



The St Mary's Centre Annual Symposium in Practical Theology and Religious Education

14 – 16 October 2015
Noddfa, Penmaenmawr, LL34 6YF

**Conference Theme:
Exploring the public significance of religion**

Public Lectures:

Wednesday, 14 October 2015, 8.00pm
The Revd Canon Professor Leslie J Francis
The idea of a Christian University: Where are we now?

and

Thursday, 15 October 2015, 8.00pm
The Revd Professor Andrew Village
Change and decay in all around I see?
Changing attitudes and beliefs among readers of the Church Times

WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2015

12.30 Lunch

2.00 Welcome and Introduction to the Research Community

2.30 Collegial Session 1

Room 1: Ferran Glenfield (1 hour)

Church going, an empirical approach to nominalism among Anglicans in the Republic of Ireland

(Chair: Andrew Village)

Room 2: Henry Ratter (30 mins)

A study of the clergy in Chester Diocese: Sharing some of results from the psychological type data.

(Chair: Steve Glowinkowski)

Steve Glowinkowski (30 mins)

Measuring and assessing values in organisations

(Chair: Henry Ratter)

3.45 Tea

4.15 Collegial Session 2

Room 1: Paul Rolph and Jenny Rolph (1 hour)

What place does religious faith hold in the life of this university?

(Chair: Bruce Fawcett)

Room 2: Gill Hall and Douglas Hall (1 hour)

Temperament and Celtic Christianity

(Chair: Penny Jennings)

WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2015 (contd)

5.30 Collegial Session 3

Room 1: Geoff Peddle (1 hour)

Confessions of a Bishop: A rural church leader reflects on ministry in Canada today

(Chair: Kelvin Randall)

Room 2: Sylvia Baker (30 min)

Values research and the "Trojan Horse" affair

(Chair: Nicholas Thanissaro)

Nicholas Thanissaro (30 min)

Regular meditation and attitudes in Buddhist teens

(Chair: Sylvia Baker)

6.30 Dinner

8.00 Public Lecture 1

Room 1: The Revd Canon Professor Leslie J Francis (1 hour)

The idea of a Christian University: Where are we now?

(Chair: Tania ap Siôn)

THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2015

8.15 Breakfast

9.15 Collegial Session 4

Room 1: David Walker (30 min)

Faith in research

(Chair: Mairead Quigley)

Mairead Quigley (30 min)

Faith in age

(Chair: David Walker)

Room 2: Brian Jones (1 hour)

The impact of parental church-based ministry on clergy children

(Chair: Paul Thompson)

10.30 Coffee

11.15 Collegial Session 5

Room 1: David Lankshear (1 hour)

Primary School Attitude Survey: Past results and future development

(Chair: Paul Rolph)

Room 2: Randolph Ellis and Tania ap Siôn (1 hour)

Exploratory studies in prayer research: Looking behind the written prayer request

(Chair: Christine Brewster)

12.30 Lunch

2.00 Collegial Session 6

Room 1: John Harper, Rosie Horner and Andrew Robson (2 hours)

Song and experience in school and church: Outcomes of practice-led research (3 presentations)

(Chair: John Harper, Rosie Horner, Andrew Robson)

Room 2: Paul Thompson (1 hour)

Teenagers and after-life beliefs

(Chair: Nicholas Thanissaro)

THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2015 (contd)

3.00 Collegial Session 7

Room 1: John Harper, Rosie Horner and Andrew Robson (contd)
Song and experience in school and church: Outcomes of practice-led research (3 presentations)
(Chair: John Harper, Rosie Horner and Andrew Robson)

Room 2: Bruce Fawcett (1 hour)
Religiosity and alcohol avoidance
(Chair: Jeff Carter)

4.00 Tea

4.30 Plenary Session

Room 1: Tania ap Sion, Owen Edwards and Leslie J Francis (45 min)
Teddy Horsley goes digital
(Chair: Teddy Horsley)

5.30 Eucharist (Chapel)

6.45 Dinner

8.00 Public Lecture 2

Room 1: Professor Andrew Village (1 hour)
Change and decay in all around I see?
Changing attitudes and beliefs among readers of the Church Times
(Chair: Leslie J Francis)

FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2015

8.15 Breakfast

9.15 Collegial Session 8

Room 1: Albert Jewell and John Cole (1 hour)

Ministry and mission in the later years: Listening to the primary carers of persons with dementia

(Chair: Robin Rees)

Room 2: Patrick Laycock (30 min)

Work-related psychological health among Italian Roman Catholic priests: Extending the concept of balanced affect

(Chair: Guiseppa Crea)

Giuseppe Crea (30 min)

Attachment with parents and peers, attachment to God, and religious attitude among Italian adolescents

(Chair: Patrick Laycock)

10.15 Coffee

10.45 Collegial Session 9

Room 1: Stella Mills (30 min)

Loneliness: Can God help?

(Chair: David Freeman)

Room 2: Kelvin Randall (30 min)

Twenty years on: The continuing careers of Anglican clergy

(Chair: Henry Ratter)

11.15 Conclusion and evaluation (Room 1)

11.45 Eucharist (Chapel)

12.30 Lunch

DELEGATES

Tania ap Siôn Osian ap Siôn Sylvia Baker Christine Brewster Jeff Carter Ann Casson John Cole Giuseppe Crea Owen Edwards Randolph Ellis Bruce Fawcett Leslie J Francis David Freeman Ferran Glenfield Steve Glowinkowski	Douglas Hall Gill Hall Peter Hamil John Harper Rosie Horner Joe Inguanez Penny Jennings Albert Jewell Brian Jones Libby Jones David Lankshear Patrick Laycock Jonas Martinson Stella Mills Ekeluchi Chiemezie Nnaemeka	Geoff Peddle Mairead Quigley Agnes Rafferty Kelvin Randall Henry Ratter Robin Rees Glyn Alban Roberts Andrew Robson Jenny Rolph Paul Rolph Christopher Rutledge Clare Slattery Paul Thompson Nicholas Thanissaro Andrew Village David Walker
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The idea of a Christian University: Where are we now?

A public lecture by

The Revd Canon Professor Leslie J Francis

**8.00pm, Wednesday 14 October 2015
Noddfa, Penmaenmawr, LL34 6YF**

In 2004 a collection of essays was published under the title *The Idea of a Christian University*, edited by Jeff Astley, Leslie J Francis, John Sullivan and Andrew Walker. This year the Christian Academic Network invited me to reflect on the situation a decade later. This presentation is a response to that invitation. The response argues that the idea of a Christian University needs to be theologically grounded and rooted in a specific sociological context. This argument is resourced in the context of contemporary life in England and Wales by reference to Jeff Astley's notion of Discipleship Learning and by reference to the notion of the public significance of theology.

Leslie J Francis serves as:

- Director of the Warwick Religion and Education Research Unit
- Canon Treasurer and Canon Theologian, Bangor Cathedral
- Visiting Professor, Glyndŵr University
- Visiting Professor, York St John University
- Research Associate, University of Pretoria
- Honorary Director of the St Mary's Centre
- Chair of the Alister Hardy Trust

His research fields are in religious education, practical and empirical theology, pastoral sciences and the psychology of religion. His next book *Anglican Cathedrals in Modern Life: The Science of Cathedral Studies* is published in November by Palgrave Macmillan.



Change and decay in all around I see? Changing attitudes and beliefs among readers of the *Church Times*

A public lecture by

The Revd Professor Andrew Village

8.00pm, Thursday 15 October 2015
Noddfa, Penmaenmawr, LL34 6YF

Andrew Village is Professor of Practical and Empirical Theology at York St John University, where he has been since 2007. He runs the postgraduate programmes in the department of Theology and Religious Studies, and co-ordinates the doctoral programmes for the Faculty of Education and Theology. Before moving to York he was Director of the Centre for Ministry Studies at Bangor University, where he began working with the Leslie Francis; a fruitful and on-going collaboration that (among other things) has resulted in the material to be presented at this lecture. Andrew started his career as a research ecologist, and brings his expertise in handling numerical data to bear on a range of issues related to church life.

Change and decay in all around I see? The *Church Times* is the main newspaper of the Church of England. In 2001 and 2013 surveys were run to assess the attitudes and beliefs of readers related to a range of issues including core beliefs, the ordination of women, sexuality, marriage and divorce. The span between the surveys roughly coincided with the tenure of Rowan Williams as Archbishop of Canterbury, and it represents a time of massive change in society and in the Church. The dataset of over 10,000 responses gives a fascinating insight into change among clergy and laity and indicates where the Church of England is setting trends and where it is behind the times.