

Fr. Elijah Mueller

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I. Education

Degrees: B.A., 1991, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee; Major in English and French
M.Div., 1994, Saint Vladimir Seminary, New York; thesis in New Testament
M.A., 1999, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California; Biblical Languages
Ph.D, 2014, Marquette University, Religion.

Dissertation: *THE WORD IS AN ANGEL OF THE MIND: ANGELIC AND TEMPLE IMAGERY IN THE THEOLOGY OF JOHN MANSUR, THE DAMASCENE*. Marquette, May 2014. Advisors: Bishop Alexander Golitzin and Dr. Deirdre Dempsey.

Teachi

II. Ministerial Training Administration and Teaching Experience

A. Director – Deanery Higher Education and Diaconal Vocations Program 2004-2011 & successor Midwest Diocese Catechist and Diaconal Vocations Program 2011-2014

1. Duties: supervision of curriculum and faculty, arranging diaconal candidacy and catechetical certification, scheduling and planning courses, some teaching, et al. – including – **Coordination of Special Events:**
 - First Annual Catechist and Diaconal Vocations Conference, August 2014, St. Andrew's House Detroit (in planning).
 - Master Class on Running a Local Catechist and Diaconal Vocations Program, Kansas City, Kansas, December 2013.
2. Courses Taught (in Deanery and Diocesan Program):
 - *Orthodox Christian Spirituality: from Origins to Present*. In Chicago (Fall 2004, Fall 2009, Spring 2012); in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (Spring 2013). Smaller condensed classes: Lincoln, Nebraska (July 2012); Livonia, Michigan (February & July 2012); & Green Bay, Wisconsin (multiple sessions from 2011-2013).
 - *Liturgical Theology, Catechesis and Homiletics* Chicago (Spring 2007 & Summer 2011)
 - *Church History* Chicago (Summer 2010)

III. Courses taught, Marquette University – Graduate Lecturer & Teaching Fellow ('06-'07):

- Fall 2010, Theology 4210 & 5210: History & Theology Christian East, 2 Sections. Substitution for Bishop Alexander Golitzin during his recuperation from health problems.

- Spring 2007, Theology 103: New Testament: Luke Acts; Theology 106, Theology Through the Centuries (Early Christianity)
- Spring 2006, Theology 1 Intro to Theology, 2 sections
- Fall 2006, Theology 1, Intro to Theology; Theology 116 1003 Christ Faith/Culture: Theology of Non-Colonial Christian Traditions Outside Europe
- Spring 2005, THEO 106 1003, Theology Through the Centuries (Early Christianity)
- Fall 2005, Theology 1, Intro to Theology–2 sections

IV. Academic Presentations and Publications

A. Academic Conference Presentations

May 24, 2002. North American Patristics Society annual meeting: *Ascetic Humanism in Defense of Christianity: John Damascene on the Heresy of the "Ishmaelites."*

November 24, 2002. AAR Annual Meeting: Arts, Literature, and Religion Section, "John Damascene's On the Divine Images: Witness, Theosis, and Humanized Revelation."

January 4, 2003 American Society of Church History: "Ascetics and Aesthetics: The Canon Hymns of John Damascene."

June 3, 2005 North American Patristic Society, Section on Judaism and Christianity: "Christ as Angel Israel: An Iconic Christology in Justin's *Dialogue with Trypho*."

November 24, 2008 Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Midrash Section, Theme: Midrash and Visual Art. With Bogdan G. Bucur, Elijah Mueller, "Biblical Interpretation in Byzantine Iconography and Hymnography."

B. Articles

"Temple and Angel: Apocalyptic Themes in the Theology of St. John Damascene," in Robert J. Daly (ed.), *Apocalyptic Thought in Early Christianity. Holy Cross Studies in Patristic Theology and History*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic (2009) 240-249.

With Bogdan G. Bucur, "Gregory Nazianzen's Reading of Habakkuk 3:2 and its Reception: A Lesson from Byzantine Scripture Exegesis," *Pro Ecclesia*, XX.1, (2011) 86 -103.

V. Popular Presentations

- "On St. John Damascene and Icon Theology," Homily, Sunday of Orthodoxy, March 9, 2014, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Guest Homilist of Wisconsin Clergy Syndesmos.
- "Icons: The Cosmos Filled with Glory," May 2014, University of Chicago.
- "Reading Scripture and Orthodox Spirituality," May 2013, Dayton, Ohio.
- "The Inner Temple and Prayer," Youth Camp Program July 2011, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

- “‘Cleansed by the Fire of a Mystic Vision’: How an Image is the Best Word in Christian Theology.” October 2005 at Christ the Savior Church, Chicago.
- Many Homilies and Talks at Chicago Deanery Services.
- Many Events, Panels, Talks at University of Chicago RSO and Rockefeller Spirit Life.

VI. Non-Academic: Ministerial, Arts and Teaching Experience

Pastor – of St. Makarios Orthodox Church, Chicago (Hyde Park) 2008-present

St. Clement Ohridski Orthodox Church, Merrillville, IN, 2001, 2005-2008

St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church, New York City, 2002-04.

Ordained to Diaconate, then Priesthood, April 2001 & June 16, 2001 respectively.

Campus Ministry- Regional Chaplain, National OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship) 2013-present; Area Chaplain, Upper Midwest 2011-present; Chaplain, OCF, U. Chicago chapter, 2005-present. Student Leader and Chaplain, Marquette U. OCF, 1998-2002, 2004-5. Student Leader at U. California and Graduate Theological Union 1995-8 and at U. Wisconsin Milwaukee and Marquette U., 1987-1991 and 1994-95;.

Iconographer/Artist - freelance artistic carving Byzantine, Ethiopian, Coptic styles in wood for commission, 1992-present. Instruction by Archbishop Job, Igumen Sergius Gerken, Fr. Patrick Doolan, et al.

Teacher – Substitute, Chicago Public Schools, especially Kenwood High School and Murray Language Elementary 2007-2012; at University of Chicago Charters 2013-present.

Chanter, Choir Director – various parishes (Greek, Bulgarian, Arab, mixed) New York, Milwaukee, Berkeley, Oakland 1992-2001, some paid, some volunteered. Knowledge of Byzantine Chant, but with but with strong background in Russian Tradition.

Camp Co-Director of Orthodox Church in America (OCA), Diocese of Midwest Youth Camp - 1992-94. *Youth Director*, Diocese of Midwest, Orthodox Church in America, 1998-2001.

English Language Instructor - Pacific & Asian American Center for Theology & Strategies, Berkeley, CA, 1996-98.

Paraprofessional TA, handicap certification (LD/CD), Starms School, Milwaukee Public Schools, 1994-95.

Miscellaneous: Construction, Painting, Mailroom, Lifeguarding, Tour guide, Tutoring. Gamaliel Foundation Faith-Based Organization Training, Work and Board Membership with Milwaukee Inner City Congregations Allied for Hope, 1998-2002.