

ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL STUDY CENTRE Summer 2017



COURSES

TALKS

STUDY DAYS



THE CATHEDRAL AND
ABBAY CHURCH OF
SAINT ALBAN

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE BOOKING SYSTEM FOR COURSES

At St Albans Cathedral Study Centre there is no longer a booking form or email booking system. Instead, please book via the Cathedral Box Office:

- online at www.stalbanscathedral.org/learning;
- by telephone on 01727 890290;
- or by visiting our Box Office (located in the Gift Shop) between 10am and 4.45pm Monday to Saturday and 1pm to 4.45pm on Sunday.

For further information about any of the events in this brochure, please contact Caroline Godden, Adult Learning Officer, on 01727 890205 or alo@stalbanscathedral.org.

We do not wish anyone to be deterred from attending for financial reasons. If you find the fees prohibitive, please contact the Adult Learning Officer.

If you are clergy or a reader who wishes the Study Centre to claim directly from your Diocesan Training Grant, please contact the Adult Learning Officer.

COURSES

SACT and SACT+: *if indicated, courses may be taken as part of the St Albans Certificate in Theology (SACT) or the St Albans Certificate in Theology Plus (SACT+). These courses include membership of the Cathedral Library, which will be open for 15 minutes before an SACT or SACT+ course for students to check out and return books. Details can be found on our website.*

To achieve SACT, students study four core modules of Old Testament Studies, New Testament Studies, Christian Doctrine, and Church History, worth 20 (non-transferable) credits each. A further 40 credits are taken from optional modules, which may include languages, short courses, or an independent project. Each module ends with appropriate assessment, usually in the form of an essay or, for languages, an exam.

SACT+ is designed for those with existing experience of the study of theology, such as SACT, and expects students to undertake regular reading and independent study. SACT+ is made up of optional short course modules, up to a total of 60 credits, with assessment, which will require supported independent preparation for several weeks after the end of the course. If a course is offered both for SACT or SACT+, levels may be differentiated by assignments and learning outcomes.

SACT is run both at St Albans Cathedral and at St Andrews, Bedford, and students may take modules at either centre.

Introduction to the New Testament

This may be taken independently, or as a 20 credit core module (with assessment) of SACT: see page 1.

Dates: Tuesdays 25 April - 4 July (excl. 30 May)

Time: 7.45-9.30pm

Cost: £110

This course is an introduction to academic study of the New Testament, and will examine the structure, purpose, and themes of several genres of New Testament texts. The texts will be set in the context of the world in which they were produced and the earliest development of Christianity.

Tutor: The Revd Lucy Dallas, *Tutor in New Testament Studies*

Venue: St Andrews, Kimbolton Rd, **Bedford**, MK40 2PF

Introduction to St Augustine of Hippo

This may be taken independently, or as a 10 credit optional module (with assessment) of SACT or SACT+: see page 1.

Dates: Tuesdays 25 April – 23 May

Time: 8.00-c.9.45pm

Cost: £60

St Augustine is one of theology's true heavyweights. He lived in the 4th-5th Centuries AD and wrote on almost every aspect of Christian belief, influencing many - from Aquinas to Calvin, Bertrand Russell to Bob Dylan. Despite his intellectual rigour, Augustine is both accessible and fascinating; indeed this is the man who summed up his entire theological enterprise in that most beautiful of prayers: '*Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee*'. This course will examine Augustine's life and beliefs, exploring his influence on the debates of his own time, as well as those of the present day.

Tutor: Kirsty Borthwick, *Adult Learning Assistant*

Venue: Lawrance Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Creative Writing

Dates: Tuesdays 25 April – 27 June (excl. 2 May, 30 May)

Time: 7.30-9.30pm

Cost: £85

We all have a tale to tell, but what makes it into a gripping short story or novel? This term we shall be considering the principles of plot and structure and applying them to our own work. Each week, we shall produce new writing to share. Join us in this lively and supportive class which draws inspiration from the surroundings at the Abbey.

Tutor: Clare Hobba, *Writer and Teacher*

Venue: Thicknesse Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Mindfulness

Dates: Wednesdays 3 May – 28 June (excl. 31 May),
Saturday 17 June (full day)

Time: 7.45-9.45pm **Cost:** £170 (incl CD set)

What is mindfulness? It is paying attention in a particular way: on purpose, moment to moment, without judgement.

There might be many reasons why you would consider participating in a Mindfulness programme. Whatever your reason, it will be an opportunity to become more aware of how life is unfolding and the way we approach that. We practise becoming present in a safe and nurturing space. We do this in periods of quiet meditation and while doing gentle exercises. You will be given CDs to practise and have opportunities to share your experiences with fellow participants.

Please email us for a separate application form. Bookings must be received by 24th April.

Tutor: Caroline Waterstone, *Mindfulness Teacher*

Venue: Chapter Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Telling Stories in the Bible

This may be taken independently, or as a 10 credit optional module (with assessment) of SACT or SACT+: see page 1.

Dates: Tuesdays 20 June -18 July

Time: 8.00-c.9.45pm **Cost:** £60

When it comes to storytelling in the Bible we might assume its purpose is moral or theological instruction, not being written simply to entertain. However, the distinction is not so clear, and parts of the Bible have been described as stories or *novella* displaying elements found in fiction, such as plot, characterisation, humour, and where didactic intent is often hard to find. This course will look at five such narratives: the books of Ruth, Jonah, and Esther, Joseph in the book of Genesis, and, from the apocrypha, Tobit. We will aim to appreciate these delightful books as literature, consider the question of truth and fiction, and ask what particular perspectives they bring to the canon of scripture.

Tutor: The Revd Dr Kevin Walton, *Canon Chancellor*

Venue: Lawrance Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Independent Project or Dissertation

A 20 credit optional module of SACT and SACT+: see page 1.

Date: Proposals due 28 April; project due 24 November.

Classes: Research & Study Skills: 11 May; Seminar: 12 July

Time: Classes 8.00pm **Cost:** £100

This module gives students the opportunity to develop an extended piece of supported independent research. The

Independent Project is for those who have completed at least two core modules of SACT, and the Dissertation is for those who have completed two or more modules of SACT+. Based on a research proposal, students complete a 5,000 word (SACT) or 10-12,000 word (SACT +) project/dissertation, with the support of a supervisor. Students also attend a class on research methods and writing skills, and present some early work to fellow students in an informal seminar. See website for proposal forms.

Tutor: An appropriate supervisor will be allocated

Class venue: Chapter Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

LANGUAGE COURSES

*These may be taken independently, or as 10 credit optional modules (with assessment) of **SACT or SACT+**: see page 1. For language levels, see website or contact us.*

Beginners' Latin (L1)

Dates: Wednesdays 26 April – 24 May

Time: 8.00-c.9.45pm

Cost: £60

This five week course is designed for complete beginners to learn tools for accessing Latin, and to introduce studying the language. Students will learn the basics of Latin grammar and a little vocabulary, and will learn to read simple sentences. They will be introduced to using a dictionary and grammar, and will learn how to take a critical approach to translations.

Tutor: Anthony Armstrong, *Tutor of Latin*

Venue: Thicknesse Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Post-beginners' New Testament Greek 2 (L3)

Dates: Wednesdays 7 June – 5 July

Time: 8.00-c.9.45pm

Cost: £60

This five week course will teach those who have a thorough basic knowledge of NT Greek to develop their grasp of grammar and syntax, and start to read adapted or glossed passages of text. It is suitable for those who have taken the Post-beginners' NT Greek 1 course, and for those who have learned some Greek elsewhere or studied it a long time ago!

Tutor: Kirsty Borthwick, *Adult Learning Assistant*

Venue: Thicknesse Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Beginners' Old English (L1)

Dates: Thursdays 22 June – 27 July (excl.13 July)

Time: 8.00-c.9.45pm

Cost: £60

This five week course is designed for complete beginners, and will introduce the basics of grammar while taking in the historical context of the language and some of its evolution through the last thousand years. Students will be expected to learn

vocabulary on a weekly basis, and will use translation exercises and Anglo-Saxon learning techniques to bring confidence when translating simple texts.

Tutor: Caroline Godden, *Adult Learning Officer*

Venue: Chapter Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

STUDY AND DISCUSSION GROUPS

Students may turn up to any of these without booking.

Latin Reading Group

Dates: 24 April, 22 May, 19 June

Time: 8.00-9.45pm

Cost: £10 per session

The Latin reading group meets once a month to read a section of a relevant Latin text. It is suitable for those with intermediate Latin and above.

Please see the website for details of the texts, or email us to be added to the mailing list for reminders about this group.

Tutor: Anthony Armstrong, *Tutor of Latin*

Venue: Lawrance Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Greek New Testament Study Group

Dates: Mondays 8 May, 26 June, 17 July

Time: 8.00-9.00pm

Cost: £5 per session

This study group is for those who want an opportunity to read and discuss passages from the New Testament in the original Greek. With guidance from tutors, students have the chance to elucidate the meaning and nuance of the Greek, and contribute to an exegetical analysis of the passage. Texts will be circulated in advance, and students are expected to have an existing level of Greek sufficient to be able to prepare the text independently and then translate it as part of the group. The group is open to all who want to improve their NT Greek and their reading of scripture, but may be particularly relevant to clergy and readers.

Over the next three meetings we will finish reading **Philippians**.

8 May: Phil 2:12-30 **26 Jun:** Phil 3

17 Jul: Phil 4

Tutors: The Revd Dr Kevin Walton, *Canon Chancellor*, and Kirsty Borthwick, *Adult Learning Assistant*

Venue: Lawrance Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Theology on Tap

Every month, on the last Monday of the month at 8pm, we meet in the Hare and Hounds on Sopwell Lane to discuss a theological topic. All are welcome: just buy a drink and come and join us.

The Book Group

On the second Tuesday of the month in the afternoon/evening, the book group meets to discuss a novel of interest to a Christian audience. See the website for more details, or email us to be added to the mailing list for reminders about this group. No need to book, just turn up.

9 May: *Remembering Babylon* by David Malouf

13 June: *The Loney* by Andrew Michael Hurley

11 July: *Stoner* by John Williams

Venue: Lawrance Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

STUDY DAYS

The Glories of Ravenna

Date: Saturday 29 April

Time: 10.30am – 3.00pm

Cost: £25

This one-day course will look at the glittering art and architecture of the Late Antique city of Ravenna, concentrating particularly on the seven UNESCO 'World Heritage Sites'. We will look at the art history and iconography of the period, mosaics as an art form, and dome architecture. We will also discuss the political struggle between Goths and Byzantines to highlight how art developed in this unique city, the "flickering light of Europe's Dark Ages".

Tutor: Dr Bella Image, *Tutor in Art History*

Venue: Board Room, Diocesan House, St Albans

Why Forgiveness Matters

In association with the University of Hertfordshire's *Why Philosophy Matters* series.

Date: Saturday 13 May

Time: 10.30am – 3.30pm

Cost: free

This workshop features three talks and a discussion of forgiveness between a theologian, a psychologist and a philosopher. Come along to:

- Explore interpretations of the New Testament's treatment of forgiveness, and to discuss the role of justice and mercy in forgiving.
- Investigate what psychological processes forgiveness requires, and what this means for therapeutic approaches to aiding forgiveness.
- Question if it is possible to forgive yourself, and if so, what ethical issues you might face.

Tutors: Professor Anthony Bash (Durham), Dr Liz Gulliford (Birmingham) & Professor John Lippitt (Hertfordshire)

Venue: Board Room, Diocesan House, St Albans

Psychotherapy and Basic Spiritual Wisdom

Date: Saturday 27 May

Time: 10.00am – 3.30pm

Cost: £25

This 500th year since the Reformation is a good time to remember what was, arguably, lost in the aftermath that followed, notably the storehouse of spiritual wisdom that fell at the dissolution of the monasteries. On this study day, we will also consider what's been re-found since, particularly in the traditions of psychotherapy. We will focus on the basic insights into spiritual development that can facilitate the emergence of what Jesus called life in all its fullness.

Tutor: Dr Mark Vernon, *Writer, Teacher, Psychotherapist*

Venue: Chapter Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Realised Mysticism: *The Passion of Joan of Arc*

Date: Saturday 3 June

Time: 10.00am-1.00pm

Cost: £15

Carl Theodor Dreyer's 1928 silent film *The Passion of Joan of Arc* is regularly listed in the 'top ten' films of all time by both critics and directors. This study morning includes a licensed screening of the fully restored directors' cut with its original aspect ratio and projection speed. The film is introduced with background information on the director and a comparison with other films on Joan of Arc. Focusing on Joan's trial and based on its surviving transcript, the film explores the encounter of innocent faith with worldly authority, presenting a searingly powerful portrait of a saint and featuring one of the greatest performances in the history of the medium by Renée Maria Falconetti as Joan.

Tutor: The Revd Iain Lane, *Tutor in Theology and Visual Arts*

Venue: Chapter Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

The Glorious Theatre of God's Works: Visual Culture in the Age of Reformation

Date: Saturday 8 July

Time: 10.30am – 3.30pm

Cost: £25

500 years ago significant changes were taking place in western European visual culture: it is *not* true either that Catholic areas carried on much as before, or that Protestant regions were characterised only by iconoclasm and a horror of the visual arts. In this study day we will trace the changes from the late fifteenth to the seventeenth centuries, illustrating developments in both art and architecture across the divided continent and placing them in historical context.

Tutor: The Revd Iain Lane, *Tutor in Theology and Visual Arts*

Venue: Board Room, Diocesan House, St Albans

Watercolour Expressions

Date: Saturday 22 July

Time: 10.30am-3.30pm

Cost: £25 plus materials
(list available)

Develop your creativity while learning all the skills you need to express yourself in watercolours and produce paintings full of light and colour. This study day, which includes discussions and demonstrations, will encourage you to see what is important and teach simple but effective ways of creating your own interpretation. Fiona Pruden, a Hertfordshire watercolour specialist who is traditionally trained with over 15 years of teaching experience, adds a contemporary approach to help students avoid some of the pitfalls and problems that labelled watercolours the most difficult medium to paint with.

Tutor: Fiona Pruden, *Watercolour Specialist*

Venue: The North Transept, St Albans Cathedral

TALKS

Foreshadowing the Reformation

Date: Thursday 4 May

Time: 8.00-c.9.30 pm **Cost:** £6 (free to full-time students)

Bishop Christopher Herbert has recently published a book (*Foreshadowing the Reformation*: Routledge 2016) which argues that some of the underlying themes of the Reformation era can be seen in early form in the art-works of the 15th century Burgundian Netherlands; that is, in paintings created over fifty years before Luther. He will be using some of the art-works and their relationship with the spirituality of the time, to illustrate and buttress his argument.

Copies of *Foreshadowing the Reformation* will be available to pre-order online and at the Box Office until 12th April.

Tutor: The Rt Revd Christopher Herbert, *Former Bishop of St Albans*

Venue: The Lady Chapel, St Albans Cathedral

Oscar Romero: His Life and Legacy

Date: Thursday 25 May

Time: 8.00-c.9.30 pm **Cost:** £6 (free to full-time students)

Archbishop Oscar Romero, whose statue stands on the Nave Screen of St Albans Cathedral, was murdered in San Salvador in March 1980 just hours before Robert Runcie's enthronement at Canterbury. Julian Filochowski, who knew Romero, will tell his story and describe his legacy. He will show how this shy and deeply prayerful priest became the voice of the voiceless poor, defending their human rights and fearlessly speaking truth in a land of cover-up and lies. 2017, the centenary of his birth, is a

good moment to assess the significance of Blessed Oscar who will soon be proclaimed a saint of the universal Church.

Tutor: Julian Filochowski, *Chair of the Archbishop Romero Trust*

Venue: The Lady Chapel, St Albans Cathedral

God and the embryo – should we use human embryos in medical research and therapy?

In association with *Take Your Vicar To The Lab*

Date: Monday 5 June

Time: 8.00-c.9.30 pm

Cost: £10

Almost 40 years have passed since Louise Brown, the first 'test-tube' baby, was born. She is now a mum herself and IVF technology has become a routine service offered worldwide. As a result, hundreds of thousands of embryos are created each year but only a minority are implanted. The rest are stored, discarded or used in medical research. This talk will explore the theology and the ethics of using human embryos as a tool in research or a means to treat debilitating diseases. In particular, it will consider whether an embryo is a person with full moral status.

Tutor: The Revd Professor Nick Goulding, *Professor of Pharmacology & Medical Education, William Harvey Research Institute, London*

Venue: Chapter Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

THE CANON PHILOSOPHER'S ANNUAL LECTURE:

Faith in a 'Post-Truth' World

Date: Thursday 8 June

Time: 7.30-9.00 pm

Cost: £6 (free to full-time students)

In 2016, 'post-truth' was chosen as 'word of the year'. In a society where 'people have had enough of experts' and a culture of 'alternative facts', notions of truth have taken a battering, and so has the hope of a shared public conversation. Our Canon Philosopher will give the first of three lectures on faith, hope, and love in a post-truth world, looking not only at what Christians have believed about truth, and about those 'theological virtues', but also at what they mean for the church's mission.

Tutor: The Revd Dr Andrew Davison, *Canon Philosopher*

Venue: Chapter Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Poetry Recital: The Four Seasons

Date: Monday 3 July

Time: 8.00-c.9.30 pm

Cost: £10

Jonathan Smith, the Archdeacon of St Albans, leads another poetry evening following on from the Kingdom and Advent

evenings last year. Falling in the middle of summer, this evening will explore how poets have used the seasons of the year to convey thought and faith. As is the established custom, Jonathan will bring along about ten poems for us to read and discuss together and he also invites participants to bring along a poem for reading and discussion. Themes to emerge may be warmth and cold, day and night, growth and decay. Maybe "I shall smile when wreaths of snow / blossom where the rose should grow".

Tutor: The Ven. Jonathan Smith, *Archdeacon of St Albans*

Venue: Chapter Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Jane Austen and the Church

Date: Friday 21 July

Time: 8.00-c.9.30 pm

Cost: £10

Jane Austen has long been a favourite author but 2017, two hundred years since her death, seems the ideal time to examine the portrayal of the church and its clergy in her novels. In this talk we shall look at Edward in *Sense and Sensibility*, Henry Tilney in *Northanger Abbey*, Mr Elton in *Emma*, Mr Collins in *Pride and Prejudice* and Edmund in *Mansfield Park*. While we may laugh at these characters' foibles, a closer examination shows Austen's firm moral stance and deep spirituality as, through them, she views the church of her day.

Tutor: Canon Margaret Tinsley, *Tutor in Literature*

Venue: Chapter Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

The Splash of Words: Poetry and Faith

Date: Monday 24 July

Time: 8.00-9.30pm

Cost: £10

Mark Oakley, Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral, in his recent book 'The Splash of Words: believing in poetry' (Canterbury Press) argues that poetry is the native language of faith and that the 'curse of literalism' often stops us from celebrating the poetry of our Christian belief. Oakley will introduce his book and several of the poets he explores in it.

Copies of *The Splash of Words* will be available to pre-order until 28 June, and to purchase on the evening.

Tutor: The Revd Canon Mark Oakley, *Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral*

Venue: Board Room, Diocesan House, St Albans

Save the Date:

1517 and all that: The Relevance of the Reformation Today

A conference in association with the Newman Society

Saturday 28 October 2017

SUMMER SCHOOLS

New Testament Greek and Latin

Dates: *Week 1:* Monday 31 Jul - Friday 4 Aug (Beginners)
Week 2: Monday 7 Aug - Friday 11 Aug (Post-beginners)
Week 3: Monday 14 Aug - Friday 18 Aug (Intermediate)

Time: 10.00am-4.00pm

Cost: £140/week (students will also be expected to purchase a textbook).

Our Summer Schools in New Testament Greek and Latin will run concurrently in 2017, and students may take any or all weeks. These summer schools are suitable for all, but may be particularly relevant to sixth formers exploring university options of Classics, Theology or Medieval Studies, undergraduates or postgraduates taking related courses, and any other interested adults who want something unusual to do with their summer!

There is no accommodation available at the Cathedral, but we may be able to assist anyone who needs somewhere to stay in St Albans. Bursaries may be available.

Greek Tutor: Dr Gill Knight, *Tutor of Greek*

Greek Venue: Thicknesse Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

Latin Tutor: Anthony Armstrong, *Tutor of Latin*

Latin Venue: Lawrance Room, The Deanery, St Albans Cathedral

St Albans Cathedral Library

The Cathedral's modern theological lending library is open daily during the week and on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month, in its new location in the Deanery. Please see website for further details.

Until August 2018, membership of the Library is free. Please email if you require more information.

St Albans Cathedral Study Centre and Library

The Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban
Sumpter Yard
St Albans AL1 1BY

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