

ACU CENTRE  
FOR LITURGY

Online public  
lecture by  
Bruce T. Morrill, SJ



## Ritual Bodies as 'Reasonable Worship': Putting Liturgy in Proper Ethical Perspective



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Australian Catholic  
Bishops Conference

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Biblical and early church authors describe the entire Christian life as the worship of God, what Paul identifies as 'your spiritual worship.' Liturgy as *ritual* worship is meant to empower Christians to be 'living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God' (Rom 12:1). Liturgy and ethics are integrally related in a sound interpretation of Christian tradition. Even so, the theological rhetoric of sacrifice, holiness, royal priesthood, and more, can be puzzling, if not provocative, for 21<sup>st</sup> century Catholics when they try to make sense of their bodily ritual worship in liturgy and sacraments. This lecture will propose that accepting the disruptive challenge such rhetoric poses to the contemporary church promises to illuminate rather than obscure the essential connection between liturgy and ethical living.

### About the presenter:

Bruce T. Morrill, S.J., holds the Edward A. Malloy Chair in Roman Catholic Studies at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, where he is Professor of Theology in the Divinity School and Graduate Department of Religion. His latest book is *Practical Sacramental Theology: At the Intersection of Liturgy and Ethics* (Cascade, 2021), while previous titles include *Anamnesis as Dangerous Memory* (2000), *Divine Worship & Human Healing* (2009), *Encountering Christ in the Eucharist* (2012), and *The Essential Writings of Bernard Cooke* (2016). He has held visiting chairs, received fellowships, and lectured widely in North America, Australia, and Europe.

### Online via Zoom:

Monday 18 October, 2021  
10am-11:30am (AEDT)

### Registration fee:

\$10 standard entry  
\$5 student/pensioner concession  
\$40 groups of five or more

### Registration is essential by:

Thursday 14 October, 2021

### Register online at:

[acu.edu.au/publiclecturecfl](https://acu.edu.au/publiclecturecfl)

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