



PRIFYSGOL CYMRU
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
UNIVERSITY OF WALES
Trinity Saint David

Institute of Education and Humanities/
Yr Athrofa Addysg a'r Dyniaethau

**MA Dissertation Approval Form/
Ffurflen Gymeradwyo Traethawd Hir MA**

Student Name/ <i>Enw Myfyriwr</i>	Revd. Danny Payne
Degree Scheme/ <i>Cynllun Gradd</i>	MA in Biblical Interpretation
Start date/ <i>Dyddiad cychwyn</i>	October 2023

I have completed Part 1 of my degree.

Title of Dissertation:

Teitl eich Traethawd Hir

How might Jesus' loving relationships with Lazarus and the Beloved Disciple speak to LGBTQ+ Christians in the Twenty-First Century?

Aims and Objectives:

Nodau ac Amcanion

To explore the presentation of Jesus' relationships with two men in John's Gospel and examine how a Queer understanding of these relationships might be helpful to LGBTQ+ Christians in contemporary society, particularly in a church which can (seem to) be unwelcoming to LGBTQ+ people.

Abstract (approximately 500 words):

Crynodeb (tua 500 gair):

During the course of study into Biblical Interpretation, this student has deepened his appreciation of the Gospel of John and developed a keen interest in Queer Theology. As a gay Christian priest, he is eager to delve more deeply into the particular characteristics of Jesus, as related by John, which might inspire LGBTQ+ readers in the 21st Century to be confident in their faith in Jesus, in spite of prevailing hermeneutics and a Church which can often appear to be unwelcoming to LGBTQ+ people.

This study will consider the loving relationships between Jesus and two characters who appear in John's Gospel: Lazarus and the Beloved Disciple. The focus will therefore be on John 11:1-44, which gives an account of the death of Lazarus and his raising back to life by Jesus, and on the passages in which the Beloved Disciple becomes a major character in the narrative: his engagement with Jesus at the Last Supper (Jn 13:21-36), the Crucifixion and the Resurrection respectively (19:25-27; 20:1-10; 21:1-14), as well as the passage in which the Beloved Disciple is discussed by Jesus and Peter and affirmed as the source of the Gospel (21:20-25).

Queer Theory challenges binary preconceptions and encourages the displacement of 'traditional' perspectives so that a reading can be undertaken which avoids traditional bias. Alongside an analysis of the reception history of Lazarus and the Beloved Disciple, a Queer reading of these passages will seek to reveal insights into the character of the Johannine Jesus, through his loving relationships, which are not attested elsewhere in the New Testament. The intention is to enable an impression of Jesus to be gleaned which supports an inclusive example of LGBTQ+ love that might encourage LGBTQ+ Christians, and which this student might utilise in his preaching to congregations and communication within his parishes.

Short Introductory Bibliography:

Llyfryddiaeth rhagarweiniol byr

Unless stated, all quotations from Scripture are taken from:

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Proposed Supervisor:

Goruchwyliwr awgrymedig

Catrin Williams

Please indicate whether ethical approval for project is needed – **YES/NO**

Nodwch a oes angen cymeradwyaeth foesegol ar gyfer y prosiect - OES / NAC OES

Please indicate whether sufficient resources are available for the project –

YES/NO

Nodwch a oes digon o adnoddau ar gael ar gyfer y prosiect - OES / NAC OES

The above topic, proposal, and supervisor have been agreed:

Cytunwyd ar y pwnc, y cynnig a'r goruchwyliwr uchod:

Signed : Programme Director/
Llofnod Cyfarwyddwr y rhaglen

Date:.....
Dyddiad

Please return this form to your Programme Director.
Dychwelwch y ffurflen hon at eich Cyfarwyddwr Rhaglen.