

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

MAY/JUNE 2009 SESSION OF ASSESSMENTS
S.Th.L

FDT5460 – Building the Ecclesial Community: Monday 1 June 2009

8.00 – 10.00

Answer ONE question from EACH section as explained below:

Use a SEPARATE script for EACH of the three answers

Section A:

Either:

1) John 19, 23-27

²³ When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top.

²⁴ So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, 'They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.' ²⁵ And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²³ Οἱ οὖν στρατιῶται, ὅτε ἐσταύρωσαν τὸν Ἰησοῦν, ἔλαβον τὰ ἱμάτια αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐποίησαν τέσσαρα μέρη, ἐκάστῳ στρατιώτῃ μέρος, καὶ τὸν χιτῶνα. ἦν δὲ ὁ χιτῶν ἄραφος, ἐκ τῶν ἄνωθεν ὑφαντὸς δι' ὅλου. ²⁴ εἶπαν οὖν πρὸς ἀλλήλους, Μὴ σχίσωμεν αὐτόν, ἀλλὰ λάχωμεν περὶ αὐτοῦ τίνος ἔσται· ἵνα ἡ γραφὴ πληρωθῇ [ἡ λέγουσα], Διεμερίσαντο τὰ ἱμάτιά μου ἑαυτοῖς καὶ ἐπὶ τὸν ἱματισμὸν μου ἔβαλον κλῆρον. Οἱ μὲν οὖν στρατιῶται ταῦτα ἐποίησαν. ²⁵ εἰστήκεισαν δὲ παρὰ τῷ σταυρῷ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ καὶ ἡ ἀδελφὴ τῆς μητρὸς αὐτοῦ, Μαρία ἡ τοῦ Κλωπᾶ καὶ Μαρία ἡ Μαγδαληνὴ.

²⁶ Ἰησοῦς οὖν ἰδὼν τὴν μητέρα καὶ τὸν μαθητὴν παρεστῶτα ὄν ἡγάπα, λέγει τῇ μητρί, Γύναι, ἴδε ὁ υἱός σου. ²⁷ εἶτα λέγει τῷ μαθητῇ, Ἴδε ἡ μήτηρ σου. καὶ ἀπ' ἐκείνης τῆς ὥρας ἔλαβεν ὁ μαθητὴς αὐτὴν εἰς τὰ ἴδια.

How does John 19, 23-27 serve as a foundational Gospel text in the pastoral ministry of building the Ecclesial Community?

OR:

- 2) The First Community of the New Testament faced four major problems in its effort to live the Gospel message in the changing environment of the diaspora. Discuss how it dealt with these four **OR** any one of these obstacles.

Section B:

EITHER:

- 3) In what ways is a diocesan pastoral synod an experience of communion in the local Church? Explain.

OR:

- 4) Discuss the basic attitudes and values which contribute to the building of an authentic ecclesial community.

Section C:

EITHER:

- 5) Discuss the role of the Parish Priest as outlined in the Code of Canon Law and comment briefly on his rights and obligations in the pastoral and administrative spheres of his pastoral ministry.

OR:

- 6) In *Christus Dominus* and *Presbyterorum Ordinis*, Vatican II requests Bishops to consult their presbyters, even collectively, and to consider them “as necessary helpers and counsellors in the ministry and duty of teaching, sanctifying and feeding God’s people”. Comment briefly on the organs provided in the Code of Canon Law to help bishops fulfil their duty of consultation.