

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA  
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY  
JUNE 2009 SESSION OF ASSESSMENTS

MRT1661 PRAYER/  
MRT1662 ASPECTS OF SPIRITUAL LIFE

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2009

10.30am – 11.30am

Answer THREE questions:

1. The human answer to God's initiative needs to manifest itself primarily through the internal dispositions of the heart. Explain this in the light of the experience of the people of Israel in the Old Testament.
2. Jesus' prayer is rooted in his Judaic traditions. However, his personal prayer manifests an originality which distinguishes his prayer from all other. Elaborate.
3. Christian prayer has a structure of response. Explain this referring particularly to the method of prayer known as *Lectio Divina*.
4. In the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (par. 2629) we read that: "By prayer of petition we express awareness of our relationship with God". What is included in this prayer and why do we have to express our needs to God?
5. The prayer of intercession commits us to open ourselves to God and to others since through this prayer we grow in our awareness of being persons-in-relation. How do you explain this?
6. St John of the Cross says that the more the soul is empty, the more it can be filled with divine grace. What conditions are necessary for the Christian disciple to be open to growth in prayer?