

Fides quaerens intellectum

FAITH IN SEARCH OF UNDERSTANDING

First spoken by Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury in the tenth century, these words summarize the Christian search for intellectual truth and are the motto of

Adult Education at the Church of St. John in the Village

2010-2011

224 Waverly Place
New York City
[212] 243-6192
www.stjvny.org



The Classes

Each class is held in the parish hall here at St. John's in the Village, which is located in the parish house at 224 Waverly Place, near the corner of West 11th Street and Waverly Place. If the door is locked, the bell marked Church Office will help you gain entrance. The parish house is located around the corner from the Church which is at 218 West 11th Street.

Each class, unless otherwise noted, begins on Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. There is a Eucharist, which is the customary act of Christian worship, at 6:15 p.m. preceding the class. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive holy communion at this and all our services. This particular liturgy is a healing liturgy, which means we offer laying on of hands and anointing with holy oil for healing. More information about our healing liturgy is found at the website at www.stjvny.org

Cold drinks or coffee will be provided as appropriate and if you wish to bring a brown bag supper, you are welcome to do that.

There is no cost for these classes; we consider them a part of our program for the parish. If you wish to make a contribution to defray the costs of these programs, a check to St. John's Church, marked Christian Formation programs, will be appreciated

Visit our Website for more information about these and other parish programs:
www.stjvny.org

*The Faith and Worship
and Life Of Islam*

**Wednesday Evenings,
September 29, October 6 & 13
at 7:00 pm
in the Parish Hall**

Back by popular demand, we are offering another class series on the faith of Islam. This time, we are asking the Reverend Masud Syedullah, who taught the first course last year, to return. He will be joined by his colleague Imam Shamsi Ali, from the 96th Street Mosque here in Manhattan.

The class will explore, in more detail, the way in which Muslims worship, including the texts that they use and the piety they observe. We will also listen to some of the music associated with Muslim worship and compare and contrast their beliefs with our own Christian beliefs. In response to some questions last year, we will also look at some ethical issues, mainly the issue of women and their life in Islam and the place of gay men and lesbians in Islam.

Leader: *The Reverend Masud Ibn Syedullah* *TSSF, Chair of the Episcopal-Muslim Committee of the Diocese of New York and one of its founding members, is also a member of the Ecumenical and Interfaith Commission of the Diocese. His own faith journey includes having been raised in an interreligious family with a Christian mother and Muslim father. Much of his ministry focuses on building bridges between and among people of different faith traditions.*

Leader: *Imam Shamsi Ali*

Imam Shamsi Ali is currently the Imam of the Islamic Cultural Center of New York, our city's largest mosque. He has lectured around the world and throughout the nation. New York magazine named him one of the seven most influential religious leaders in the city in 2006 and he was the recipient of the 2009 Ellis Island Medal of Honor award for his work in building

bridges among religious communities. He was born in Indonesia and received his Imam's training at the Darul Arqam Institute in Indonesia. He received his degree in Quran interpretation at the Muslim University in Indonesia. He is married to Mutiah S. Ali and has five children.

Pilgrimage:

***Seeking the Kingdom of God
An Intergenerational Event***

Saturday, November 6, 2010

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

in the Parish Hall and throughout the church

This event is designed to help participants of all ages to seek a spiritual direction in today's world. We live in a fast-paced culture where we are accustomed to hurrying from one thing to another, often forgetting that life is a journey, not a destination. We are never too young or too old to be reminded that we are all seekers in the process of becoming the person God created us to be.

For this one day event, on Saturday, we will journey in spirit back to medieval Canterbury and join the pilgrims who traveled to the shrine of Thomas Becket. Through role playing, sensory adventures and creative activities, we will experience the stories of those who have traveled the way of faith before us and find inspiration for our own journeys. In this way, such an event is an important way of keeping All Saints, which will be celebrated this week.

This is a child-friendly program, but is one which should be shared with parents and even grandparents, and there will be much that will be of value to people of all ages.

Leader: *The Rev'd Sandra Michels* is one of the assisting priests at St. John's in the Village, having joined the staff and moved into Wainwright house last fall. She was born and raised in Texas, interestingly enough, in the same parish in which Gordon King worked and Father Prator worshipped back in the 1960s. She was a nun in the community of the Holy Spirit here in Manhattan for seven years, and after her ordination to the priesthood, she served parishes in New Mexico, Missouri, Texas, and Indiana. Most recently she retired from St. Francis' Church in Zionsville, Indiana. Currently she is studying at General Theological Seminary. Mother Michels is an expert in needlecraft and is presently working on a tapestry of Noah's arc. She is also famous for her delicious trail mix!

ADVENT

Jesus Christ: Divine Wisdom Revealed

An Advent Lecture on

St. Andrew's Day

Tuesday Evening,

November 30, 2010

beginning at 6:30 pm

6:30 pm Evensong

Want to sing? Talk to Gordon King. This will be a congregational evensong and we will be organizing a special choir for the evening.

7:00 pm Lecture -

As they seek to portray the astonishing truth that the God of Israel has embodied himself in Jesus Christ, the New Testament writers use key ideas from the Hebrew

Scriptures to present the unique significance of Jesus. One of those important ideas is "wisdom." The Old Testament taught that much truth is accessible to men and women in our ordinary lives, but that many mysteries remain to us, whose answers are known only to God. We will explore the rich meaning that is offered by the New Testament when it presents Christ as the ultimate wisdom of God. Does this mean that all questions are now answered? Or that we now confront different mysteries?

Leader: *The Rev'd Dr. Robert J. Owens* is Professor of Old Testament at General Theological Seminary here in New York. He has a wide background in both parish ministry and in academic work. Prior to coming to General, he was Nakarai Professor of Hebrew Bible at Emmanuel School of Religion, and a faculty member at the Ecumenical Institute of Theology at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore. He has twice been a visiting scholar at Wolfson College in Oxford University. He is a specialist in the Bible (the "Peshitta") of the ancient Syriac-speaking church, and has contributed to publications of the Peshitta Institute at the University of Leiden and to *The Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon*. He is now preparing the *Book of Numbers for The Bible of Edessa project at Leiden*. Such work on ancient bible translations relates to his general interest in Jewish and Christian biblical interpretation. He also has special interest in biblical wisdom literature, and a particular concern for preaching and teaching the Bible in the church.

Bob is a native of Illinois, born and raised in Springfield, the "land of Lincoln". He and his wife, Mary Ann, are parents of two grown children; they have one grand-child. Mary Ann is Director of the Barnard Fund at Barnard College and Columbia University. Their favorite recreation is to sail their classic Cape Dory sloop on Long Island Sound. They also love Dutch art, an interest that is cultivated on periodic trips to the University of Leiden on academic business. Bob is probably the only biblical scholar in the U.S. who is a member of the Arthur Ransome Society — an association devoted to the children's books on sailing and hiking written by British author, Arthur Ransome.

Living The Good News
AN ADVENT QUIET DAY

with Brother Maximilian

Saturday, December 4, 2010

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

in the Parish Hall and Common Room

The Quiet Day is a miniature retreat, compacted into a single day, but offering some of the features and taste of a retreat at a monastery. We gather for the Angelus and Morning Prayer, as monks and nuns have for centuries. There will be a couple of talks, and then another office of prayer at noon. We will have a nice lunch (provided by the parish at no cost) and then another couple of talks. The day will conclude with the Eucharist. There will be ample time for silence, prayer and meditation. There will be books available, a copy of the list of the names of those who have asked our prayers will be available, and people can trace the Stations of the Cross. When the notice is posted, please sign up for the Quiet Day so that those planning it will know how many people to welcome.

The day's discussion will focus on Franciscan Spirituality, or in other words: Gospel Spirituality.

Leader: Brother Maximilian Kolbe *has been a brother in the Society of St. Francis for three years. He lives at Little Portion Friary in Mount Sinai where he takes part in all sorts of work and ministry. He bakes bread, cooks, paints and plays guitar. He visits parishes all over Long Island for preaching and fellowship missions. Brother Maximilian was born in Kentucky but was living in San Francisco when he joined the brothers.*

Christianity's Debt to Judaism

with

The Rev'd Dr. Richard Corney and

Rabbi Neil Gillman

Wednesday Evenings,

January 12, 19 & 26, 2011

at 7:00 pm

in the Parish Hall

January 12 *The tension between structure and spontaneity in Jewish Prayer.*

The tension may be inevitable but there are various attempts to resolve it. Are they effective? Does that same tension characterize Christian prayer? How is it resolved there? Could this tension be ultimately helpful?

January 19 *Music in synagogue worship.*

We will study the various models and motifs used to accompany different portions of the daily, Sabbath, Festival and High Holiday services of worship. Where do these stem from? How do they work to illuminate the major themes of both the occasion and the texts? What is a "MiSinai" melody? Whence the name?

January 25 *Is spirituality a Jewish ideal?*

If not, why not? Why then is it so popular today? If yes, why is it opposed by so many Jews? Are there various models of Jewish spirituality?

Leaders: The Reverend Dr. Richard Corney *is professor emeritus of the General Theological Seminary here in Manhattan where he taught Old Testament for forty years. He is the author of numerous scholarly articles and was an assisting*

priest here at St. John's in the Village until 2009 when he retired to upstate New York.

Leader: Rabbi Neil Gillman, PhD is a Canadian who was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary here in Manhattan. He has a PhD in philosophy from Columbia University and is the author of several books and essays of a scholarly nature including *The Death of Death: Resurrection and Immortality in Jewish Thought*. He serves as a Faculty Fellow at the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning here in New York. This is an opportunity for us to welcome to St. John's a scholar of great stature and a teacher of wide renown.

EPIPHANY

The Book of Common Prayer

Its History and Its Use

Wednesday Evenings,

February 9, 16 & 23, 2011

at 7:00 pm

in the Parish Hall

Three classes on various aspects of the Book of Common Prayer, the book which guides our worship, outlines our history, summarizes our theology, and directs our devotion. The first class will explore the history of the Book of Common Prayer, including the renewal movements which preceded it, the conservative reforms under Henry VIII, and the two seminal books of 1549 and 1551. The class will be mainly focused on liturgy, but will also cover some of the historical aspects of our prayer book's story.

The second class will introduce you to personal devotions in the prayer book, how you can use the rites, texts, and

prayers for your own devotion. We will actually do some of the devotions as a class.

The final class will take up any points which have been raised by the class and will also deal with odd little items about the book, such as — well, do you know what a golden number is? Do you know that this is the first prayer book to mention incense? Where do you suppose that is found?

Leader: The Rev'd Lloyd Prator is the rector of the parish, a graduate of Stanford University and the Episcopal Theological School. His primary area of theological focus was the New Testament and he retains an active interest in the literature and theology of the holy scriptures. Father Prator has done graduate work in liturgy and spirituality and has been a commentator on the passing cultural and religious scene for ABC television, the BBC and other secular and religious media.

In addition to the various aspects of his biography which include his education and ministry, Father Prator has a few really boring hobbies, and a few peculiar interests, including his knowledge of the first and maiden names of all the first ladies of the United States. You have always wanted to know that, haven't you?

A LENTEN QUIET DAY

with

The Rev'd Barbara Crafton

Saturday, March 12, 2011

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

in the Parish Hall and Common Room

The Quiet Day is a miniature retreat, compacted into a single day, but offering some of the features and taste of a retreat at a monastery. We gather for the Angelus and Morning Prayer, as

monks and nuns have for centuries. There will be a couple of talks, and then another office of prayer at noon. We will have a nice lunch (provided by the parish at no cost) and then another couple of talks. The day will conclude with the Eucharist. There will be ample time for silence, prayer and meditation. There will be books available, a copy of the list of the names of those who have asked our prayers will be available, and people can trace the Stations of the Cross. When the notice is posted, please sign up for the *Quiet Day* so that those planning it will know how many people to welcome.

Leader: *The Rev'd Barbara Cawthorne Crafton* is an Episcopal priest, spiritual director and author. She is honorary associate rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Metuchen, NJ. She was rector of St. Clement's Church in Manhattan's Theatre District. She was also a chaplain on the waterfront of New York, and served both historic Trinity Church, Wall Street and here at St. John's for five years. She was a chaplain at Ground Zero during the recovery effort after the WTC bombing.

An actress, director and producer, she has worked for many years in combining the lively arts and the life of faith. Her books, articles, and radio scripts have won many awards, including numerous Polly Bond Awards from Episcopal Communicators and the coveted Gabriel Award for religious broadcasting. She is seen frequently on television both as a preacher and as a commentator on Hallmark's "New Morning" and "America at Worship," and has been profiled extensively in electronic and print media throughout the world.

Barbara is married to Richard Quaintance, sometimes better known simply as "Q", a professor of English literature. She has two children and two grandchildren.

LENTEN CLASS SERIES

Christianity and the Hard Questions

Wednesday Evenings,

March 23, 30 & April 6, 2011

at 7:00 pm

in the Parish Hall

In any adult education class, raise the issue of why a loving God allows such evil things to happen, and you will not be the best friend of the teacher. Most teachers will hem and haw and hope someone will change the subject. On the other hand, the Church speaks a lot about our version of heaven, but is there anyone in hell? Perfectly sensible people will often settle for "we all believe in the same God, don't we?" as the banner acclamation for interfaith dialogue. Well, we really don't. But what do we believe about other faiths?

- ***March 23: The Only Son of God?***
Christianity and other religions, does it make any difference and why?
- ***March 30: What the Hell?***
Is there a grim alternative to heaven and what do we think about it?
- ***April 6: Why do bad things happen to good people?***
and why does the famous book of the same title miss the point?

Leader: *Archbishop Peter Carnley*, was born in Newcastle NSW in 1937 and grew up and was educated at a

town called Young NSW (the Cherry Capital of Australia!) In 1966 he married Ann; and they have two children (Ben and Sarah). He was Archbishop of Perth from 1981-2005 and Primate of Australia from 2000-2005.

In 2005 he retired to 'Stillpoint Tulip Farm', at Nannup, Western Australia (though it is not a farm and has only a few tulips!). His retirement interests are gardening and grandchildren (of whom there are 4 under 9 years), along with some continuing international work for the Anglican Communion which keeps him fairly busy.

From 2004-2008 he was Anglican Co-chair of ARCIC II (the Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission). He has always been interested in fostering good ecumenical relations; retirement gives him the opportunity to concentrate on this more or less full-time (but without a secretary and without pay!) He also has a continuing interest in social justice issues, equal rights for women, a fair-go for indigenous Australians, and compassion for refugees. He will be teaching systematic theology at General in 2010-2011.

In 1992 Archbishop Carnley ordained the first women priests in the Anglican Church of Australia, after winning a court battle in the Supreme Court of Western Australia the day before. At the time he said that negotiating the seemingly endless legal difficulties thrown up by the opponents of the ordination of women was like 'swimming in shark infested custard.' He is looking forward to clearer sailing when it comes to his Lenten presentations at St John's, even if the three topics at first sight look a bit daunting.

EASTERTIDE IN 2011

Images of Jesus in Film

Wednesday Evenings,

May 4 & 11, 2011

at 7:00 pm until 9:30 pm

in the Parish Hall

Adele Reinhartz observes that "just as the Bible is the best-selling book of all time, so is Jesus the most popular movie subject in the history of cinema ... Indeed, it will may be the case that more people worldwide know about Jesus and his life story from the movies than from any other medium." (*Jesus of Hollywood*, p. 3).

This mini-course will be devoted to examining the rich variety of ways that the Jesus story has been told in movies. With film clips and one feature-length screening, we will reflect theologically on how popular conceptions of Jesus Christ are reflected in and shaped by film.

Because movies are long and discussions might be almost as long, we will provide substantial enough food for you to feel you have had dinner.

Leader: The Reverend Dr. Mitties M. DeChamplain is the Trinity Church Professor of Preaching at General Theological Seminary, and the Vicar of St. Clement's Episcopal Church in Hell's Kitchen. In addition to various preaching courses, she teaches annually a course at General on "Faith, Film, and Popular Culture."

*St. John's Celebrates
Gay Pride Month*

**Tuesday, June 21, 2011
beginning at 6:30 pm**

In accordance with a tradition started last year, the parish has invited a prominent theologian to address us on some aspect of mission and community life appropriate to the month and to the community.

This year, the speaker will be our own Bishop Mark Sisk, Bishop of New York since 2001.

Bishop Sisk received his B.S. in Economics from the University of Maryland in 1964. He earned his M.Div. from The General Theological Seminary in 1967. He later got honorary doctorates from General Theological Seminary in 1984 and from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary in 1998. From 1977 through 1984, he was the Archdeacon of three suburban counties under Bishop Paul Moore. As part of his duties as he started a Japanese congregation, now in Scarsdale, and a Latino congregation in Yonkers. In 1988 he was elected and consecrated Bishop Coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of New York and later installed as the Bishop of New York in September of 2001.

In his spare time, Bishop Sisk enjoys carpentry. For the past 35 years he has been hand building a house in the Catskills. It has expanded from a little shell to a two-story, three-bedroom home with porches both upstairs and down. Bishop Sisk is also fond of horses and learned to ride when he was fifty.

6:30 pm Evensong; 7:00 pm Presentation

Want to sing? This is your opportunity! This will not be a choral evensong, it will be a congregational evensong. Speak to Gordon King our organist, choirmaster. We will be organizing a special choir for the occasion.

Church entrance:

218 West Eleventh Street
New York City, NY 10014-2405
Telephone: (212) 243-6192 Fax: (212) 604-0688
Counseling Center: (212) 242-5019
Church Website: www.stjvny.org

Parish Office/Mailing Address:

224 Waverly Place
New York, NY 100 14-2405

The Clergy

The Rev'd Lloyd Prator, Rector
The Rev'd Samuel O. Cross, Assisting
The Rev'd Dr. Gary Hellman, Assisting
The Rev'd Sandra Michels, Assisting
The Rev'd Brian Grieves, Honorary Assisting
The Rev'd Deacon Luigi Licari, Honorary Assisting

Seminarian: The Rev'd Deacon Jeff Roy

Deacon in Training: Denise LaVetty

Service Schedule

Sunday: Eucharist at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: Eucharist at 6:15 p.m.
Holy Days: Eucharist at 6:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday: Morning Prayer at 8:00 a.m.

Churchwardens

Carol Quatrone
Douglas Smith

The Vestry

Class of 2011: Jay Campbell (*Treasurer*), Mary Lou Scott (*Clerk*),
Ellen Wagner

Class of 2012: Michael Johnson, Jean Tucker, Robert White

Class of 2013: Andrew Jones, Richard Lipscomb, Paul Reitz