

Assistant Director Appointed at the ACU Centre for Liturgy



The Faculty of Theology and Philosophy and the ACU Centre for Liturgy are very pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Jason J. McFarland as Lecturer in Liturgical Studies and Sacramental Theology and Assistant Director of the ACU Centre for Liturgy. Jason is a specialist in liturgical studies, sacramental theology and ritual studies, and earned his Ph.D. from The Catholic University of America (Washington DC). Jason brings a diverse background and range of skills to this new position at ACU. Most recently, he was Assistant Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at St. Norbert College (De Pere, Wisconsin). From 2005-2012, Jason was the Assistant Editor at the International Commission on English in the Liturgy based in Washington D.C. and completed research projects for the United States Bishops Committee on Divine Worship. From 2012-2014 he served as a volunteer with the U.S. Peace Corp in China. Jason's research interests include liturgical-theological method for the interpretation of non-textual primary sources, liturgical ecclesiology in light of contemporary modes of belonging, the intersection of liturgical studies with ritual studies and ethnomusicology, the dialectic tradition and creativity in liturgical praxis, and the function of liminal phases in religious ritual. Jason also has an extensive background in liturgical music, holding undergraduate and postgraduate music degrees. Music is also the topic of his book: *Announcing the Feast: The Entrance Song in the Mass of the Roman Rite* (Liturgical/Pueblo, 2011).

Jason's joint-appointment in the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy and the ACU Centre for Liturgy is most timely, as the Faculty continues to expand and strengthen its offerings in liturgical studies and sacramental theology, while at the same time demand for the specialist services of the ACU Centre for Liturgy continues to increase, as it provides practical professional training, development and formation in liturgy and sacraments to liturgical practitioners in parishes, schools and dioceses around Australia.

ACU is delighted to welcome Dr. Jason McFarland as he takes up his joint-appointment in the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy and the ACU Centre for Liturgy at the beginning of July 2016.

Prof. Clare Johnson
Director, ACU Centre for Liturgy
2 May, 2016