UNITY AND DIVERSITY
IN THE GOSPELS AND PAUL
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Essays in Honor of Frank J. Matera
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IN THE GOSPELS AND PAUL

ESSAYS IN HONOR OF FRANK J. MATERA

Edited by
Christopher W. Skinner
and
Kelly R. Iverson

Society of Biblical Literature
Atlanta
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Foreword

It takes a tremendous amount of cooperation, enthusiasm, and, most importantly, secrecy, to bring a project like this to fruition. We would like to express our appreciation to a number of individuals who displayed all three on the way to helping us produce this volume in honor of Frank Matera. First, of course, had it not been for an outstanding group of contributors, there would be no book. Everyone worked with a sensitivity to the looming deadline and with an excitement that is not common to the production of an academic monograph. To each of our contributors, we owe a debt of gratitude. Second, we must thank Msgr. Kevin Irwin, former dean of the School of Theology and Religious Studies at the Catholic University of America, as well as his successor, Rev. Mark Morozowich, for their invaluable assistance in helping us procure information necessary for the completion of the volume. Third, we want to express our appreciation to Dr. Gail O’Day and the editorial board of the Society of Biblical Literature Early Christianity and Its Literature series for enthusiastically accepting our proposal to include this book in the series. A special thanks goes to Susan Ryberg, the references and extended services librarian at Mount Olive College (North Carolina) for her help in tracking down numerous obscure monographs and other bibliographic information useful for the completion of the book. As always, we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our families, particularly our wives, Tara and Kim, for their patience as we spent extra time in libraries, offices, and in front of computer screens.

Chris and Kelly
In a career that spans nearly forty-five years as a professor, scholar, and priest, Frank Matera has demonstrated a unique ability to interpret and communicate the diverse voices at work within the writings of the New Testament. In addition to serving as an acknowledgment of his seventieth birthday, this volume is a celebration of his work and a tribute to his impact as both a professor with keen pastoral sensitivities, and a scholar with an admirable breadth of expertise. During his productive career, Frank has published major commentaries on the writings of Paul (Galatians, 2 Corinthians, Romans), three volumes devoted to the Synoptic Gospels, and significant works on New Testament theology, ethics, and homiletics. In all of these endeavors Frank has displayed a range of scholarly proficiency and has become an acknowledged authority.

The unifying theme of this volume—the diverse unity of New Testament theology—has been a particularly important emphasis in Frank’s teaching and writing. We have chosen this theme as a launching point for the essays in this book. In the introduction to his massive New Testament Theology, Frank makes this underlying assumption in his thinking explicit to the reader: “there is a rich diversity in the way the New Testament writers express the experience of salvation the first believers enjoyed because of God’s salvific work in Christ,” while there is also “an underlying unity in the diverse theologies of the New Testament.”¹ The contributors to this volume—Frank Matera’s colleagues, former students, and friends—have come together to reflect on and interact with this important theme in his scholarly writings, as well as other prominent foci that emerge from his academic publications.

After a series of reflections from Francis T. Gignac, Frank’s longtime colleague at Catholic University, the essays that follow are divided into

two areas: studies in the New Testament narratives and studies in the Letters of Paul. Admittedly, this division is somewhat artificial, as many of the essays attempt to draw connections between both groups of writings. These essays attempt to interact in detail with contemporary scholarship vis-à-vis the scholarly publications of Frank Matera.

The first section of this book contains seven essays. In the first essay, Kelly R. Iverson engages the current debate over the supposed anti-Paulinisms in Matthew’s Gospel, with a view to evaluating the various arguments set forward by David Sim. In the next essay, Francis J. Moloney analyzes the Matthean use of δικαιοσύνη, a term otherwise known for its prominence in the Pauline corpus. The next three studies focus on the Gospel of Mark; Jack Dean Kingsbury, John R. Donahue, and Paul J. Achtemeier explore Markan Christology, social ethics, and soteriology, respectively. Then, in an essay devoted to Luke-Acts, William J. Kurz asks how the mission of God’s servant in Isaiah influences the portrayal of Paul in Acts, specifically Paul’s witness to the one living God. In the final essay of the first section, John Paul Meier examines the so-called parable of the Wicked Tenants in order to shed light on the potential relationship between the Synoptic Gospels and the extracanonical Gospel of Thomas.

The second section of the book also consists of seven essays. Matthew G. Whitlock begins the section by attempting to construct a bridge from Acts to Paul, with an emphasis on how modern literary studies help to illuminate the use of different nonauthorial voices in each text. Michael J. Gorman follows by locating elements of cruciform teaching in the Synoptic tradition—chiefly represented by the Gospel of Mark—and compares them to the Pauline understanding of cruciform spirituality. The next four essays are devoted to theological themes in Paul’s Letters. A. Andrew Das raises questions about the legitimacy of foisting the law upon the Gentiles, filtering his discussion through the grid of Gal 3:10. Luke Timothy Johnson offers a fresh examination of the σώμα concept in Paul, with special attention to the Corinthian correspondence. Sherri Brown visits the notoriously difficult issue of the πίστις Χριστοῦ formulation in the context of Paul’s understanding of salvation history. Raymond F. Collins explores the transformation of a Pauline motif—the early expectation of Jesus’ παρουσία (“coming” or “presence”) alongside Paul’s later emphasis on Jesus’ ἐπιφάνεια (“appearance”). In the book’s final essay, Christopher W. Skinner compares Pauline and Johannine views on virtue as a means to the end of illuminating foundational elements of their ethical teachings.
Finally, we want to offer a special word to Frank: It is our hope that this volume will communicate to you the depth of our appreciation for what you have imparted to so many. We also hope that it will, in some small measure, return to you some of the benefits we have gained from hearing your lectures, reading your books, and sharing in different kinds of enlightening and challenging conversations with you over the years. Congratulations on your stellar career and forthcoming retirement.

Chris and Kelly (on behalf of all the contributors)
October 2011
Cursus Vitae of the Reverend Doctor
Frank J. Matera

1942  Born in New Britain, Connecticut
1960  Graduated from St. Thomas Aquinas High School (New Britain, Connecticut)
1964  Earned BA from St. Bernard Seminary (Rochester, New York)
1968  Earned MA in Theology from the University of Louvain (Louvain, Belgium)
1968  Ordained in Louvain to the Archdiocese of Hartford, Connecticut
1968  Appointed Temporary Assistant Pastor at St. Vincent DePaul Parish (East Haven, Connecticut)
1968–1970  Taught Theology at the Diocesan Sisters College (Madison, Connecticut)
1968–1972  Served as Assistant Pastor of St. Margaret Parish (Madison, Connecticut)
1972–1978  Served as Copastor of St. Rose Parish (Meriden, Connecticut)
1981  Earned PhD from Union Theological Seminary (Richmond, Virginia)
1981  Appointed Assistant Pastor of St. Joseph Parish (New Haven, Connecticut)
1982  Appointed to the full-time faculty of St. John’s Seminary (Brighton, Massachusetts)
1987  Appointed Assistant Pastor of St. Thomas Parish (Southington, Connecticut)
1987–1993  Served as Associate Editor of Catholic Biblical Quarterly
1988 Appointed Assistant Professor of New Testament Studies at Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.)

1990–Present Served as Weekend Assistant at Holy Family Parish (Davidsonville, Maryland)

1990 Promoted to Associate Professor of New Testament at Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.)

1994 Served as Delegate of the Roman Catholic Church to the Meeting of Faith and Order (Santiago, Spain)

1994 Promoted to Ordinary Professor of New Testament at Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.)

1994–1996 Served as Consulter for the Catholic Biblical Association of America

1994–2000 Served as Member of the Plenary Commission of Faith and Order

1995–1998 Served as Associate Chair of the Department of Theology at Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.)

1998–2001 Served as Chair of the Department of Theology at Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.)

2003 Served as Vice-President of the Catholic Biblical Association of America

2003–2004 Served as President of the Catholic Biblical Association of America

2004 Appointed the Andrews-Kelly-Ryan Professor of Biblical Studies at Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.)

2009 Awarded Doctor of Divinity honoris causa from St. Mary's Seminary and University (Baltimore, Maryland)

2011 Received the Catholic University of America Award for Overall Teaching Excellence

2012 Retirement from Catholic University of America

Publications
Compiled by Christopher W. Skinner and Kelly R. Iverson

Listed below are the publications of Frank Matera that have appeared in print as of December 2011. The list includes 12 books (three of which have been translated into Portuguese, Spanish, or Italian); 65 articles, essays, or chapters; and 75 book reviews. This list is a testament to the breadth of Fr. Matera's research interests and expertise.
1968


1982


1983


1984


1985

“Gospel.” Pages 354–55 in *HBD.*

“Incarnation.” Page 420 in *HBD.*

“Reconciliation.” Page 856 in *HBD.*

“Repentance.” Pages 861–62 in *HBD.*

“Servant.” Pages 929–30 in *HBD.*


1986


1987


1989


1990


1991


1992


1993


1994


1995


1996


1997


1998


1999


2000


2001


“Preaching Romans: This Summer’s Once-Every-Three-Year Opportunity.” Church 18 (2002): 50–53.


2003


2004


2005


2006


2007


2008


2009


2010


2011

“The Theology of the Epistle to the Hebrews.” Pages 189–208 in *Reading


MEDIA:


PROFESSIONAL LECTURES, PAPERS, AND PRESENTATIONS (1988–2011)


Doctoral Students

Peggy Vining, “Galatians and First-Century Ethical Theory.”
Gilbert Soo Hoo, “The Pedagogy of the Johannine Jesus: A Comparative Study of Jesus’ Pedagogy to the World and to His Own.”
Robert P. Miller, “Ti emoi kai soi: John 2:4—Rebuke or Expression of Mutual Concern.”
Diana Jill Kirby, “Repetition in the Book of Revelation.”
Marianus Pele Here, “Christology and Discipleship in John 17.”
CURSUS VITAE

Jason Weaver, “Paul’s Call to Imitation: The Rhetorical Function of the Theme of Imitation in Its Epistolary Context.”
### Abbreviations

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>Anchor Bible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABRL</td>
<td>Anchor Bible Reference Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AcBib</td>
<td>Academia biblica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGJU</td>
<td>Arbeiten zur Geschichte des antiken Judentums und des Urchristentums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AJT</td>
<td><em>Asia Journal of Theology</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AnBib</td>
<td>Analecta biblica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTC</td>
<td>Abingdon New Testament Commentaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>AT</td>
<td><em>Annales theologici</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>ATANT</td>
<td>Abhandlungen zur Theologie des Alten und Neuen Testaments</td>
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<tr>
<td>AThR</td>
<td><em>Anglican Theological Review</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBR</td>
<td><em>Bulletin of Biblical Research</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BETL</td>
<td>Bibliotheca ephemeridum theologicarum lovaniensium</td>
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<td>Bib</td>
<td><em>Biblica</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>BJRL</td>
<td><em>Bulletin of the John Rylands Library</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>BNTC</td>
<td>Black’s New Testament Commentaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSac</td>
<td><em>Bibliotheca sacra</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>BZNW</td>
<td>Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBQ</td>
<td>Catholic Biblical Quarterly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBQMS</td>
<td>Catholic Biblical Quarterly Monograph Series</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBR</td>
<td>Currents in Biblical Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNT</td>
<td>Commentaire du Nouveau Testament</td>
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<tr>
<td>CTJ</td>
<td>Calvin Theological Journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>CurBS</td>
<td>Currents in Research: Biblical Studies</td>
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<td>EBib</td>
<td>Études bibliques</td>
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<tr>
<td>ETL</td>
<td>Ephemerides theologicae lovanienses</td>
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<td>ExpTim</td>
<td>Expository Times</td>
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<tr>
<td>FCB</td>
<td>Feminist Companion to the Bible</td>
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<td>FRLANT</td>
<td>Forschungen zur Religion und Literatur des Alten und Neuen Testaments</td>
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<td>GNS</td>
<td>Good News Studies</td>
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<td>HBT</td>
<td>Horizons in Biblical Theology</td>
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<td>HNT</td>
<td>Handbuch zum Neuen Testament</td>
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<td>HTKNT</td>
<td>Herders theologischer Kommentar zum Neuen Testament</td>
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<td>HTR</td>
<td>Harvard Theological Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>HUCA</td>
<td>Hebrew Union College Annual</td>
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<tr>
<td>HvTSt</td>
<td>Hervormde teologiese studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>IBC</td>
<td>Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICC</td>
<td>International Critical Commentary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Int</td>
<td>Interpretation</td>
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<tr>
<td>IVPNTC</td>
<td>InterVarsity Press New Testament Commentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JBL</td>
<td>Journal of Biblical Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JECS</td>
<td>Journal of Early Christian Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JETS</td>
<td>Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>JRE</td>
<td>Journal of Religious Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSJ</td>
<td>Journal for the Study of Judaism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSNT</td>
<td>Journal for the Study of the New Testament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSNTSup</td>
<td>Journal for the Study of the New Testament Supplement Series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSOT</td>
<td>Journal for the Study of the Old Testament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kJV</td>
<td>King James Version</td>
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<tr>
<td>LHBOTS</td>
<td>Library of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Studies</td>
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<td>LNNTS</td>
<td>Library of New Testament Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>LS</td>
<td>Louvain Studies</td>
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<td>LXX</td>
<td>Septuagint</td>
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<td>MT</td>
<td>Masoretic text</td>
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<td>NAB</td>
<td>New American Bible</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAC</td>
<td>New American Commentary</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCBC</td>
<td>New Cambridge Bible Commentary</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCCS</td>
<td>New Covenant Commentary Series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neot</td>
<td><em>Neotestamentica</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>NET</td>
<td>New English Translation of the Bible</td>
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<td>NICNT</td>
<td>New International Commentary on the New Testament</td>
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<td>NIGTC</td>
<td>New International Greek Testament Commentary Series</td>
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<td>NIV</td>
<td>New International Version</td>
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<tr>
<td>NovT</td>
<td><em>Novum Testamentum</em></td>
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<td>NovTSup</td>
<td>Novum Testamentum Supplements</td>
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<tr>
<td>NRSV</td>
<td>New Revised Standard Version</td>
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<tr>
<td>NTAbh</td>
<td>Neutestamentliche Abhandlungen</td>
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<td>NTL</td>
<td>New Testament Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>NTS</td>
<td>New Testament Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>OBT</td>
<td>Overtures to Biblical Theology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Re&amp;T</td>
<td>Religion and Theology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RBL</td>
<td>Review of Biblical Literature</td>
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<td>RevistB</td>
<td>Revista biblica</td>
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<tr>
<td>RSPT</td>
<td><em>Revue des sciences philosophiques et théologiques</em></td>
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<td>Abbreviation</td>
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<tr>
<td>RSV</td>
<td>Revised Standard Version</td>
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<td>SBL</td>
<td>Society of Biblical Literature</td>
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<td>SBLDS</td>
<td>Society of Biblical Literature Dissertation Series</td>
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<td>SBLSP</td>
<td>Society of Biblical Literature Seminar Papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBLSymS</td>
<td>Society of Biblical Literature Symposium Series</td>
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<td>SBLWGRW</td>
<td>Society of Biblical Literature Writings from the Greco-Roman World</td>
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<td>SJT</td>
<td><em>Scottish Journal of Theology</em></td>
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<td>SNT</td>
<td>Studien zum Neuen Testament</td>
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<td>SNTIW</td>
<td>Studies of the New Testament and Its World</td>
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<td>SNTSMS</td>
<td>Society for New Testament Studies Monograph Series</td>
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<td>SNTSU</td>
<td><em>Studien zum Neuen Testament und seiner Umwelt</em></td>
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<td>SP</td>
<td>Sacra Pagina</td>
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<td>THKNT</td>
<td>Theologischer Handkommentar zum Neuen Testament</td>
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<td>ThTo</td>
<td><em>Theology Today</em></td>
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<td>TLZ</td>
<td><em>Theologische Literaturzeitung</em></td>
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<td>TrinJ</td>
<td><em>Trinity Journal</em></td>
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<td>TS</td>
<td><em>Theological Studies</em></td>
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<td>TynBul</td>
<td><em>Tyndale Bulletin</em></td>
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<td>TZ</td>
<td><em>Theologische Zeitschrift</em></td>
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<td>VT</td>
<td><em>Vetus Testamentum</em></td>
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<td>WBC</td>
<td>Word Biblical Commentary</td>
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<td>WTJ</td>
<td><em>Westminster Theological Journal</em></td>
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<td>WUNT</td>
<td>Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament</td>
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<td>WW</td>
<td><em>Word and World</em></td>
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<td>ZBK</td>
<td>Zürcher Bibelkommentare</td>
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<td>ZNW</td>
<td><em>Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft und die Kunde der älteren Kirche</em></td>
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<td>ZST</td>
<td><em>Zeitschrift für systematische Theologie</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>ZTK</td>
<td><em>Zeitschrift für Theologie und Kirche</em></td>
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I am very grateful to be invited to write an introduction to the Festschrift on the occasion of Frank Matera’s seventieth birthday and retirement from the Catholic University of America. I am honored and enthusiastic to do so. The Reverend Doctor Frank J. Matera, the Andrews-Kelly-Ryan Professor of Biblical Studies, has been an outstanding teacher here at CUA since 1988.

Among his twelve published books that nicely serve the needs of both the academy and the church, several are magnificent syntheses that show both the unity and the diversity of New Testament writings. His New Testament Christology (1999) has insightful analyses of the Christology of each individual writer and concludes with a chapter on the diverse unity of New Testament Christology.

New Testament Theology: Exploring Diversity and Unity (2007) is even more impressive. After an introduction to New Testament theology, he examines the theologies of the Synoptic Gospels: the kingdom of God in Mark, the righteousness of the kingdom in Matthew, and the salvation that the kingdom brings about in Luke–Acts. Then he focuses on the Pauline tradition, distinguishing among a theology of election in the Thessalonian correspondence, a theology of the cross and resurrection in the Corinthian correspondence, a theology of righteousness in Galatians and Romans, a theology from prison in Philippians, Philemon, Colossians, and Ephesians, and a theology of the Pauline tradition in the Pastoral Epistles. Then he analyzes the Johannine tradition, including a theology of revelation in the Gospel of John and a theology of communion with God in 1 John. He concludes the analytical part by treating a theology of priesthood and sacrifice in Hebrews, a theology of wisdom and perfection in James, a theology for a time of affliction and disorder in 1 and 2 Peter and Jude, and
a theology of God’s final victory over evil in Revelation. The final chapter is a brilliant synthesis of the diverse unity of New Testament theology.

Besides these syntheses, he has also written commentaries on individual New Testament books, including 2 Corinthians for the New Testament Library, Galatians for Sacra Pagina, and most recently Romans for the Paideia series (2010). This is a chapter-by-chapter and verse-by-verse commentary in which he discusses the text type, the Greek language used, and the cultural, literary, and theological settings in which the text took form. Over the years he has also written sixty-five articles for various periodicals, books, dictionaries, encyclopedias, and Festschriften.

He was the primary organizer and keynote presenter in our Year of Paul symposium, which was extremely successful. He has presented almost eighty lectures on Paul in various universities and dioceses, and his New Testament Ethics: The Legacies of Jesus and Paul (1999) and his Strategies of Preaching Paul (2001) are very popular.

He has taught doctoral-level seminars in the Gospel of Luke, the Acts of the Apostles, 2 Corinthians, Romans, Galatians, and Philippians, as well as courses in New Testament Christology and New Testament ethics, courses in the Pauline Letters and the Synoptic Gospels, and undergraduate courses in the Letters of Paul and New Testament introduction. He has also supervised the development of our curriculum. His contributions to the biblical studies area and to the School of Theology and Religious Studies are outstanding and have brought great honor to STRS and to CUA.

For the past ten years he has directed more dissertations than any other professor in our academic area. In doing so, he is very attentive to the needs and interests of his directees and meets with them regularly to help and encourage them in their work. He is by far the most sought-after dissertation director in our academic area.

Even in his final year he has devoted himself to the needs of our school, serving on the search committee for a new dean, taking care to see the rest of his directees through their dissertations and defenses, and providing alternate directors for those unable to complete their work under him.

He and I have been working closely together for the last ten years now and he has also been so good to me in other ways. There is no one comparable to him at the Catholic University of America.

He is also very devoted to pastoral work. For many years he has served as assistant to the pastor at Holy Family Catholic Church, Davidsonville, Maryland, where he not only celebrates masses every weekend but also conducts Bible study classes on weekday evenings.
He has personal interests that have benefited us residents of Curley Hall. For years he has maintained a vegetable garden in our backyard, planting tomatoes and cucumbers in the spring, tending and watering the garden all summer, picking the ripe fruit for us to eat, and closing down the garden in the fall.

In addition, he is personally generous and shows the greatest concern for those of us with whom he lives. He offers to drive us wherever we have to go and is especially attentive to our physical health, assisting us personally in any way he can. He is truly one of the best people with whom I have been privileged to live.