

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

JANUARY 2006 SESSION OF ASSESSMENTS

MRT2662 Aspects of Spiritual Life

Mon 30 Jan 2006

18.00 – 19.00

Answer THREE questions:

1. Michael Paul Gallagher in his article "Struggle and Conversion" (*The Tablet*, 10 September 2005) speaks, among others, of what he calls "a postmodern sensibility of searching". What signs of this "return to religion" do you see in today's society?
2. For St Paul, the Spirit is an 'energizer', a Spirit of power, and the source of Christian love, hope and faith. Elaborate.
3. In the history of Christian Spirituality a number of terms were used to refer to the spiritual life. Choose three of these terms and explain their particular emphasis.
4. The material object of spirituality is the lived experience with Christ in the Spirit. How are we to understand this "lived experience"?
5. Donal Dorr, in his book *Integral Spirituality*, gives three fundamental dimensions for a balanced spirituality. Explain their import for a truly integral Christian living.
6. Richard J. Hauser, in his book *In His Spirit. A Guide to Today's Spirituality*, contends that an "inadequate understanding of who we are" will eventually result in an "inadequate understanding" of spirituality. Show the differences in attitude that ensue from the two contrasting views of self.