

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA

FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

JUNE 2007 SESSION OF ASSESSMENTS

MRT2661 PRAYER

30 May 2007

10.30am – 11.30am

Answer THREE questions:

1. The Old Testament considers prayer essentially as an answer to God who creates and reveals himself to humanity. In what way could we speak of an authentic response to God's revelation?
2. The prayer of Jesus, although rooted in his Judaic background, manifests an originality which distinguishes his prayer from all other. Elaborate.
3. Christian prayer is to happen "in Jesus". Explain this referring particularly to two characteristics of Christian prayer.
4. "We are creatures who are not our own beginning, not the masters of adversity, not our own last end" (CCC, 2629). The prayer of petition witnesses to our radical need of God as creatures. Comment on this referring also to why we need to express our needs to God.
5. 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?
6. "The knowledge of God's Father-love is the first and simplest, but also the last and highest lesson in the school of prayer" (Andrew Murray, *With Christ in the School of Prayer*). Comment on this in relation to the Lord's Prayer.