

Curriculum Vitae of James Swetnam, S.J. (June, 2023)

Short presentation:

Rev. James Swetnam, S.J., was born in 1928. His early education was at a Catholic elementary school and at a Jesuit High school in St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1945 and was ordained priest in 1958. His academic degrees include a B.A. in Greek, a L.Phil. and M.S. in philosophy, an S.T.L. in theology, a L.S.S. in biblical studies, and a D.Phil. in biblical studies. From 1960 to 2010 he was a resident at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and Jerusalem first as student (1960-1962), then as faculty member (staff member 1962-1963, teacher 1963-1981, professor 1981-2003, professor emeritus 2003-2010). During the time as faculty member he was active in editing, teaching, administration, research and writing and represented the Biblical Institute in conferences in various parts of the world. During this time he was also active in teaching at Saint Louis University and The Paul VI Institute in St. Louis during the summer. From 1961 on he was also engaged in pastoral ministry, especially in the preaching of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius in the United States and other countries. He is a member of The Catholic Biblical Association and of The Society of New Testament Studies. He is now in residence at Jesuit Hall, 3601 Lindell Boulevard 63108-3393, St. Louis, Missouri, while remaining Professor Emeritus of the Pontifical Biblical Institute.

Longer presentation:

Born: St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A., March 18, 1928

Elementary school: Holy Redeemer Grade School, Webster Groves, Missouri, 1932-1941

Secondary school: Saint Louis University High School, St. Louis, Missouri, 1941-1945

Entrance into the Society of Jesus: St. Stanislaus Seminary, Florissant, Missouri, August 8, 1945

Novitiate: 1945-1947 at St. Stanislaus Seminary

Classical Language Studies (Juniorate): 1947-1949 at St. Stanislaus Seminary

Philosophical Studies: 1949-1952 at Saint Louis University

Instructor in Classics and Speech: 1952-1955 at Regis High School, Denver, Colorado

Theological Studies: 1955-1959 at St. Mary's College (School of Divinity of Saint Louis University), St. Marys, Kansas
(Editorial work on *Theology Digest*)

Ordination to the Priesthood: June 18, 1958, at St. Marys

Tertianship (Third Year of Novitiate): 1959-1960 at Sankt Andrä

im Lavanttal, Austria

Biblical Studies: 1960-1962 at Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome; 1962-1963 doctoral studies at the Biblical Institute in Rome Jerusalem (the studies in 1960-1962 resulted in the L.S.S. degree; the studies in 1962-1963 resulted in finishing the class work at the Pontifical Biblical Institute for the doctorate in Scripture, not the doctoral degree); 1975-1978, biblical studies at the University of Oxford, Oxfordshire, England resulted in the D.Phil. issued after revision of the dissertation originally submitted in 1978 (Title of published doctoral dissertation: *Jesus and Isaac: A Study oif the Epistle to the Hebrews in the Light of the Aqedah* [Rome: Biblical Institute Press, 1981]).

Staff Work at Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and Jerusalem: 1962-2010

Editorial Responsibilities:

Managing Editor, *Orientalia* and “Analecta Orientalia”, 1962-1969

Managing Editor, *Biblica*, “Studia Pohl 1”, “Biblica et Orientalia”, 1962-1975

Review Editor, *Biblica*, 1962-1975

Managing Editor “Analecta Biblica”, 1978-1986

Managing Editor, “Biblica et Orientalia”, 1978-1998

Managing Editor, “Subsidia Biblica”, 1978-1993

Administrative Responsibilities:

Dean of Preparatory Year of Hebrew and Greek, 1978-1986

Dean of Biblical Faculty, 1986-1989

Acting Dean oif Faculty of Ancient Near Eastern Studies, 1996-1998

Vice Rector, 1984-1993

Secretary, 1991-1997

Founding Director of Alumni Association of the Pontifical Biblical Institute, 1998-2010

Teaching Responsibilities:

Introduction to New Testament Greek, 1963-1975, 1978-2003

Introduction to Biblical Hebrew, 1973-1975

Cf. James Swetnam, “Some reflections on the History of the “Propaedeutic Year” of the Pontifical BiblicaL Institute, June 23, 2007”.in *The Pontifical Biblical Institute. A Century of History (1909-2009)* by Maurice Gilbert, S.J. Translated by Leo Arnold, S.J. Roma: Editrice Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 2009, pp. 230-235.

New Testament Seminar, “New Testament Seminar, “New Testament Cruces”, “Semitic Background of the New Testament” (alternate years}, 1979-2003

Publications: Cf. attached Bibliography

Pastoral Ministry:

Director of 86 courses in the
Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius in
various lengths in various countries in
North America, Europe, the Middle East,
Africa, Asia

Teacher of Church History at the Novitiate of
the Missionaries of Charity (Sisters of
Mother Teresa of Calcutta) in Rome and
Calcutta, 1979-2010

Assistance in Parishes of the Catholic Church in
various parts of the United States and in
various countries of western Europe

Other Teaching Assignments:

Summer School, Saint Louis University: 12
courses, 1964-1980

Paul VI Institute, Saint Louis, Missouri: 8
courses, 1982-1988

Membership in Learned Societies:

Catholic Biblical Association of America, 1964-

Society of New Testament Studies, 1987-

Summary of Academic Degree Information:

B.A., 1951: Major: Greek; minors: Latin, Philosophy (Saint
Louis University)

Licentiate in Philosophy and M.A., 1952 (Saint Louis
University)

Licentiate in Theology, 1960 (St. Mary's College, St. Marys,
Kansas [School of Divinity, Saint Louis University])

Licentiate in Sacred Scripture, 1962 (Pontifical Biblical
Institute, Rome)

Class work for Doctoral Studies (Pontifical Biblical Institute,
Rome and Jerusalem}

D.Phil. (oxon.), 1981 (University of Oxford, Oxfordshire,
England)

Retirement from Pontifical Biblical Institute, November 1, 2010

Geographical Summary of Sites of Assignments (2019):

45 countries on 6 continents

28 states in the United States of America

Principal Present Residence: St. Ignatius Hall, 4503
Parker Road, Florissant, Missouri 63033, U.S.A.