

MATTHEW S. C. OLVER, PH.D.

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EDUCATION

Doctoral of Philosophy, Theology, 2018

Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI

Dissertation: "Hoc est sacrificium laudis: The influence of Hebrews on the Origin, Structure, and Theology of the Roman Canon Missae." Director: Susan K. Wood, SCL

Master of Divinity (*magna cum laude*), 2005

Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC

Bachelor of Arts (English literature), 2001

Wheaton College, IL

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Executive Director and Publisher, September 2023 – present

The Living Church Foundation

Affiliate Professor of Liturgics, September 2023 – present

Associate Professor of Liturgics and Pastoral Ministry, 2022 – 2023

Assistant Professor of Liturgics and Pastoral Ministry, 2016 – 2022

Assistant Director of Chapel Liturgy, 2021 – present

Director of St. Mary's Chapel, 2019 – 2020

Nashotah House Theological Seminary, Nashotah, WI

Associate Priest, September 2018 – present

Zion Episcopal Church, Oconomowoc, WI

Teaching Fellow in Liturgics, 2014 – 2016

Nashotah House Theological Seminary, Nashotah, WI

Associate Priest, November 2013 – May 2017

All Saints' Cathedral, Milwaukee, WI

Assistant Rector for Worship & Adult Formation, January 2010 – August 2013
Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX

Assistant Rector for Christian Formation, July 2008 – December 2009
Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX

Curate for Youth and Young Families, May 2006 – June 2008
Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX

Curate & School Chaplain, September 2005 – April 2006
St. John's Episcopal Church and School, Dallas, TX

SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Peer-Reviewed Monographs

The Origin of the Roman Canon Missae. Studia Traditionis Theologiae. Turnhout: Brepols, forthcoming in 2024.

Turning Points in Prayer Book History: Making Sense of the American Tradition. New York: Seabury Press, co-authored with Nathan G. Jennings, forthcoming in 2024.

Articles in Refereed Journals and Publications

"The "Missing" Oblation and the Problem of Sacrifice in Early Antiochene Anaphoras: A Reconsideration of John Fenwick and Stefano Parenti." *Harvard Theological Review*, forthcoming.

"Reconfigured Relations: A New Perspective on the Relationship between Ambrose's *De Sacramentis* and the Roman Canon Missae," *Journal of Early Christian Studies* (2024), vol. 32, no. 3, forthcoming.

"Article X, Trial Use, and the History of Liturgical Authorization in the Episcopal Church," *Anglican Theological Review* (2023), 105, no. 2, 167–93.

"The Epistle to the Hebrews in the Roman Canon Missae: Melchizedek and Other Features, part 2" *Ecclesia Orans* (2023), vol. 40, 101-23.

The Identity and Purpose of the Angel in the Roman Canon Missae: A Reconsideration in Light of Scripture and the Pseudepigrapha, Joint Liturgical Studies 95 (Norwich, UK: Hymns Ancient and Modern, 2023).

"The Epistle to the Hebrews in the Roman Canon Missae: Melchizedek and Other Features, part 1" *Ecclesia Orans* (2022), vol. 39, no. 2, 321-46.

"Divine Visitation: The 1662 Prayer Book's Theology of Sickness and Plague," *Journal of Anglican Studies*, (2022), vol. 20, no. 2, 198-215.

"Offering for Change: The Logic of Consecration that Unites Early Christian Anaphoras," *Worship*, (July 2022): 204-21.

"Connections between the Roman Canon Missae and the East Syrian Anaphora of Mar Theodore," *Questions Liturgiques*, (2021) vol. 101. no. 3-4, 276-304.

"Containing the Uncontainable: An Analysis of Expansive Liturgical Language in the Episcopal Church, 1987-2018," *Anglican Theological Review*, (Winter 2021), vol. 102, no. 4, 27-43.

"A Classification of a Liturgy's Use of Scripture: A Proposal," *Studia Liturgica*, (2019), vol. 49, no. 2, 220-45.

"The Bavarian's Surprise: Ratzinger's Spirit of the Liturgy as the Spirit of the Council," *Nova et Vetera*, (2017), vol. 15, no. 1, 185-218.

"The Eucharistic Materials in Enriching our Worship 1: A Consideration of its Trinitarian Theology," *Anglican Theological Review*, (Fall 2016), vol. 98, no. 4, 661-680.

"A Note on the Silent Canon in the Missal of Paul VI and Cardinal Ratzinger," *Antiphon*, (2016) vol. 20, no. 1, 40-51.

"Contraception's Authority: An Anglican's Liturgical and Synodical Thought Experiment in light of ARCUSA's 'Ecclesiology and Moral Discernment,'" *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*, (Summer 2015), vol. 50, no. 3, pp 417-451.

Chapters in multi-author volumes, dictionary entries, and invited contributions

"Collects" in *The Oxford Handbook of the Book of Common Prayer*, Paul F. Bradshaw, Luiz Carlos Teixeira Coelho, Ruth A. Meyers, eds., (Oxford: Oxford University Press), forthcoming.

Entries in *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, 2 vol, 4th revised ed. Andrew Louth, ed., (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022).

“The Pandemic’s Mass: An Anglo-Catholic Essay on Certain Eucharistic Issues Raised by COVID-19,” *Anglican Theological Review*, (Winter 2022), vol. 104, no. 1, 54-69.

“When Praying Does Not Shape Believing: Ambrose and Chrysostom as Test Cases for the Tension between Liturgy and Theology,” in *Studia Patristica, Vol. CXXVIII: Papers Presented at the Eighteenth International Conference on Patristic Studies Held in Oxford 2019*, ed. Markus Vinzent, vol. 25: The Second Half of the Fourth Century (Leuven: Peeters, 2021), 77-85.

“Jewish Roots of Christian Worship: Its Most Missed and Misunderstood Legacy,” in *Understanding the Jewish Roots of Christianity: Biblical, Theological, and Historical Essays on the Relationship Between Christianity and Judaism* (Studies in Scripture and Biblical Theology), ed. Gerald R. McDermott (Lexham Books, 2021), 69-103.

“Although We Be Unworthy: Anglicans, Eucharistic Sacrifice, and the Protestant Loss of Ritual,” in *Joseph Ratzinger and the Healing of the Reformation-Era Divisions*, ed. Matthew Levering and Emery A. de Gaál (Steubenville, OH: Emmaus Academic, 2019), 209-57.

“Documented Ecumenism: Why the Anglican Covenant is the Hope for Anglicanism and its Ecumenical Calling,” in *Pro Communion: Theological Essays on the Anglican Covenant*, ed. Benjamin M. Guyer (Pickwick Publications/Wipf and Stock 2012), 149-165.

Book Reviews

The Roman Mass: From Early Christian Origins to Tridentine Reform by Uwe Michael Lang (Cambridge University Press, 2022), in *The Living Church*, August 6, 2023, 30-31.

From Easter to Holy Week: The Paschal Mystery and Liturgical Renewal in the Twentieth Century by Laura E. Moore, *Anglican-Episcopal Theology and History, Volume: 5*. (Leiden: Brill, 2020), in *Ecclesiology*, 16, no.3 (2020): 409-411.

Liturgy & Theology: Economy and Reality by Nathan G. Jennings. (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2017), in *Anglican Theological Review*, 101, no.3 (Summer 2019): 538-39.

Christ’s Gift, Our Response: Martin Luther and Louis-Marie Chauvet on the Connection between Sacraments and Ethics by Benjamin Durheim (Michael Glazier/Liturgical Press), in *Anglican Theological Review*, 98, no.3 (Summer 2016): 564-65.

The Ecumenical Councils of the Catholic Church: A History by Joseph F. Kelly (Liturgical Press), in *The Living Church*, June 17, 2012, 25-26.

AWARDS AND HONORS

2022-23 Alan Richardson Fellow and Honorary Fellow in the Department of Theology and Religion

Durham University

Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

Nashotah House Theological Seminary, June of 2022

William S. Conant Fund Grant, 2022-23

Funded travel and research for the monograph, *Prayer Book Turning Points: Making Sense of the American Tradition*, which will be co-authored with Nathan Jennings.

William S. Conant Fund Grant, 2019-20

Funded beginning research for a monograph that is tentatively titled, *An Anglican Liturgical Handbook: A Theological and Ceremonial Guide, and the Ritual Reasons Why*.

First Prize, 2014

Graduate Student Conference on *The Nouvelle Theologie, Ressourcement, and Contemporary Theology*, Center for Scriptural Exegesis, Philosophy, and Doctrine, Mundelein Seminary: "The Bavarian's Surprise: Ratzinger's *Spirit of the Liturgy* as the Spirit of the Council"

Member of American Delegation to Pope Benedict XVI, November 2006

The first official visit of the then-Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams at the invitation of the Anglican Centre in Rome

Duke University Divinity School, 2005

Recipient of the Hoyt Hickman Award for Outstanding Liturgical Scholarship and Practice by the Divinity School faculty

Conferences and Academic Paper Presentations

"Malachi's Material Foundation: The Scriptural Heart of Early Christian Eucharistic Theology" Alan H. Richardson Fellow Lecture, Durham University, UK (June 5, 2023).

"Divine Visitation: The Prayer Book's Theology of Sickness and Plague" at "In Time of Plague and Sickness," the 2020 Conference of the Prayer Book Society, UK (September 5, 2020), presented via [YouTube](#).

“A Clash of Reforms: The Impact of Vatican II on Anglo-Catholicism” at Anglo-Catholicism III: 175th Anniversary of the Church of the Advent, Boston, (December 5-6, 2019).

“Missed and Misunderstood: Sacrifice as the Principal Jewish influence on Early Christian Worship,” at The Jewish Roots of Christianity, The Institute of Anglican Studies, Beeson Divinity School, Birmingham, AL (September 24, 2019).

“When Praying Does Not Shape Believing: Ambrose and Chrysostom as Test Cases for the Tension between Liturgy and Theology,” at the XVIII International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford University (August 21, 2019).

“Remembering to Touch the Divine: The Logic of Consecration that Unites Early Christian Anaphoras,” at the Societas Liturgica Congress, Durham, England (August 5-10, 2019).

“Although We Be Unworthy: Anglicans and Liturgical Revision in an Ecumenical Light” at “Joseph Ratzinger and the Healing of the Reformation-Era Divisions,” Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, IL (October 2017).

“Scripture as Liturgical Source: A Call to Consider and a Proposal to Classify,” North American Academy of Liturgy, Washington D.C. (January 2017).

“The Priestly Angel in the Roman Canon: A Case Study in Scriptural Exegesis,” North American Academy of Liturgy, Houston, TX (January 2016).

“Thomas Aquinas & Louie-Marie Chauvet: A Consideration of Oblation in their Theologies of the Eucharist,” Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, IL, Graduate Student Conference on St. Thomas Aquinas, sponsored by the Center for Scriptural Exegesis, Philosophy, and Doctrine (October 2015).

“The Priestly Angel: An Inquiry into the Identity of the Angel in the Roman Canon,” Societas Liturgica, Quebec City, Quebec (August 2015).

“The Bavarian’s Surprise: Ratzinger’s *Spirit of the Liturgy* as the Spirit of the Council,” Mundelein Seminary, *The Nouvelle Theologie, Ressourcement, and Contemporary Theology*,” Mundelein, IL. Received First Place prize. (October 2014)

“The Downfall of Darkness: A Canonical and Theological Reading of 1 John 3:8c,” Joint University of Chicago and University of Notre Dame Graduate Student Conference, *Eschatology and Moral Order*, Chicago, IL (April 2014).

"Anglican Moral Reasoning about Contraception: A Working Paper for the Anglican-Roman Catholic Consultation in the USA," Washington, DC (2009)

"The Ecumenical Burden of a Covenanted Future," a submission to the Anglican Communion's Covenant Design Group, (November 2008),
<http://www.anglicancommunion.org/commission/covenant/docs/G09%2013%20Matthew.pdf>.

Selected Church-Related Presentations

"The Book of Common Prayer: Ordering Principle, the Place of Sacrifice, and Future Revision" (3 lectures), Diocese of Tennessee Clergy Colloquium, Sewanee: The University of the South, Sewanee, TN (April 25-26, 2023).

"The Sacrifice of Praise: A Biblical, Liturgical, and Practical Theology of Worship," All Souls Episcopal Church, Oklahoma City, OK (March 12, 2022).

"The Ordination and Consecration of a Bishop: Theology and Liturgy in the 1979 BCP," Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh (October 26, 2021).

"Sacrifice: It's not what you think, and why it matters for your Church," RADVO: Radical Vocations Conference, Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX (September 24, 2021).

"A Clash of Reforms: The Impact of Vatican II on Anglo-Catholicism," Anglo-Catholic Roots III: Oxford Comes to Boston: 175 Years of Anglo-Catholicism in America, Church of the Advent, Boston, MA, (December 5-6, 2019).

"The Bible Rearranged: How the Rites of the 1979 Prayer Book use the Bible as a Source," Diocese of Tennessee, Featured lecture at the annual Blessing of Liturgical Ministries, (August 25, 2018).

"Hocus Pocus: The Strange and Surprising Relationship between the Bible and the Liturgy," Nashotah House Theological Seminary, Alumni Day Faculty Lecture, (May 23, 2018).

"Repentance in the Liturgy," Nashotah House Theological Seminary, Community Lenten Series, (March 7, 2018).

"Liturgy and the New Evangelization: An Ecumenical Response," Notre Dame Center for Liturgy's conference "Liturgy and the New Evangelization," University of Notre Dame, IN (June 23, 2016).

"We Must Be Able to Breathe: 1979 American BCP & Future Challenges to the Anglican Liturgical Tradition," at the Prayer Book Society of North America's conference "Stirred Up to Godliness: A Colloquium on Daily Prayer in Anglicanism," Dallas, TX (January 2016).

"Koinonia and the Anglican Communion: A Brief Primer," Covenant Conference, Dallas, TX (2008)

"The Gift of Absence," Society of Mary, Dallas, TX (2008)

"Mother of Unity? Mary, Ecumenism, and the Anglican-Roman Catholic Commission," Catholic Clerical Union, Ft. Worth, TX (2006)

"Mother of Unity: Mary, Ecumenism and the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue," Dallas, TX (2006)

"Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ," The Anglican Centre, Rome, Italy (2005)
Course Participant and Presenter

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion

Societas Liturgica (elected member)

North American Academy of Liturgy (NAAL) (elected member)

North American Patristics Society

International Anglican Liturgical Consultation

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

- History of Christian Worship
- Early Latin liturgy
- Development of the Book of Common Prayer
- Scripture and Liturgy
- Anglican Pastoral Liturgy
- Sacramental Theology
- History of the Christian Sacraments

- Ecclesiology
- Development of Doctrine

COURSES TAUGHT

- History of Christian Worship (LT501)
- Practical Liturgics for the Parish Priest (LT601)
- Pastoral Ministry 1: Personal Leadership, Polity and Canon Law, and Pastoral Counseling (PM501)
- Pastoral Ministry 2: Catechesis, Pastoral liturgies, Leadership and Administration, and Outreach (PM502)
- Advanced Liturgical Study: An Introduction to Sources and Methods (LT701-I)
- Christian Unity in Rome: Anglican Ecclesiology and Ecumenism (MS 683)
- Cosmos as Liturgy: Angels, Temple, and Scripture (LT710/810)

SERVICE TO NASHOTAH HOUSE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

- Faculty Representative to the Board of Directors, 2019 – 2022.
- Assistant Director of Chapel Liturgy, 2021 – present.
- Director of St. Mary’s Chapel, 2019-20.
- Secretary of the Faculty, 2017-18 and 2018-19 academic years.
- Faculty representative on the Recruitment Task Force during the 2017-18 academic year.

SERVICE IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Elected as Deputy from the Diocese of Dallas to the 2024 General Convention.

Deputy from the Diocese of Dallas and member of the Legislative Committee on Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, General Convention of the Episcopal Church, July 5-15, 2022, Baltimore, MD

Task Force on Liturgical and Prayer Book Revision, September, 2018 – December, 2020

Board Member, The Living Church Foundation, Inc., October 2016 – present
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Board of Examining Chaplains, September 2012 – August 2013; 2017 – present
Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, TX

Anglican-Roman Catholic Consultation in the U.S. (ARCUSA), 2008-2014

The official dialogue between The Episcopal Church and the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB).

Executive Council, November 2008 – October 2011

Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, TX

Ecumenical Officer, November 2005 – November 2010

Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, TX

Episcopal Representative on Planning Team

Ecumenical Conference for Young Clergy, October 2005 – October 2007

“After God’s Own Heart,” Baltimore, MD, Oct 7-11, 2007

Ordination in the Episcopal Church

Deacon: November 1, 2005

Priest: May 27, 2006

Administered by the Rt. Reverend James M. Stanton, 6th Bishop of the Diocese of Dallas

- Canonically resident in the Diocese of Dallas
- Licensed in the Diocese of Milwaukee since 2013

POPULAR WRITING

Review of *The Roman Mass: From Early Christian Origins to Tridentine Reform* by Uwe Michael Lang (Cambridge University Press, 2022), in [The Living Church](#), August 6, 2023, 30-31.

“Ritual Repels the Robots: One Human Response to AI,” [Covenant](#) (May 9, 2023).

“Charles III: Protestant or Byzantine Priest-King?,” [PrayTell](#) (May 8, 2023).

“An Anglican Reflects on Pope Benedict XVI,” [PrayTell](#) (December 31, 2022).

Reprinted by [The Living Church](#) and picked up and in a slightly different version by the Catholic Herald (UK) as “[Benedict XVI: A teacher for the whole world.](#)”

“A Proposal for the 81st General Convention,” [Covenant](#) (October 21, 2022).

“An Explanation and an Exploration of 2022-A059,” [Covenant](#) (October 19, 2022).

“A Summary of the Authorization of Liturgical Texts,” [Covenant](#) (October 14, 2022).

"The Book of Common Prayer in TEC's Constitution," [Covenant](#) (October 12, 2022).

"An Analogue to *Traditionis Custodes* in the Episcopal Church," [PrayTell](#) (October 3, 2022).

"I Taught Canon Law. Then I Went to General Convention," [Covenant](#) (August 25, 2022).

"Confessions of a Penitential Orderer," [Covenant](#) (May 10, 2022).

"Of Apostles and their Successors," [Covenant](#) (March 10, 2022).

"The Way of Love: Worship," [Covenant](#) (March 8, 2021).

"The Loss of Ritual in Coronatide," [Covenant](#) (September 1, 2020).

"Worship in a Time of Pandemic" ([Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)), [Covenant](#) (March 24 and 25, 2020).

"Ashes to Go? Context and Rationale," [Covenant](#) (March 5, 2019).

"Married Priests?," [PrayTell](#) (February 2, 2019).

"The moving feasts of Christmastide," [PrayTell](#) (January 4, 2019).

"What to make of the Advent Wreath, or When the periphery moves to the center," [PrayTell](#) (December 2, 2018).

"New Rites: Expansive, Inclusive, or Stifling?," [Covenant](#) (November 14, 2018).

"Do we still have a king?," [PrayTell](#) (November 1, 2018).

"Liturgical Revision in the Episcopal Church," [PrayTell](#) (October 10, 2018).

"Licit Liturgical Revision for the Future," [Covenant](#) (August 27, 2018).

"Did General Convention Authorize Prayer Book Revision?," [Covenant](#) (August 24, 2018).

"The Death Penalty and the Prayers of the Faithful," [PrayTell](#) (August 13, 2018).

"Joseph of Arimathaea and Jesus in England," [PrayTell](#) (August 1, 2018).

“A meditation on Rogation Monday,” [PrayTell](#) (May 7, 2018).

“Self-intinction,” [PrayTell](#) (April 23, 2018).

“Whence came that cross?,” [PrayTell](#) (March 1, 2018).

“Leonel Mitchell, Reshaped” in “Necessary or Expedient: A teaching series in Prayer Book revision” in *The Living Church* (February 11, 2018), 18-20

“To read and to listen,” [PrayTell](#) (January 1, 2018).

“Presiding from which chair?,” [PrayTell](#) (December 2, 2017).

“Proper Dignity to Saints and Souls,” [PrayTell](#) (November 1, 2017).

“Fairies and St. Michael,” [PrayTell](#) (September 29, 2017).

“Leonel Mitchell, Reshaped,” [Covenant](#) (September 21, 2017).

“My Two Offices,” [PrayTell](#) (September 1, 2017).

“No End to Sacrifice: Mitchell, Meyers, Praying Shapes Believing,” [Covenant](#) (February 4, 2017).

“No End to Sacrifice: Anglicans on ‘offering,’” [Covenant](#) (February 3, 2017).

“No End to Sacrifice: The Legacy of Gregory Dix,” [Covenant](#) (February 2, 2017).

“Worship or Works? Engaging Michael Curry and Richard Rohr,” [Covenant](#) (December 14, 2016).

“Conformity, liturgy, and doctrine: 3 responses to Pearson’s ‘Anglican identity and common prayer,’” [Covenant](#) (September 30, 2016).

“Ritual Words in an Age of Drivel,” [PrayTellBlog](#) (August 21, 2016).

“Orientation and Eucharistic Sacrifice: Continuing a Discussion,” [Covenant](#) (August 15, 2016).

“Further facing into the Eucharist: A friendly response to Bishop Martins,” [Covenant](#) (August 2, 2016).

“Why the RCL is killing churches, and what you can do about it,” [part 1](#) & [part 2](#), *Covenant* (June 30 & July 1, 2016).

“A thought experiment: Where to place the baptisms at the Easter Vigil,” [Covenant](#) (May 12, 2016).

“The liturgy doesn’t ‘mean’ anything: It is something,” [Covenant](#) (May 11, 2016).

“Strive to enter that rest, on Psalm 95[94],” *Anglican Digest* (Spring 2016), 12-16.

“Can anyone speak (it) theologically?” [Covenant](#) (January 21, 2016).

“The Terror of the Nativity,” [Covenant](#) (December 29, 2015).

“Enriching our Worship: A Reading of its Trinitarian Theology,” [part 1](#), [part 2](#), [part 3](#), *Covenant* (November 9, 10, 11, 2015).

“To speak as a Christian,” [Covenant](#) (October 13, 2015).

“Three Streams (but not the ones you’re thinking of),” [Covenant](#) (August 25, 2015).

“A Friendly Amendment to Derek Olsen’s “Rite III EP for the Young: A Modest Proposal,” [Covenant](#) (August 7, 2015).

“The orientation of preparation,” [Covenant](#) (July 28, 2015).

“The burden of angels,” [Covenant](#) (April 29, 2015).

“Seven Theses on the Episcopacy,” [Covenant](#) (March 9, 2015).

“Confirmation of ACNA’s Revolutionary Theology?” [Covenant](#) (January 29, 2015).

“How radical a revision?” [Covenant](#) (January 5, 2015).

“Strive to enter that rest,” [Covenant](#) (October 24, 2014).

“One needful thing,” [Covenant](#) (September 4, 2014).

“Dallas Convention Given Wholly to Covenant,” *The Living Church* (2008)

Op-Ed, “[Christian Unity is a Mandate, Not an Option](#),” *Dallas Morning News* (2008)

“Impassioned Unity: The Spiritual Grammar of Canterbury’s Visit to Rome,” *Esprit* (2007)

“True Ecumenism,” with Christopher Wells, *The Living Church* (2007)

“Re-Reception: A Fundamental Tool for Christian Unity,” *The Living Church* (2006)

Film and Art

“Liturgy and Performance,” Dallas Museum of Art (2009)