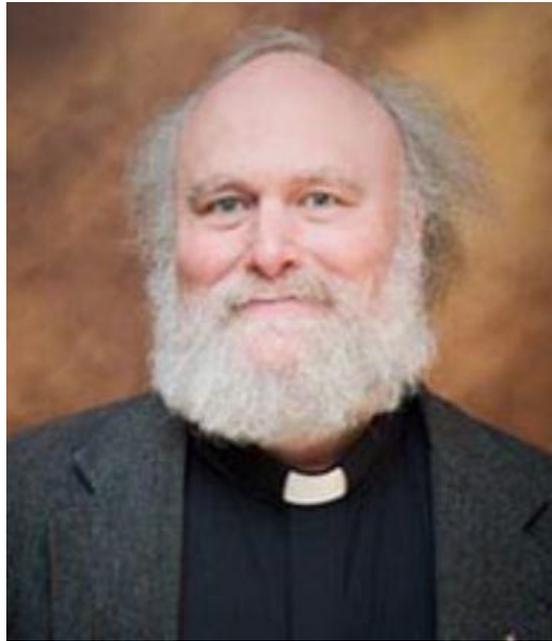


Father Tim Clancy, S.J.

* Doctor of Religious Philosophy * Professor * Pastor



"Preaching, whether homilies or presentations, is nothing less than a participation in the dynamic power of the apostolic witness to the very Word that created the world, the Word that was given to the prophets and teachers of Israel, and the Word that became flesh." -- The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Preaching the Mystery of Faith*:

"As a pastor, my authority lies in Catholic practice, doctrine, and teaching. I recognize that the Magisterium does issue official documents that apply church teachings to contemporary society, but I am not part of the magisterium. I am a pastor, a philosopher, even a theologian, and my calling is to preach and to teach the meaning of the Gospels to my parishioners regardless of their social positions" -- Fr. Tim Clancy

And well does he do it. Father Tim is a Doctor of Philosophy at Gonzaga University, and head of Gonzaga's Honors Program. His homilies would do well as a university lecture series. In a meeting of the Gonzaga Socrates Club Father Tim explained to the group how he treats his students as he does his parishioners. An anecdote from the announcements at Mass several years ago shows how he unconsciously treats his parishioners as

students. Explaining what would be coming in the next calendar year he said, "and next semester..."

Pope Benedict XVI's 2007 Post-Synodal Apostolic exhortation, *Sacramentum Caritatis*, on the need to improve homilies, to preach in such a way that the homily closely relates the proclamation of the word of God to the sacramental celebration and the life of the community, so that the word of God truly becomes the Church's vital nourishment and support. The catechetical and paraenetic aim of the homily should not be forgotten.

During the course of the liturgical year it is appropriate to offer the faithful, prudently and on the basis of the three-year lectionary, "thematic" homilies treating the great themes of the Christian faith, on the basis of what has been authoritatively proposed by the Magisterium in the four "pillars" of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the recent Compendium, namely: the profession of faith, the celebration of the Christian mystery, life in Christ and Christian prayer (143).