

# Formation in Liturgical Prayer

**Convener:** Rodica M. M. Stoicoiu (rodicastoicoiuphd@gmail.com) is currently an independent academic working with the VLCFF at the University of Dayton. She has taught at Mount St. Mary's University and the Washington Theological Union.

**Members in Attendance:** Stan Campbell, Bernadette Gasslein, Paul Janowiak, Anne McGuire, Roc O'Connor, Michael Pendergast, Margaret Schreiber, Rodica Stoicoiu, Kyle Turner

**Visitors in Attendance:** None

**Description of Work:** The focus of the seminar this year was on liturgical prayer and the implementation of the Synod on Synodality. Seeding the conversation with an article from *America* on liturgical language and the Synod by Reese, we discussed how implementation of the Synod will require the use of prayer texts expressive of the ecclesial shifts of synodality and the need to make these texts accessible to the assembly. We chose to examine the collects of the 1998 Sacramentary as an example of readily available and accessible texts, especially the original ICEL prayers published as alternative collects. Discussion included the possible ways that these texts could find new life now in ways legitimate and constructive though not within the Eucharistic liturgy. This conversation was followed by a further discussion on formation for liturgical prayer, synodality and mystagogy. The vehicle for this conversation was a paper by Edward Foley, "Synodality through a Eucharistic Lens." Eucharistic liturgy is THE place where synodality is articulated as the central dimension of the Church and hence out of which the dynamics of hospitality, metanoia, participation, and mission occur. The discussion encompassed the need for a communion ecclesiology central to a reinvigorated eucharistic celebration and the primacy of liturgical formation as the grounding of and for the synodal Church.

**Other Work and Plans for the Future:** At this time the seminar plans to continue in the direction continued in this conversation, which was begun last year.