

Paul J. Schutz

Associate Professor of Religious Studies | Santa Clara University
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Education

- 2017 **Ph.D. | Systematic Theology**
Fordham University | Bronx, NY
Dissertation Title: “Ineffable Cosmos, Ineffable Love: Divine Action and the Laws of Nature in the Theology of William R. Stoeger, S.J.”
Elizabeth A. Johnson, C.S.J., Dissertation Director
High Pass, Comprehensive Examinations | Minor: New Testament
- 2012 **Master of Arts | Systematic Theology**
Fordham University | Bronx, NY
High Pass, Comprehensive Examinations
- 2004 **Bachelor of Arts | English Language & Literature**
Boston College | Chestnut Hill, MA
Magna Cum Laude | Arts & Sciences Honors Program

Relevant Employment

- 2022-present **Associate Professor of Religious Studies**
Department of Religious Studies | Santa Clara University
Associate Professor by Courtesy Appointment
Jesuit School of Theology | Santa Clara University
- 2024-2025 **Interim Executive Director**
Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries | Santa Clara University
- 2017-2022 **Assistant Professor of Religious Studies**
Department of Religious Studies | Santa Clara University
- 2021-2022 **Interim Liturgy & Music Coordinator**
Campus Ministry | Santa Clara University
- 2020-2021 **Interim Associate Director**
Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries | Santa Clara University
- 2010-2017 **Summer Administrative & Research Assistant**
Conference Operations Co-Coordinator
Curran Center for American Catholic Studies | Fordham University
- 2010-2017 **Assistant Director of Liturgical Music**
Fordham University Campus Ministry | Bronx, NY
- 2006-2010 **Director of Worship (Liturgy & Liturgical Music)**
St. Mary Catholic Church | Evansville, IN
- 2004-2006 **Teach for America Corps Member &**
High School English, Music, & Media Instructor
Crazy Horse School | Wanblee, SD | Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

Areas of Interest

Theology of Creation; Theology & Science; Ecological Theology; Catholic Systematic Theology; Liberation, Feminist, & Queer Theologies; Biblical Theology; Liturgical Theology; Poststructural Philosophy

Courses Taught

Santa Clara University (Undergraduate Core, Religious Studies, and Directed Studies)

Theology and Science: History, Conflict, Integration

The Theology of Karl Rahner, SJ

Bible & Ecology: Handbook for Domination or Guidebook for Loving Creation?

Faith, Ethics, & Biodiversity: Toward a New Vision of Creation

Religion, Science, & Ecology: From Conflict to Cooperation

Sustainable Theologies: Sustainability and the World's Religions

The Christian Tradition: The Problem (?) of God

Spark Seminar: *Justice, Flourishing, and the Jesuit Tradition* (4-week, 1-credit course)

Directed Study: *Advanced Readings in Catholic Theology*

Directed Study: *Sex, Gender, and Catholic Theology: Queering the Tradition*

Directed Study: *Introduction to Orthodox Theology*

Santa Clara University (Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries)

Theological Foundations for Ministry (previously named *Practical Theology*)

Creation, Science, & Ecological Theology: Rethinking Faith on a Planet in Peril

Jesuit School of Theology

Directed Study: *Practical Liturgy & Liturgical Music*

Directed Study: *The Laity and the Liturgy: Historical & Contemporary Issues*

Directed Study: *The Theology of William R. Stoeger, SJ*

Fordham University (Undergraduate Program)

Faith & Critical Reason: The Problem (?) of God

Introduction to the New Testament: History, Faith, Memory

Religion & Ecology: Toward a New View of Creation

Student Mentoring

Santa Clara University

Mentor to Laura Clark ('24), "Rethinking Embodiment: Karl Rahner on the Interconnectedness of Humanity and Divinity" in the *Journal of Theta Alpha Kappa*, 2024.

Mentor to Ramón Duran ('22), "A Distinction Between Two Forms of Ecological Suffering," *Mysterion: The Theology Journal of Boston College* 1 no. 2 (2022): 22–36; "Christianity and Animal Ethics: Determining the Place of Animals in a Developing World," National Undergraduate Theology and Religion Conference at Creighton University, 2019.

Jesuit School of Theology | Santa Clara University

Thesis Reader, Mahasedra Ratsimbarison, 2025

Thesis Reader, John Kellett, 2023

Dissertation Reader, Lawrence Ng Yew Kim, 2022

Publications

Books

2025 *A Theology of Flourishing: The Fullness of Life for All Creation* (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2025).

Recipient of the 2026 Gold Medal in Theology, Illumination Awards, established in 2013 to “celebrate the best new titles written from a Christian perspective.”

Reviews: [Theological Studies](#) | [Rural Theology](#) | [U.S. Catholic](#) | [Tui Motu Interislands Magazine](#)

Grant Study Reports

2026- *Ignatian Pedagogy and Science Education*, co-authored with Desirée Forsythe, SCU Biology.

Funded by a \$22,000 grant from the Santa Clara University Whitham Grant Program, this project studies the use of the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm and practices in science education at SCU and other Jesuit institutions in California through interviews and focus groups with students and faculty.

2022 *Beyond ‘Bad Apples’: Understanding Clergy Perpetrated Sexual Abuse as a Structural Phenomenon and Cultivating Strategies for Change* (co-authored with Julie Hanlon Rubio, JST). www.scu.edu

Funded by a \$40,000 grant from Fordham University, this book-length report presents findings from a multi-year study of clericalism and clergy sexual abuse. Bridging sociological, theological, and psychological research with results from an original survey of 300 Catholic clergy and professional lay ministers, this report assesses how clericalism, as a structure of power, contributes to the perdurance of sexual abuse in the Catholic Church.

National & International Coverage: [America](#) | [Religion News Service/NCR](#) | [Amerindia](#) | [Canadian Public Radio](#) | [Catholic Moral Theology](#) | [katolisch.de](#)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

2021 “En-Gendering Creation Anew: Rethinking Gender and Sexuality with William R. Stoeger, S.J.” *Horizons: The Journal of the College Theology Society* 48, no. 1 (June 2021).

2021 “‘God Saw . . . and God knew . . .’: Science, Divine Action, and Un/answered Prayers.” In *Prayer and Communication with the Divine, the Saints, and the Departed*, ed. Thomas G. Plante and Gary E. Schwartz (Routledge/Taylor & Francis, 2021).

2020 “Fire of Justice, Breath of Life: Exodus 3 as Foundational Narrative for Ecopolitical Theology.” *The Heythrop Journal* 63, no. 6 (Nov. 2022).

2020 “20th and 21st Century Catholic Voices on Nature and Science.” In *Christian Theology and the Modern Sciences*, ed. John Slattery (New York: T&T Clark, 2020).

2020 “Environmental Sciences.” In *Christian Theology and the Modern Sciences*, ed. John Slattery (New York: T&T Clark, 2020).

2020 “As Dewdrops on Indra’s Web: Buddhism, Constitutive Relationships, and Care for Our Common Home.” In *All the Ends of the Earth: Challenge and Celebration of Global Catholicism: College Theology Society Annual Volume*, ed. Jane E. Linahan and Cyril Orji (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2020).

2019 “Cultivating a ‘Cosmic Perspective’ in Theology: Reading William R. Stoeger with *Laudato Si.*” *Theological Studies* 80, no. 4 (Dec. 2019).

- 2017 “All Creation Sings: The Ecological Crisis, *Laudato Si'*, and an Orthodoxy of Praise.” In *Liturgy+Power: College Theology Society Annual Volume*, ed. Brian P. Flanagan and Johann M. Vento (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2017).

Editorially-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2018 “From Creatureliness to a Creation Imagination,” *The Other Journal* 28 (2018).
 “From Creatureliness to a Creation Imagination.” *The Other Journal* (2017). Online.
<https://theotherjournal.com/2017/10/23/creatureliness-creation-imagination/>
- 2006 “The Art & Challenge of Collaborative Liturgy.” *Pastoral Music* 34, no. 1 (Oct. 2006).
 (with Rev. Stephen P. Lintzenich)

Book Reviews & Review Essays

- 2021 Review of Lewis Ayes and Medi Ann Volpe, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of Catholic Theology. Horizons: The Journal of the College Theology Society* 48, no. 1 (June 2021).
- 2021 Review of Denis Edwards, *Christian Understandings of Creation: The Historical Trajectory. Worldviews: Global Religions, Culture, Ecology* 25, no. 1 (2021).
- 2019 “On Thinking the Particularity of Place.” Review of *The Place of Imagination: Wendell Berry and the Poetics of Community, Affection, and Identity*, by Joseph Wiebe.
<https://syndicate.network/symposia/theology/the-place-of-imagination/> (December 17, 2019).
- 2014 Review of Kevin J. Ahern, ed., *Visions of Hope: Emerging Theologians and the Future of the Church. American Catholic Studies* 125, no. 2 (Summer 2014): 66-67.

Public Scholarship & Other Publications

- 2024 “Re-Rooting Teaching in Ignatian Pedagogy: Jesuit Ways of Teaching.” Digital Resources for Teaching | Santa Clara University Faculty Development (text and video, February 2024).
<https://www.scu.edu/provost/teaching-and-learning/faculty-collaborative-for-teaching-innovation/digital-resources-for-teaching-drt/ignatian-pedagogy/>
- 2019 “A response to the Vatican document ‘Male and Female He Created Them’.” *National Catholic Reporter* (June 24, 2019), www.ncronline.org
- 2019 “Seeing Creation Aright: Christianity and Ecological Ethics,” Markkula Center (Oct. 2019).
<https://www.scu.edu/ethics/all-about-ethics/seeing-creation-aright-christianity-and-ecological-ethics/>
- 2017 “Is Free Speech Really White Speech?” Markkula Center (2017).
<https://www.scu.edu/educational-resources/>

Works in Progress

“The Difference Redemption Makes? Revisiting Magisterial Arguments Against Ordaining Women to the Priesthood” (journal article in progress).

Living Worship: Liturgy, Flourishing, Justice, co-authored with Laura Nichols, SCU Sociology

Begun in 2008-2010, while I served as Director of Worship for St. Mary Catholic Church in Evansville, IN, and as a liturgical consultant for the Diocese of Evansville, *Living Worship* employs narrative analysis of the liturgical life of St. Mary as the basis for constructing a practical liturgical theology of the Eucharist that advances the aims of *Sacrosanctum Concilium* for the contemporary Roman Catholic Church.

Grants

“Ignatian Pedagogy and Science Education.” Santa Clara University Whitham Grant, supporting collaborative interdisciplinary research. Principal Investigator with Desirée Forsythe, SCU Biology, \$22,000.

“Critically Examining Whys and Hows: Measuring and Understanding How Structural Clericalism Enables Sexual Violence.” Subgrant of Fordham’s “Taking Responsibility” grant project. Co-Principal Investigator with Julie H. Rubio, Jesuit School of Theology. \$40,000.

Graves Award in the Humanities. The Graves Award honors “outstanding accomplishment in actual teaching in the humanities” and supports a project that integrates research with ongoing teaching development. Santa Clara University’s sole nominee, 2022-2024 award cycle. Administered by Pomona College under the auspices of the American Council of Learned Societies. \$9,000.

Invited Lectures & Keynote Presentations

Lecture & Faculty Seminar: *A Theology of Flourishing.* Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines. July 2025.

Plenary Address: “Beyond ‘Bad Apples’: Understanding Clergy Sexual Abuse as a Structural Problem and Cultivating Strategies for Change.” Children and Youth Protection Catholic Leadership Conference. April 2024.

“En-Gendering Creation Anew: Science, Gender, and Christian Life.” Inaugural Lecture, October 2021. Que(e)ries Diverse Genders and Sexualities Initiative, St. Mary’s College, Moraga, CA. Co-sponsored by the Cummins Institute for Catholic Thought, Culture, & Action; The Mission & Ministry Center; Theology & Religious Studies; Women’s and Gender Studies.

Keynote Address: “Living the Gospel: Our Call to Care for Creation.” Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice. *Ignatian Solidarity Network*, October 2020. <https://youtu.be/aLX5S4GIUMM>

“God in All Things: William R. Stoeger’s Theology of Creation.” St. Mary’s College, Moraga, CA. May 2018. Hosted by the Theology & Religious Studies Department.

Conference Papers & Presentations

“Love of Christ, Heart of Creation: Salvation as Socioecological Flourishing,” refereed paper. *Catholic Theological Society of America*, June 2024.

“Response to Joseph Drexler-Dreis,” invited respondent. *College Theology Society* Systematic Theology Session, June 2024.

“Framing the Problem: Interdisciplinary Perspectives from the United States,” invited paper. *Catholic Theological Society of America* Sexual Abuse in the Catholic Church Consultation, June 2023.

“The Im/possibility of Authentic Participation: Liturgy as Mediator of Structural Clericalism,” refereed paper. *College Theology Society*, June 2023.

“Sentire Cum Terra: Human Work, Co-Creation, and Ecological Responsibility,” refereed paper. *Catholic Theological Society of America*, June 2021.

“Broadening the Vision of Theology and Science: A Roundtable Session with the Authors of the *T&T Clark Handbook of Christian Theology and the Natural Sciences*,” refereed panel. *American Academy of Religion*, December 2020.

“En-gendering Creation Anew: Rethinking Gender and Sexuality in a Scientific Age,” refereed paper. *Catholic Theological Society of America*, June 2019.

- “As Dewdrops on Indra’s Web: Buddhism, Constitutive Relationships, and Care for Our Common Home,” refereed paper. *College Theology Society*, June 2019.
- “All Creation Sings: The Ecological Crisis, *Laudato Si’*, and an Orthodoxy of Praise,” refereed paper. *College Theology Society*, June 2016.
- “Finding a Home in a ‘H()meless’ World: David Tracy’s ‘Uncanny’ G()d of Love and Derrida’s ‘Différance,’” refereed paper. *The Impossibility of God...* Conference, March 2016.
- “Between Horizons: Evolution, the *Sensus Fidelium*, and God-Talk,” refereed paper. *Catholic Theological Society of America*, June 2015.

Public Lectures, Preaching, & Teaching

- Catholic Social Teaching and Environmental Justice*, Diocese of San Jose Institute for Leadership in Ministry. 2026.
- “Nevertheless They Spoke: Hildegard & Julian’s Visions of God,” half-day retreat, *Hear Their Voices, Heed Their Wisdom* Series, SCU Markey Center for Leadership & Ministry, 2026.
- A Theology of Flourishing: The Fullness of Life for all Creation*, 4-part public course on theology and flourishing. Maryknoll Society One Earth Community, 2025.
- “Peace, Justice, and Hope for a Flourishing Creation,” daylong retreat, *Disarming Our Hearts* Series, Center for Peace and Spirituality, Bellevue, WA, 2025. Sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace.
- Panelist, “Religion and Race in the 2024 Elections.” SCU Religious Studies Department & Jesuit School of Theology, 2024.
- “[LGBTQ Catholics and the Synod](#): A Conversation with James Martin, SJ.” SCU Ignatian Center, 2024.
- “Jesuit Education: A Lifelong Commitment.” Induction Speech, *Alpha Sigma Nu: The Jesuit Honor Society*. Santa Clara University, 2024.
- “The Bible and Ecology,” 5-part public course on the Bible and the contemporary ecological crisis (Sisters of St. Joseph: *Spirit Alive* Program, 2023). **On YouTube:** [Part 1](#) | [Part 2](#) | [Part 3](#) | [Part 4](#) | [Part 5](#) |
- “Laudato Si: From Vision to Practice,” 7-part public course on *Laudato Si’* (Sisters of St. Joseph: *Spirit Alive* Program, 2022). **On YouTube:** [Part 1](#) | [Part 2](#) | [Part 3](#) | [Part 4](#) | [Part 5](#) | [Part 6](#) | [Part 7](#) |
- “Reimagining Creation: A Two-Part Series on Religion and Ecology.” Ignatian Center, 2021.
- “Toward a ‘Cosmic Perspective’ on Faith: Evolution, Ecology, and Solidarity with Creation.” St. Thomas Aquinas Lecture Series, Palo Alto, CA; SCU GPPM Alumni Network Night, 2020.
- “Karl Rahner, S.J., and the Theology of the ‘God-Moment.’” *Fordham Mental Health Awareness Week*, April 2015. Published by *ignatianspirituality.com*, a service of Loyola Press: <http://www.ignatianspirituality.com/23562/karl-rahner-sj-god-moment>
- “You Are Witnesses of These Things,” Easter Season 2009; “Assumption: Promise, Trust, Risk, Fulfillment,” Assumption 2010; “Alive in Relationship,” Trinity Sunday 2011. St. Mary Catholic Church, IN.
- Parish Missions: “The ‘What, Why, and How’ of Liturgy” and “Even the Rocks Would Cry Out! Science, Creation, and ‘Cosmic Liturgy,’” *St. Nicholas/St. Joseph Catholic Church*, Santa Claus, IN, 2009.

Service to the Academy & Community

Service to the University

- 2024-present Seminar Leader, AJCU Ignatian Pedagogy Certificate Program
- 2024-present Religious Studies Liaison to the Core Curriculum Revision Committee
- 2024-2026 SCU Mission Priority Examen Steering Committee
- 2023-2026 Lead Developer, Ignatian Pedagogy Programming | SCU Faculty Development
- 2024-2025 SCU Liaison to CENTERS, a program of Discerning Deacons working to foster Synodality and Advocacy for change in Catholic universities.
- 2023-2025 Planning Committee Member, SCU Teaching Development Center
- 2023-2024 Member, Vice President for Mission & Ministry Search Committee
- 2023-2024 Coordinator, *Foundations of Liberation* Reading Group
Religious Studies, Jesuit School of Theology, Division of Mission & Ministry
- 2023 Lead Author, Statement on Humanistic Education in the Jesuit Tradition
On behalf of the SCU Humanities Advocacy Council
- 2022-present Student Affairs University Policy Committee | Chair, 2024-2025
- 2022-2024 *Laudato Si'* Action Plan Focus Group
- 2022-present Sustainable Food Systems Advisory Board
- 2022-2023 Inaugural Faculty Advisor, *Questioning Catholicism*, SCU Campus Ministry
- 2022-2023 Library Research Award Selection Committee, SCU Libraries
- 2018-present Faculty Sustainability Liaison
Santa Clara University, Center for Sustainability
- 2018-present Event Speaker | SCU Campus Ministry, Residential Learning Communities, Honors Program, and Interfaith Dinner Group
“Environmental Justice” (Interfaith Dinner)
“What is Religion For?” (Honors Program)
“Cultivating Ecological Spirituality: Faith, Science, and Creation” (Honors Program)
“My Spiritual Autobiography: Why Christianity?” (Interfaith Dinner)
“Racism, Intersectional Justice, and Interreligious Dialogue” (Interfaith Dinner)
“Modern Spirituality: Faith & Science” (Campus Ministry)
“Religion and the Environment” (Interfaith Dinner)
- 2021-2022 Interim Music & Liturgy Coordinator
Santa Clara University, Campus Ministry
- 2017-2021 Accompanist & Ad Hoc Director of Music/Liturgical Choir
Santa Clara University, Campus Ministry
- 2021 Co-Coordinator, Panelist, Moderator, “Reimagining Creation” Series
Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education
Event 1: <https://bit.ly/3ebfkHY> | Event 2: <https://bit.ly/3sjv1A6>
- 2021 Religious Studies/JST Department Representative
Vice President for Mission & Ministry Search Committee
- 2021 Director of Liturgy & Music Search Committee | Campus Ministry

- 2020 Racial & Intersectional Justice Workshop Series
Santa Clara University, Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education
- 2019 SCU Delegation to El Salvador for 30th Anniversary Commemoration of the Jesuit Martyrs (with Lisa Kloppenberg, Kathleen Schneider, and Ray Plaza)

Service to the College

- 2024-2025 Search Chair, Markey Center for Leadership and Ministry Director
- 2023-present Search Chair, Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries Executive Director
- 2018-2019 Search Committee, College of Arts & Sciences Director of Marketing
- 2021 Religious Studies Department New Student Outreach (Admissions)

Service to the Department

- 2023-present Chair, Religious Studies Department Teaching Committee
- 2023-present Lead Developer, Religious Studies Department Faculty Mentoring Program
- 2018-present Advisor, Theta Alpha Kappa Honor Society
- 2017-present Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries Committee
- 2017-present Chair, Religious Studies Department Recruitment & Engagement Committee
- 2021-2022 Chair, Black/African-American Theologies Search Committee
- 2020-2021 Systematic Theology Search Committee
- 2019-2020 Hebrew Bible Search Committee
- 2018-2019 Theological & Social Ethics Search Committee
- 2017-2018 Sacramental & Liturgical Theology RTL Search Committee
- 2021-2022 Founding Coordinator, Tenure-Track Faculty Scholarship Support Group
- 2021 Interviewer for Tenure-Track Faculty, Chair Selection Process
- 2020-2021 Religious Studies Department Fixed-Term Faculty Task Force
- 2020-2022 Christian Theology Major Requirement Subcommittee
- 2020 Co-Coordinator, Antiracist Pedagogy Working Group
- 2017-2022 Coordinator, Religious Studies Conversations Events Series
- 2019-2020 Faculty Evaluation Committee
- 2017-2018 Department Representative, Fall/Spring Preview Days

Service to the Guild

- 2025-present The Art & Practice of Teaching Theology Administrative Team
College Theology Society
- 2023-present Secretary, College Theology Society
- 2019-present Peer Reviewer | Lexington/Fortress Press; Orbis Books; Fordham University Press;
Theological Studies, *Horizons*, *HTS Theologische Studien*, College Theology Society
- 2023-2026 Creation/Eschatology Administrative Team | CTSA
- 2019-2022 Theology, Ecology, Natural Science Administrative Team
College Theology Society

2018-2025	Conference Photographer CTSA
2016-2021	Theology & Science Administrative Team CTSA
2015-2016	Teaching Development Chair (Elected Position) Theology Graduate Student Association Fordham University
2010-2016	Conference Operations Co-Coordinator Fordham University “Building Good Economies: Modern Catholic Social Teaching at 125” “The Cardinal & Colbert” “More Than a Monologue: Sexual Diversity and the Catholic Church” “LOST? Twenty-Somethings and the Church”

Awards, Honors, & Scholarships

- **Senior Fellow, Bannan Teaching & Research Fellowship**, Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education, Santa Clara University, 2025-2028
- **2026 Gold Medal in Theology, *Illumination Awards***. Since 2013, the Illumination Awards have honored outstanding publications undertaken from a Christian perspective.
- **2021-2023 The Graves Award in the Humanities**, honoring “outstanding accomplishment in actual teaching in the humanities.” Administered by Pomona College under the auspices of the American Council of Learned Societies.
- **2021 Santa Clara University Office of Student Life *Cura Personalis* Award**, for “having concern and care for the development of the *whole* person and . . . dedication to promoting human dignity and care for the mind, body, and soul of the individual.”
- **Fordham University Senior Teaching Fellowship**, a Distinguished Fellowship awarded by the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences for Teaching Excellence, 2016-2017
- **Jesuit Pedagogy Seminar Participant**, Spring 2016
- **Alpha Sigma Nu: The Jesuit Honor Society**, “Recognizing scholarship and loyalty to the ideals of Jesuit education and a commitment to service of others,” Spring 2016
- **Fordham University Presidential Scholarship & Graduate Assistantship (Ph.D.)**, 2012-14
- **Fordham University Presidential Scholarship & Graduate Assistantship (M.A.)**, 2010-12
- **2004 Boston College Arts Council Award**, “In recognition of outstanding contributions to the arts at Boston College.”
- **2003 Boston College Creativity Award**, “Recognizing outstanding innovation and leadership in student programs, for those who have taken others to new paths of endeavor in group skills or programming.”

Academic Societies & Professional Affiliations

Catholic Theological Society of America	College Theology Society
American Academy of Religion	Alpha Sigma Nu: Jesuit Honor Society

Archival Research

2015	Catalogued Papers & Collected Curial Letters of William R. Stoeger, S.J. Jesuit Community of the Vatican Observatory Tucson, AZ
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Research Languages

Spanish, French, German, New Testament Greek