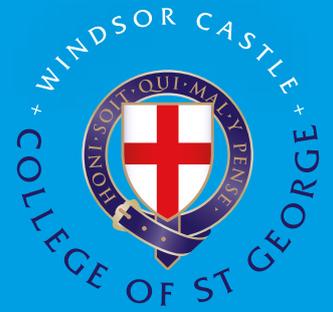


ST GEORGE'S HOUSE



God: Some Conversations

HOW DO YOU SPEAK ABOUT GOD?

2-12 JULY 2018

‘How do we deal with gang warfare?’

‘Brexit: Smoke and mirrors or a clear way forward?’

‘The Post Truth Era – is Democracy in Danger?’

Enter into conversations on major issues facing Church and society.

Speak with and learn from people of different traditions.

Return refreshed and reinvigorated to your place of ministry speaking more confidently and convincingly about God.

CLERGY CONSULTATION 2-12 JULY 2018



God: Some Conversations 2 - 12 July 2018

HOW DO YOU SPEAK ABOUT GOD?

THE FORMAT When you attend this Consultation you will do so with at least five years ministerial experience. On arrival at St George's House you will join a study group. These groups, led by experienced facilitators, will form the basis of a good deal of our work together, and there will be plenty of opportunity to get to know all the participants. Each day we will concentrate on a given issue and, whether in study groups or all together, we will examine that issue while engaging in the following activities:

Attending

The first session of each day is a Bible study relating to the subject under discussion. Together we will attend to Scripture with a view to understanding what it has to say to our contemporary situation.

Reflecting

Book and film reviews play an important part in our conversations. Through the monographs, novels and films, read or seen prior to the Consultation, we will be prompted to deepen our discussion of the topics.

Discovering

An expert speaker will give a presentation on each subject. By listening to those who have a real depth of knowledge and involvement we will discover more about the subject matter and develop an understanding of the issues and questions.

Engaging

Working in groups, participants will have the opportunity to unpack some of the relevant theological perspectives. It is often the case that we learn most when we engage with each other, listening to and sharing ideas.

Presenting

Before coming on the Consultation, you will have written a short paper (2000 – 3000 words). While at Windsor you will have the opportunity to present that paper to the other participants. It is an occasion for trying out ideas and seeing if they can be strengthened.

Worshipping

At the centre of life at St George's is the daily worship. You are invited to join in the daily routine of services – Morning Prayer, Holy Communion and Evensong. None of this is compulsory and you should feel free to find your own level of comfort.

Producing

As the Consultation comes towards a close, each study group will produce a report which will be presented on the last day. Through this report they will explain their understanding of how best we can speak about God today.



THE SUBJECTS

- Revelatory Experiences as the Beginning of Scripture
- Today's Church
- Health
- Brexit
- God & The Arts
- Gang Warfare
- Democracy in a Post-Truth Information Age
- Environment

THE SPEAKERS



Revelatory Experiences as the Beginning of Scripture – Roland Deines is a German New Testament scholar who studied Theology and Religious Studies in Basel, Tübingen and Jerusalem. He completed his PhD on the Pharisees at the University of Tübingen in 1997, and his habilitation on the Gospel of Matthew in 2004. During this time he also completed his training for ministry in the Lutheran Church of Württemberg, where he was ordained in 1997. He later held academic positions at the universities of Tübingen, Jena, and Beer Sheva (Israel). From 2006 to 2016, he was Lecturer and then Professor of New Testament Studies at the University of Nottingham, a position he relinquished due to financial pressures on the Department of Theology and Religious Studies. Since September 2017 he has been Professor of Biblical Theology and Ancient Judaism at a small university college in the Black Forest (Germany). His most recent major publications include *Acts of God in History: Studies Towards Recovering a Theological Historiography* (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2013) and *Jakobus: Im Schatten des Größeren* (Leipzig: Evangelische Verlagsanstalt, 2016). Currently he is working on a commentary to the Gospel of Matthew.



Today's Church – Catherine Pepinster is a journalist, author and broadcaster. She is also a freelance research consultant for St George's House, Windsor, and the UK Development Officer for the Anglican Centre in Rome. For 13 years she was the editor of *The Tablet*, the Catholic weekly and prior to joining *The Tablet* she worked for *The Independent* and *Independent on Sunday*. She was educated at Manchester University, the City University, London, and Heythrop College, University of London, where she studied for her MA in philosophy and religion. She is a regular commentator on religion for national newspapers, TV and radio, including *Thought for the Day*, on Radio Four's *Today* programme. She is a trustee of Kaleidoscope, a charity working in the field of social exclusion, and of Bible Society. Catherine is the author of *The Keys and The Kingdom – the British and the Papacy from John Paul II to Francis*.



Health – Gina Radford is Deputy Chief Medical Officer for England, a post she took up in January 2015. Her main area of responsibility is the non-communicable disease aspect of public health. Within this role she acts as chief medical adviser to the Department of Work and Pensions. Prior to her current role she has held a number of roles in public health, at local and regional level. Most recently she was as Centre Director for Anglia and Essex for Public Health England, and helped lead nationally on the public health response to Ebola. She was until recently Chair of one of the NICE Public Health Advisory Committees. She has previously worked on a number of national projects, including leading the Department of Health's response to the Shipman Enquiry, undertaking a review of specialist public health for CMO Scotland, chairing a national short life working group looking at the issue of making difficult decisions in NHS Scotland, and undertaking the evaluation of the first pilot (regional bowel cancer detection pilot) for the Be Clear on Cancer National Awareness and Early Diagnosis (NAEDI) campaign, on behalf of the Department of Health and Cancer Research UK. Outside work, Gina is an ordained Minister in the Church of England.



Brexit – The Rt Hon Dominic Grieve QC MP is a barrister and has been the MP for Beaconsfield since 1997. He was the Shadow Attorney General from 2003-09, Shadow Home Secretary from 2008-09 and Shadow Justice Secretary from 2009-10. Under the Coalition Government Dominic was the Attorney General for England and Wales and the Advocate General for Northern Ireland until July 2014.

Dominic was educated at Westminster School and went on to Magdalen College, Oxford where he studied Modern History. Then he studied Law. He was called to the Bar in 1980 and was appointed a Queen's Counsel in 2008. He is a bencher of his Inn of Court, the Middle Temple.

During the 1980s, Dominic served as a local councillor in Fulham. He was Chairman of the Research Committee of the Society of Conservative Lawyers between 1992 and 1997. Dominic was elected Chairman of the Intelligence and Security Committee in September 2015. He has been a Member of the Standards and Privileges Committee and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Society of Conservative Lawyers from 2015 to 2017. He is the President of the Franco-British Society and Vice-Chairman of the Franco-British Council. He is Honorary Recorder of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, a member of the Council of Management of Ditchley Park and a Trustee of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies.



God & The Arts – Michael Symmons Roberts is an award-winning poet, writer, broadcaster and librettist. An Oxford graduate in Philosophy and Theology, he trained as a newspaper journalist before joining the BBC in Cardiff as a radio producer and latterly as a documentary filmmaker. His last job at the corporation was as Executive Producer and Head of Development for BBC Religion & Ethics, before he left to focus on writing.

Corpus, his fourth collection, won the 2004 Whitbread Poetry Award, and was shortlisted for the TS Eliot Prize, the Forward Prize for Best Collection, and the Griffin International Prize. His sixth collection, Drysalter, received the 2013 Forward Prize and the Costa Poetry Prize, and was shortlisted for the TS Eliot Prize.

His continuing collaboration with composer James MacMillan has led to two BBC Proms choral commissions, song cycles, music theatre works and operas for the Royal Opera House, Scottish Opera, Boston Lyric Opera and Welsh National Opera. Work for broadcast includes the BBC4 verse film, Men Who Sleep in Cars, described by the Observer as "a work of genius". A Fearful Symmetry (Radio 4) won the Sandford St Martin Prize while Last Words was commissioned by Radio 4 to mark the first anniversary of 9/11. Michael has written two novels and is currently Professor of Poetry at Manchester Metropolitan University.



Gang Warfare – Mark Pearson retired from Kent Police after 30 years' service in December 2017. He is now Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Excelsior Safeguarding C.I.C. In his last 5 years of service in Kent Police, he was the Lead Police Officer on the Margate Task Force (MTF). The MTF was considered an exemplar of co-located Integrated Services provision in the UK. He has advised Government Ministers, 'Thinks Tanks' and Government Department Director Generals. In his final 3 years on the MTF, he was funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), Transformation Challenge Award (TCA) as a Project Manager to drive innovation and joint working in respect of 'Contextual Safeguarding' risks, specific to 'Group Violence (Gangs), Drugs and other forms of Exploitation'.



Democracy in a Post-Truth Information Age – David Clarke is co-founder of Synptica, a software company providing semantic solutions for knowledge organisation and discovery. In 2016 he was awarded the *Knowledge Management Leadership Award* by the Global Knowledge Management Congress. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, London, and a Leadership Fellow of St George's House, Windsor Castle. During 2017 David championed discussion forums in the UK, US and India to explore post-truth issues with delegates from the information science community. David recently launched the website www.posttruthforum.org to provide a thematic guide and public knowledge-base about fake news and post-truth topics and related resources. He recently played a key part in shaping a Consultation on this topic as part of the St George's House programme.



Environment – Dame Dr Jane Goodall, PhD, DBE is the Founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and a UN Messenger of Peace is world renowned for her pioneering research on wild chimpanzees. Today she travels and works to inspire new generations to protect the environment we all share. For more information on Dr Goodall and the work of the JGI see www.janegoodall.org.

NEXT STEP

Deadline for registration is **Friday, 20th April 2018**

If you would like further information or a registration form please contact St George's House on 01753 848886 or email: clergy.consultations@stgeorghouse.org

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For details of forthcoming Clergy Consultations please visit our website at www.stgeorghouse.org

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Windsor Castle
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