the assigned times. If for a serious reason the seminarian must be absent, please inform the instructor by phone or note, preferably *prior* to the absence. Excessive, unexcused absences are grounds for a reduction of grade. Out of respect for others in the class, please be prompt in arriving for class.

### *Academic honesty*

As indicated in the Seminary policy, “no instance of plagiarism, cheating or falsification of research work, examinations or academic records will be tolerated and will make the seminarian liable to dismissal.” A failing grade will be assigned where there is evidence of academic dishonesty.

### *Late Work*

Unless approved by the instructor prior to the due date, late work is unacceptable.

### *Incomplete Work*

Failure to fulfill any of the requirements of this course may result in an F for the course. And to reiterate, plagiarism will result in an F for the course.

### *Exams*

“[Final] Examinations in all courses are held on the dates and in the places designated on the final examination schedule. No seminarian is excused from an examination unless an exception is granted by the Academic Dean. A seminarian who, for illness or another serious reason, must be absent from a final examination may request permission from the Academic Dean to reschedule the examination and is responsible for making the necessary arrangements with the appropriate professor [or instructor]. If an examination has not been taken within two weeks, the grade of “F” will be given for the course. Extensions can be granted only by the Academic Dean.”

### *Seminary Grading System*

“Letter grades are used to indicate the quality of a seminarian’s performance in a course. Professors assign grades as the result of class work, reports, research papers, examinations, or a combination of the above.”

“A seminarian’s academic standing is measured by the cumulative average. The cumulative average is calculated by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total number of credit hours attempted. Grade points are not granted for Pass/Fail courses, nor do these courses affect the semester or cumulative averages.”

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