

different people who act as spiritual directors: they will talk about their work and what it means. In the afternoon you will be able to experience a half hour 'taster session' with one of the team. The afternoon will also be an opportunity to experience a 'quiet space' and have available various suggested ways of praying and finding God. Roy Gregory will be facilitating the day supported by a team of spiritual directors from a variety of Christian traditions. Directors will include Pia Buxton, Anne Strach, Philip Mader-Grayson, and Anthony Curran.

Facilitator: Roy Gregory, StACCS tutor in Spirituality
Venue: Ashley Church, Ashley Road, St Albans AL1 5DA
Time: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm **Cost:** £18

Ignatian spirituality workshop **Saturday 27 November 2010**

The day will explore the distinctive features of Ignatian spirituality, a way of approaching Christian life and prayer established by St Ignatius of Loyola (founder of the Society of Jesus) in the 16th century. There will be practical instructions on the Ignatian way of praying (Examen and Spiritual Exercises) as well as opportunity to pray using these techniques. In the afternoon Br Patrick will extend the Ignatian way by exploring the spirituality and practices developed by Anthony de Mello.

Tutors: Canon Dennis Stamps and Br Patrick Moore
Venue: The Chapter House Crypt, St Albans Cathedral
Time: 10.30 am to 3.30 pm **Cost:** £18

Short evening courses

Short courses which carry no credits or expectations of further reading or study, but focus on specific subjects in some depth. **The venue for both courses is the Chapter House at St Albans Abbey.**

Six great medieval thinkers **Tuesdays 5, 12 and 19 October 2010**

For many years Christians tended to regard the 'middle ages' as a dark period containing little of interest. However, in recent years our view of this fascinating period has undergone a major revision. Far from being a time of superstition or futile speculation (angels and pinheads) this was the time in which the foundations of the modern European world were laid and important ideas debated. This short course will focus on the high middle ages,

1000 to 1300, and introduce the thought of six key figures. In week one we will meet Anselm and Peter Lombard; in week two, Bonaventure and Thomas Aquinas; and in week three, John Duns Scotus and William of Ockham. In each case a brief biography will lead into an outline of their contribution to European intellectual life: philosophy, theology and the beginnings of empirical science will all be seen in a context of dialogue with Orthodox Christianity, Islam and the ideas of the pagan past.

Tutor: Iain Lane, StACCS Administrator
Date: Tuesdays 5, 12 and 19 October 2010
Time: 8.00 pm **Cost:** £24

The Book of Isaiah **Tuesdays 16, 23 and 30 November 2010**

The Book of Isaiah speaks very strongly to the situations in which it arose, but has also spoken strongly in subsequent centuries. Christians in particular have found within it prophecies pointing to both the birth and death of Christ, and passages from it are read throughout Advent, Christmas and Holy Week. It is therefore perhaps not surprising that it is sometimes referred to as the 'Fifth Gospel'. More recently, scholars have identified different parts to the book and even different 'Isaiahs'. All agree that it contains some of the most profound imagery of the Bible. This short course aims to open up some of these aspects of this rich book and is led by Canon Kevin Walton, Canon Chancellor of St Albans Cathedral, who is an Old Testament scholar with a particular interest and expertise in the Book of Isaiah.

Tutor: Canon Kevin Walton
Date: Tuesdays 16, 23 and 30 November 2010
Time: 8.00 pm **Cost:** £24

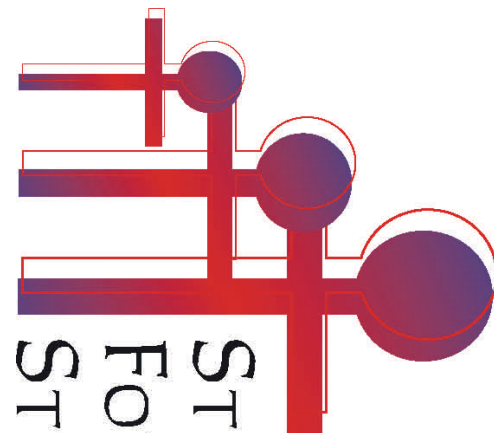
Further information

www.christianstudies.org.uk

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St Albans Centre for Christian Studies is an ecumenical centre for Christian learning and the adult education division of St Albans Cathedral Education Trust
Registered Charity No. 299317

A large print version of this leaflet is available on request.



News & events: Autumn Term
September to December 2010

Autumn Term 2010

Application form

Please enrol me/us on the following course(s):

Name(s).....

Address.....

Post code.....

Tel.....

Email.....

Church attended (if any).....

Rejoicing in the Old Testament

Giotto

Architecture of contemporary faith

Atonement and grace

What is spiritual direction?

Ignatian spirituality workshop

Six great medieval thinkers

The Book of Isaiah

I enclose payment of £.....

**Please send cheques payable to
St Albans Cathedral Education Trust to:**

The Secretary, St Albans Centre for Christian Studies
Sumpter Yard, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 1BY

We do not want anyone to be deterred from attending any events for financial reasons. If you find the fees prohibitive, please contact the Centre on 01727 890205.

Your details will not be disclosed to any third party. If you would prefer not to receive information about future events at the Study Centre, please tick this box

Saturday study mornings and days

Our 'in a day' introductions are gateways to further study: aimed at busy people whose diaries don't allow extended study, but who would like to know more and think through their faith. We also offer 'morning only' sessions on more specific subjects. All events include morning coffee. On full days please bring a packed lunch.

Rejoicing in the Old Testament: a fresh look at the OT and spirituality

Saturday 18 September 2010

Much of the Old Testament is hard for 21st century people to accept (hard-to-believe stories and blood-thirsty episodes), but can be a rich spiritual resource. It faces issues such as love, suffering, fear, failure, success, death, birth, and many other still relevant themes. To leave the OT at Sunday School is to lose an important resource we can rejoice in. The two tutors come from different backgrounds and traditions, but share an interest in making the OT accessible and enriching for people of faith today.

Tutors: Roy Gregory and Ysmena Pentelow

Venue: Ashley Church, Ashley Road, St Albans AL1 5DA

Time: 10.00 am to 3.30 pm **Cost:** £18

Giotto in a day

Saturday 9 October 2010

For centuries the work of the artist Giotto has been regarded as a turning point in the history of western art. This study day takes an in depth look at all his surviving work examining what is new and exploring the significance of the changes in terms of Christian spirituality and the historical context.

Tutor: Iain Lane

Venue: The Chapter House Crypt, St Albans Abbey

Time: 10.30 am to 3.30 pm **Cost:** £18

The architecture of contemporary faith

Saturday 6 November 2010

It is often said that architecture has lost the importance it had in society at large and in the Church: people no longer expect buildings to communicate shared ideals or understandings of life. Some architects have effectively retreated into a private world in which their profession is best represented by theoretical projects which will never be built. Others still try to work with clients and communi-

ties to make real spaces which are not merely pragmatic but also expressive. This morning will explore a number of church buildings, small and large, built in the last 30 years by major architects like Rafael Moneo, Tadao Ando and Alvaro Siza. We will see how a modern building can speak of faith and engender spirituality, and also draw parallels between the practice of contemporary architecture and theology as activities within the community of faith. Much more fun than it sounds!

Tutor: Iain Lane

Venue: The Chapter House Crypt, St Albans Abbey

Time: 10.00 am to 1.00 pm **Cost:** £12

Atonement and grace in children's fantasy literature

Saturday 13 November 2010

This study morning will explore the ways in which the Christian themes of atonement and grace are evident within the Narnia Chronicles, the Harry Potter books, the Lord of the Rings and other children's stories. The tutor, Revd Dr Howard Worsley, is a long term researcher into children's spirituality (as well as an Anglican priest, a theological researcher and the Director of Education for the Diocese of London). Dr Worsley is the author of *A Child sees God, Children talk about Bible stories*, and is currently publishing some overview research into how children handle the Bible as seen within a wider corpus of English literature.

Tutor: Revd Dr Howard Worsley

Venue: St Stephen's Church Hall, Watling St, St Albans

Time: 10.00 am to 1.00 pm **Cost:** £12

What is spiritual direction? Is it for me? Saturday 20 November 2010

Spiritual direction has become increasingly popular, but what is it all about? Perhaps you have wondered whether it might be for you? It is certainly not just for some 'spiritual elite' (if such a thing ever really existed) and it can fit well into a busy Christian life in the secular world. Increasing numbers of people are finding it useful to set aside time with a trained person to see where God might be and what clues there are to progressing in their spiritual life.

This workshop allows you to explore these questions. In the morning you will be able to hear from a number of