

Spring Courses 2016



with course organiser
Canon Dr. Rod Garner
Diocesan Theologian



Diocese of
Liverpool

Lent and Spring Courses 2016

A message from Canon Dr. Rod Garner, Diocesan Theologian



I felt quite excited and hopeful putting this programme together for Spring – even in the middle of December’s storms and gales! There is a good mix of topics on offer in these pages with stimulation, encouragement and challenge in equal measure. The courses cover the Bible, monasticism and its contemporary relevance, philosophy and the importance of big ideas, theology on film, church history, and the work of Anthony Gormley, one of the most intelligent and provocative British artists working today.

It’s worth reminding readers and browsers that all these events are open to everyone. To enrol, all you need is the modest fee and the readiness to learn alongside others. We learn in different ways of course and I’ve tried to take this into account in framing the programme. Book worms and bible students are catered for along with the simply curious. There is film for the eye, music for the soul, scripture for those who want to dig a little deeper and the glories of Crosby beach to encourage meditation.

I look forward to welcoming you to these events. You can contact me on 07754812915 or email me at holytrinitysouthport@gmail.com if you need further information.

Deep calls to deep: monasticism and christian living today

A Morning Seminar at Liverpool Hope University

No one doubts that we are living through turbulent times that are challenging the Church to find new patterns of Christian life, worship and mission. As we seek to fashion something vital and authentic, we shall need to take risks. But there is also wisdom in revisiting our past to rediscover the fruits of the monastic life. It still has much to teach us about community, discipleship and the service of others in a consumerist culture. And it can offer hope and guidance as we try to integrate our 'outward' life of work and witness with the 'interior' journey into the mystery of God.

This morning seminar is not primarily a history lesson of monastic life in previous centuries but it will provide a brief overview of the Religious orders that emerged before the Reformation. This will lead on to a consideration of what monasticism has to offer us today by engaging with contemporary stories of Religious Orders living the monastic way of life in our midst. A former Archbishop of Canterbury described this pattern of living and commitment as the Church of England's 'best kept secret'. The morning will aim to make the secret more widely known.

Course Information

Deep Calls to Deep:
Monasticism and
Christian Living today:
Led by Canon Dr.
Rod Garner, Diocesan
Theologian

Dates and Topics

**Saturday 13th
February 2016**

Time

9.30am – 1.00pm
with refreshments
from 9.00am

Fee

£9 (£8 concession)
including
refreshments.

Location

Liverpool Hope
University,
Room 110,
The Cornerstone
Building,
17 Shaw Street,
Liverpool,
L6 1HP.

Spring Series Of Evening Meetings

Our first meeting introduces St. John's gospel and how his unique account of 'the Word made flesh' (John 1.14) can shape our lives, prayers and worship. The evening will draw on the work of Dr. Wendy E.S. North and her recently published collection of essays ' A Journey Round John' (Bloomsbury 2015).

In our second meeting there will be a viewing of Tyrannosaur – a powerful, award-winning drama, voted Best British Film of the Year in 2011. It follows the lives of two people brought together by circumstance - an unemployed widower driven by drink and furious anger and a Christian worker in a local charity shop who on the surface appears a respectable woman with a happy life. As events spiral out of control, the film charts the limits of compassion, the fragility of our humanity and the possibilities of redemptive love. It is a film that moves and shocks in turn, contains very strong language and is not easily forgotten. The presentation will be followed by an open discussion.

Our final session introduces the life and thought of William Temple – regarded by many as the greatest Archbishop of Canterbury of the last century. Temple was many things: a Christian leader of deep spirituality with a love of scripture; a prolific writer; a prophet who in the turmoil of the Second World War became one of the architects of the Welfare State created by the post-war Government; a scholar who addressed great social issues with intelligence and a profound Christian faith. This evening will draw on a new collection of his letters, sermons and articles that in their different ways reveal a remarkable theologian and church leader.

Course Information

Spring Series 2016:
Led by Canon Dr. Rod Garner

Dates and Topics

Tuesday, 5th April -
A Journey round John.

Tuesday, 12th April
- 'Tyrannosaur': A Film Presentation and Discussion.

Tuesday, 19th April -
'Christ in All Things': William Temple and His Writings.

Time

All meetings start at 7.30pm with refreshments served from 7.00pm

Fee

£15 (£12 concession) for all three including refreshments

Location

Southport College.
Conference Room,
1st Floor,
Mornington Road,
Southport,
PR9 0TT.

The Angel and The Iron Men:

A Day of Reflection at Sandymount House of Prayer and Crosby Beach.

The British Sculptor, Anthony Gormley is best known as creator of The Angel of the North overlooking the A1 near Gateshead and Another Place - the spectacular installation of 100 cast-iron figures gazing out to sea on Crosby beach. Over thirty years Gormley has created other remarkable works across the globe that bear witness to his profound concern for humanity and the way we live now. In this sense his work is religious: it is about depth and the ability to see, and the way both these things enable us to make sense of life's journey and how humans relate to one another.

This Day of reflection will begin at Sandymount House of Prayer with an introduction to some of the abiding themes in Gormley's work followed by a theological reflection on its spiritual and moral significance. This will include music, visuals and time for discussion. After lunch we shall go for a 'learning walk' on Crosby beach to engage with the 'iron men' and their surroundings.

This Day is an opportunity to explore a major British creative artist and the wonders of the seashore as Spring renews the face of the earth.

Course Information

The Angel and the Iron Men - Led by Canon Dr. Rod Garner, Diocesan Theologian

Dates and Topics

Saturday, 30th April 2016 -

The Angel and the Iron Men

Time

9.30am – 4.00pm
with refreshments

Fee

£9 including refreshments. Please bring packed lunch and suitable outdoor clothing.

Location

Morning:
Sandymount House of Prayer,
16 Burbo Bank Road,
Blundellsands,
Merseyside,
L23 6TH

Afternoon:
Crosby Beach

Why is there Something rather than Nothing? Perennial Questions from Great Philosophers.

Series of Evening Meetings at Sandymount.

Certain questions never go away – indeed in a dangerous and confused age like ours they can assume greater importance. We long to be wise when the unexpected happens or life proves cruel or perplexing. Practical philosophy can teach us about the way we live (and ought to live) and how we see the world. It can also assist faith and understanding and clarify the proper place of religion in a world of competing ideas and values.

The title of this Course is taken from a collection of brief essays by one of the most influential philosophers of recent times, Lezek Kolakowski. His reflections on good and evil, truth and beauty, faith and the soul introduce major thinkers spanning the centuries and issues which still touch a cord in us today. The meetings will be of help and interest to everyone feeling perplexed by our times or simply wanting to know more about brilliant thinkers whose work has profoundly shaped Western understanding. Don't be put off by Kolakowski's imposing name! He writes and thinks in a very accessible way.

Course Information

Why is there Something Rather than Nothing?
- Led by Canon Dr. Rod Garner, Diocesan Theologian

Dates and Topics

Thursday, 10th May 2016 -

Faith: Why Should we believe? - Blaise Pascal
Do we need the Church? - Soren Kierkegaard

Thursday, 17th May 2016 -

Does Suffering Enrich Us? - Karl Jaspers
Is the world good? - St. Thomas Aquinas

Thursday, 24th May 2016 -

Truth and the Good: Why do we do evil? - Socrates
What is evil? - St. Augustine

Time

All meetings start at 7.30pm with refreshments served from 7.00pm

Fee

£15 (£12 concession) for all three including refreshments.

Location

Sandymount House of Prayer,
16 Burbo Bank Road,
Blundellsands,
Merseyside,
L23 6TH

Spring 2016 Booking Form

The closing date for bookings is **Monday 8th February 2016**.

Please complete this form and send it to Lifelong Learning. Please show if you will be paying the normal fees or the concessionary rate (for retired and unwaged attendees). Feel free to make copies of this form if more people would like to attend.

Deep Calls to Deep: Monasticism and Christian Living today:

Saturday 13th February 2016 []

Fees - £9 [] Concession £8 []

Spring Series of Evening Meetings:

Tuesday 5th April 2016 - A Journey Round John []

Tuesday 12th April 2016 - Tyrannosaur Film Presentation []

Tuesday 19th April 2016 - Christ in All things: William Temple and his writings []

Fees - £15 [] Concession £12 []

The Angel and the Iron Men: A Day of Reflection:

Saturday 30th April 2016 []

Fees - £9 [] Concession £8 []

Why is there Something rather than Nothing:

Tuesday 10th May 2016 - Why should we believe? []

Tuesday 17th May 2016 - Does Suffering enrich us? []

Tuesday 24th May 2016 - Why do we do evil? []

Fees - £15 [] Concession £12 []

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED: _____

Please make cheques payable to: Liverpool DBF

Form continued on next side >

Spring 2016 Booking Form

Please detach and complete this form using BLOCK CAPITALS

and return by **8th February 2016** to:

Sam Stanford,
Lifelong Learning
St James' House
20 St James Road
Liverpool, L1 7BY

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Daytime Tel No: _____

Email: _____

Please indicate if you are:

Clergy

Reader

Lay Person

Please give details of any special requirements:

_____ (continue on separate sheet if necessary)

Signed: _____ Date: _____

www.liverpool.anglican.org

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