

Summer 2008 - Religious Studies Faculty Biographies

Silviu Bunta, Ph.D., teaching **New Testament Theology**, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Religious Studies. Prior to joining UD, he has taught at Marquette University. He holds a Ph.D. in Second Temple Judaism from Marquette.

Dennis M. Doyle, Ph.D., teaching **Foundations of Systematic and Moral Theology**, is professor in the University of Dayton's Religious Studies department. His areas of specialization include ecclesiology and Catholic social teaching. He is the author of *Communion Ecclesiology: Vision and Versions* (Orbis Books) as well as *The Church Emerging from Vatican II* (Twenty-Third Publications, updated 2002).

Isabel Caridad Fernandez, Ph.D., teaching **Kingdom, Church and World**, earned her Ph.D. from the University of Dayton. She works as a Community Organizer with the Federation of Congregations United to Serve (FOCUS) in Orlando, Florida.

Joseph H. Jacobs, Ph.D., teaching **U.S. Catholicism**, earned his Ph.D. from the University of Dayton, and teaches in the Religious Studies Department. His areas of specialization include Roman Catholic Modernism, the development of U.S. Catholicism, and Church History. He is the author of "Beware the Philistines: Maude Petre's Theology of Doubt," recently published in the *Downside Review*.

William H. Johnston, Ph.D., teaching **Liturgy**, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Religious Studies, University of Dayton. He worked in diocesan and parish ministry for over twenty-five years. His doctorate in Theology and M.A. in Theology (Liturgy) are from the University of Notre Dame.

Dermot A. Lane, S.T.D., teaching **A Catholic Theology of Interreligious Dialogue**, is President of Mater Dei Institute of Education, Dublin City University and Pastor of Balally Parish in south Dublin. He is author of several books, including *The Experience of God: An Invitation to do Theology*, (Revised and expanded in 2003) and *Keeping Hope Alive: Stirrings in Christian Theology* (1996/2005) and co-editor of *Vatican II Facing the Future: Historical and Theological Perspectives* (2006).

James H. Schimelpfening, S.M., D.Min., teaching **Introduction to Pastoral Care and Spiritual Direction**, is an ordained member of the Society of Mary, Marianist. He has been in ministry at the University of Dayton for the past three years, ministering in Campus Ministry and teaching in the graduate Pastoral Ministry program at U.D. Father Jim has over the course of his years as a Marianist lived and ministered in a variety of ways and settings in North and South America, Europe, and Asia. Much of his ministry has been in pastoral care, spiritual formation, spiritual direction, and retreat ministry. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from the Toronto School of Theology in Toronto, Canada, a master's degree in spirituality from Creighton University in Omaha, and a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago with a specialization in spirituality.

Pamela Thimmes, O.S.C., Ph.D., teaching **Foundations of Biblical Studies**, is a Poor Clare sister who lives in Co. Louth, Ireland. She holds a B.S.Ed. from Ohio University in English Literature, M.A.s from Canisius College and Vanderbilt University in Religious Studies, and was awarded a Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in Biblical Studies. She was a member of the Religious Studies faculty at U.D. for 22 yrs. and is past chair of the Feminist Hermeneutics of the Bible section within the Society of Biblical Literature and past president of the Eastern Great Lakes Biblical Society. She is the author of numerous articles and editor of scholarly studies in biblical studies.

Nikki Coffey Tousley, M.Div., M. Phil., teaching **Contemporary Moral Problems**, is a Ph.D. student in Theology at the University of Dayton in the field of theological ethics. She has taught religion courses at the University of Dayton. She is a member of the Society of Christian Ethics and American Academy of Religion.

Sandra Yocum Mize, Ph.D., teaching **Introduction to Research Methods in Religious Studies**, is an Associate Professor and Chair in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Dayton. She has numerous publications on 19th and 20th century U.S. Catholicism including the life and thought of Dorothy Day. She has co-edited *American Catholic Traditions: Resources for Renewal* with William Portier (1997) and authored *Joining the Revolution in Theology* (2007). She received her Ph.D. from Marquette University.