

Oxford Symposium on Religious Studies  
at  
the University Church of St Mary

PROGRAMME

MONDAY, 5 DECEMBER, 2016  
THE OLD LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY CHURCH

- 8:50 – 9:00 A.M. Introduction and Welcome: Symposium Facilitator, **Canon Brian Mountford**, MBE, Former Vicar of The University Church of St Mary the Virgin, and Fellow of St Hilda's College, Oxford
- 9:00 – 9:30 A.M. Topic: *Is Population Control a Necessary Component to a Christian Discussion about Climate Change?*  
Presenter: **Chris Doran**, Professor, Pepperdine University, US
- 9:30 – 10:00 A.M. Topic: *Nature and Sustainability in Pope Francis' Laudato Si in Conversation with the Poetry of Hildegard of Bingen, Dante, Wordsworth, and Hopkins*  
Presenter: **Nancy Enright**, Associate Professor, Seton Hall University, US
- 10:00 – 10:30 A.M. Topic: *Georgia O'Keeffe and Spirituality of the Sexually Charged Landscape*  
Presenter: **Dennis Winters**, Principal, Tales of the Earth: Landscape Architecture, Canada
- 10:30 – 10:45 A.M. Tea/Coffee

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- 10:45 – 11:15 A.M.    Topic: *Post-Modern Christianity as Antidote to American Liberal and Conservative Faith*  
Presenter: **James K Wellman Jr**, Professor,  
University of Washington, US
- 11:15 – 11:45 A.M.    Topic: *Trump, Brexit, and Burkinis: An International Comparison of the Relationship between Religion and Constructions of National Identity*  
Presenter: **Joshua Hayes**, Student,  
University of California, Davis, US
- 11:45 – 12:15 P.M.    Topic: *The Shadow of Christianity in J.- P. Sartre's Metaphysics*  
Presenter: **Tatyana Lifintseva**, Professor,  
National Research University Higher School  
of Economics, Russia
- 12:15 – 1:15 P.M.    Lunch – Vaults and Gardens Café
- 1:15 – 1:45 P.M.    Topic: *The Role of Liberty in Taylor's "Age of Authenticity"*  
Presenter: **Michael Raubach**, Student,  
Aarhus University, Denmark
- 1:45 – 2:15 P.M.    Topic: *What is in Common Between the Orthodox Monk Practicing the Jesus Prayer and the Woman Laboring in Childbirth?*  
Presenter: **Hellen Dayton**, Independent  
Scholar, United Arab Emirates

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- 2:15 – 2:45 P.M.      Topic: *Knowing Self and Others through a Worldview Approach in Religious Education*  
Presenter: **Aybıçe Tosun**, Assistant Professor, Eskisehir Osmangazi University, Turkey
- 2:45 – 3:15 P.M.      Topic: *Bayard Rustin: Black Gay Bodies and Religious Terrorism*  
Presenter: **Quincy Rineheart**, Student, Chicago Theological Seminary, US
- 3:15 – 3:30 P.M.      Tea/Coffee
- 3:30 – 4:00 P.M.      Topic: *Why Animals (and Religion) Now?*  
Presenter: **Paul Matthews**, Student, Boston University, US
- 4:00 – 4:30 P.M.      Topic: *John Davenant, a Champion of the “Via Media” at the Synod of Dort?*  
Presenter: **Hyo Ju Kang**, Student, Highland Theological College, Scotland
- 4:30 – 5:00 P.M.      Topic: *Reframing the Problem of Kenosis: A Theological Engagement with Jean-Luc Marion*  
Presenter: **Myka Lahaie**, Student, Durham University, UK

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**TUESDAY, 6 DECEMBER, 2016**  
**THE OLD LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY CHURCH**

- 8:50 – 9:00 A.M.      Welcome **Canon Brian Mountford**, MBE
- 9:00 – 9:30 A.M.      Topic: *Early Modern History of Theology: Richard Hooker, Elizabethan Puritanism and Predestination*  
Presenter: **Andrea Hugill**, Student, Toronto School of Theology, Canada
- 9:30 – 10:00 A.M.      Topic: *Mockery as a Tool in Religious Propaganda at the Eve of the English Civil War*  
Presenter: **Jakub Basista**, Associate Professor, Jagiellonian University, Poland
- 10:00 – 10:30 A.M.      Topic: *Father Andrew White and the Construction of British Catholic Identity in the Early Modern World*  
Presenter: **Angela Feres**, Lecturer, San Diego State University, US
- 10:30 – 10:45 A.M.      Tea/Coffee and Biscuits
- 10:45 – 11:15 A.M.      Topic: *The Problem of Sin and of the Inevitability of Fate: The Place of Calvinism in Modern Japanese Literary History*  
Presenter: **Massimiliano Tomasi**, Professor, Western Washington University, US

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- 11:15 – 11:45 A.M.    Topic: *Sicut Judeis: Meaning and Formality Behind a Prefatory Statement of Pope Innocent III*  
Presenter: **Jamie Griffin**, Student, Arizona State University, US
- 11:45 – 12:15 P.M.    Topic: *Justifying the Catholic Church as an Educational Provider in Our Pluralist Society*  
Presenter: **Sean Whittle**, Visiting Research Fellow, Heythrop College, University of London, UK
- 12:15 – 1:15 P.M.    Lunch – Vaults and Gardens Café
- 1:15 – 1:45 P.M.    Topic: *Scholasticism, Political Rule and the Pagans*  
Presenter: **Rui C. Gonçalves**, Researcher, University of Coimbra, Portugal
- 1:45 – 2:15 P.M.    Topic: *The Modus Subsistendi and the Unio Personalis*  
Presenter: **Thomas Brand**, Student, University of Durham, UK
- 2:15 – 2:45 P.M.    Topic: *Sainte-Trinité de Tiron: New Research on the Twelfth-Century Church*  
Presenters: **Clark Maines**, Professor, Wesleyan University, and **Sheila Bonde**, Professor, Brown University, US

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- 2:45 – 3:00 P.M.      Tea/Coffee
- 3:00 – 3:30 P.M.      Topic: *Organic Faith: A Theological Strategy against Violent Extremism*  
Presenter: **Serafettin Pektas**, Research Assistant, Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL), Belgium
- 3:30 – 4:00 P.M.      Topic: *Al-Ghazālī On Reason and Revelation: A Revival at the Heart of the Islamic Scholarly Tradition*  
Presenter: **Rania Shah**, Student, Graduate Theological Union, US
- 4:00 – 4:30 P.M.      Topic: *Literalism and Wrong Interpretation of the Norms of Islamic Law*  
Presenter: **Nigora Khakimova**, Fellow, The Institute For Global Engagement, US
- 4:30 – 5:00 P.M.      Topic: *Evaluating the Ulul Al-Bab Programme in Malaysian Government Schools (Research Proposal)*  
Presenter: **Aswandi Laman**, Student, Queen's University Belfast, UK

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WEDNESDAY, 7 DECEMBER, 2016  
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- 8:50 – 9:00 A.M. Welcome, **Canon Brian Mountford**, MBE
- 9:00 – 9:30 A.M. Topic: *Integrating Traditional Islamic and Chinese Conflict Management Principles to Help Defuse Tensions between the Chinese Regime and Chinese Muslims: The Uyghur Case*  
Presenter: **Patrik Meyer**, Visiting Professor, Muhamadiyah University Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 9:30 – 10:00 A.M. Topic: *Production of Islamic Knowledge in the European Diaspora: A Case Study of Digital Texts from a British Muslim Halāl Certifier*  
Presenter: **Hae Won Bang**, Student, Columbia University, US
- 10:00 – 10:30 A.M. Topic: *The Notion of Confucian Harmony and Its Impact on Asian Women's Mental Health*  
Presenter: **Insook Lee**, Associate Professor, New York Theological Seminary, US
- 10:30 – 10:45 A.M. Tea/Coffee and Biscuits

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- 10:45 – 11:15 A.M.    Topic: *East Asian Religions and the Mongols: Taoism, Buddhism and Islam in the Early Mongol Empire*  
Co-Presenters: **Paul Buell**, Independent Scholar, US and **Kutluay Erk**, Independent Scholar, Turkey
- 11:15 – 11:45 A.M.    Topic: *Zoroastrians in the United States*  
Presenter: **Khodadad Kaviani**, Associate Professor, Central Washington University, US
- 11:45 – 12:30 P.M.    Topic: *Xenotransplantation: Seeking Theological Perspectives*  
Presenter: **Wayne Paris**, Professor, Abilene Christian University, US
- 12:30 – 1:30 P.M.    Lunch -Vaults and Gardens Café
- 1:30 – 2:00 P.M.    Topic: *Lessons on Tolerance from the Ancient World*  
Presenter: **John Gee**, Professor, Brigham Young University, US
- 2:00 – 2:30 P.M.    Topic: *Reclaiming Identity: Government and Self-Representations of the Naga Indigenous People in India*  
Presenter: **Ranjan Bandyopadhyay**, Professor, Mahidol University, Thailand



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- 2:30 – 3:00 P.M.      *Unshakable Faith Amidst the Storm: The Role of Black intellectualism and Religious Leadership in the Formation of Civil Rights Movement*  
Presenter: **Ogechi Ibeanusi**, Student,  
University of Southern California, US
- 3:00 P.M.              Conclusion

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**Other Participants**

**Anthoni Jeorge Kunnel**, Religious Order of the Ministers of Infirm, India, Panel Discussant

**Jiku Barua**, Observer, India

**Bikash Chowdury**, Observer, India

**Riku Chowdury**, Observer, India

**Sukanta Talukdar**, Observer, India

**Symposium Facilitator**

**Canon Brian Mountford** MBE is former Vicar of the University Church, Oxford, and Fellow St Hilda's College. He is also an Honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. Interested in public theology he has helped to make the University Church a centre for interdisciplinary debate. His bestselling book, *Christian Atheist* (2011), explores the phenomenon of those who find Christianity compelling but struggle with the metaphysical beliefs. His main interests are in the philosophy of religion, particularly questions of faith and doctrine, but he has diversified into other areas giving seminars on leadership and ethics in corporate life for the Said Business School and the Academy for Leadership in the Netherlands. During the seventies, he was Fellow and Chaplain of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge before becoming Vicar of Southgate in North London for seven years in the eighties.