



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

15-17 November 2017
Noddfa, Penmaenmawr, LL34 6YF

Public Lectures:

Wednesday, 15 November 2017, 8.00pm

The Rt Revd Dr David Walker

Kicking the habit:

A renewed vision for Anglican monasticism?

and

Thursday, 16 November 2017, 8.00pm

The Revd Professor Jeff Astley

"Spiritual vision and religious experience: The contribution of philosophy of religion and of education"

WEDNESDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2017

12.30 Lunch

2.00 Welcome and Introduction to the Research Community

2.30 Collegial Session 1

Room 1: Adam Stevenson

*Methodist worship the experience of the people:
Towards an ordinary theology of Methodist worship*

(Chair: John Haley)

Room 2: Giuseppe Crea

*Personality and vocational motivation among Catholic
seminarians in Italy*

(Chair: Ann Casson)

Ann Casson

*Pioneering new expressions of Catholicism: New ecclesial
Catholic movements and communities in England*

(Chair: Giuseppe Crea)

3.45 Tea

4.15 Collegial Session 2

Room 1: Owen Edwards

*Learning from rural cathedrals: A case study of religious
education outside the classroom among seven to 11-year-olds*

(Chair: Randolph Ellis)

Room 2: Neville Emslie

Emotional Intelligence according to Archdeacons

(Chair: John Lloyd)

5.30 Plenary Session 1

Room 1: Leslie J Francis

*Christian ethos secondary schools, parental church attendance and
student attitude toward Christianity: Exploring connections in
England and Wales*

(Chair: Tania ap Siôn)

WEDNESDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2017 (contd)

6.30 Dinner

8.00 Public Lecture 1

Room 1: The Rt Revd Dr David Walker

Kicking the habit: A renewed vision for Anglican monasticism?

(Chair: The Revd Canon Professor Leslie J Francis)

THURSDAY, 16 November 2017

8.15 Breakfast

9.30 Plenary Session 2

Room 1: Tania ap Siôn

Creating a place of prayer for the 'other': A comparative case study in Wales exploring the effects of re-shaping congregational space in an Anglican cathedral

(Chair: Ann Casson)

10.45 Coffee

11.30 Eucharist (chapel)

12.30 Lunch

2.00 Collegial Session 3

Room 1: Sylvia Baker

Rejecting Darwinian evolution: The effects of education, church tradition and individual theological stance among UK churchgoers

(Chair: Robin Rees)

Room 2: Randolph Ellis

Standing in the shadow of nothingness: The place of place in learning to dwell

(Chair: Neville Emslie)

3.15 Collegial Session 4

Room 1: Stella Mills

Data from hidden situations – hiding the truth?

(Chair: Adam Stevenson)

Room 2: Patrick Laycock

Distinguishing between atheism and agnosticism: Progress to date

(Chair: Henry Ratter)

THURSDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2017 (contd)

3.45 Tea

4.15 Plenary Session 3

Room 1: David Lankshear

The greying generation: Listening to churchgoers aged seventy and over

(Chair: Henry Ratter)

5.30 Collegial session 5

Room 1: Christopher A Lewis

Internal reliability, construct validity, and temporal stability over 7 days of the Purpose in Life Scale among UK undergraduates

(Chair: Duncan Stathie)

Room 2: Ursula McKenna

Resilience in ministry: The voice of Church of Scotland ministers

(Chair: Christine Brewster)

6.45 Dinner

8.00 Public Lecture 2

Room 1: The Revd Professor Jeff Astley

“Spiritual vision” and religious experience: The contribution of philosophy of religion and of education

(Chair: The Revd Canon Professor Leslie J Francis)

FRIDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2017

8.15 Breakfast

9.30 Plenary session 4

Room 1: John Harper

Did anyone notice that choristers are children in the cathedral?

(Chair: Leslie J Francis)

10.30 Coffee

11.00 Conclusion and Evaluation (Room 1)

11.30 Eucharist (chapel)

12.30 Lunch

DELEGATES

Tania ap Siôn	Patrick Laycock
Jeff Astley	Christopher A Lewis
Sylvia Baker	John Lloyd
Christine Brewster	Anette Love
Ann Casson	Jonas Martinson
Giuseppe Crea	Ursula McKenna
Owen Edwards	Stella Mills
Randolph Ellis	Henry Ratter
Neville Emslie	Robin Rees
Leslie J Francis	Christopher Rutledge
John Haley	Adam Stevenson
John Harper	Duncan Strathie
Penny Jennings	David Walker
David Lankshear	

Note:

Room 1 is the larger room next to the entrance hall.

Room 2 is the smaller room next to the dining room.



Kicking the habit: A renewed vision for Anglican monasticism?

A public lecture by

The Rt Revd Dr David Walker

**8.00pm, Wednesday 16 November 2017
Noddfa, Penmaenmawr, LL34 6YF**

In recent years, whilst traditional monastic communities in the Church of England have continued to decline, a range of new entities has sprung up, often referred to as New Monasticism or Emerging Religious Orders. This paper sets out the range of such bodies, seeking to characterise them and identify key points of both similarity and difference. New communities are found to be diverse, dispersed, ecumenically open, mixed in sex and marital status, and bound together by a common Rule or Rhythm. Some have a particular call to mission or formation; others seek primarily to deepen the spiritual life of their members. Tensions have emerged around: whether membership enhances or replaces parish life; the balance between the dispersed life, community gatherings and the charism of the order; and the role and status of the founder. In conclusion it is argued that these communities are a genuine, if challenging, development in the history of monasticism.

The Right Revd David Walker is Bishop of Manchester and Associate Fellow within the Warwick Religions and Education Research Unit (WRERU), University of Warwick.



“Spiritual vision” and religious experience: The contribution of philosophy of religion and of education

A public lecture by

The Revd Professor Jeff Astley

**8.00pm, Thursday 20 October 2016
Noddfa, Penmaenmawr, LL34 6YF**

The notion of ‘spiritual vision’ and the ways in which people ‘learn to see’ in a spiritual way are frequently counted among the most important outcomes of Christian, theological and ministerial formation. This paper will analyse these metaphors, relating them to ideas about personal experience and spiritual transformation and the potential role of religious and spiritual experience within such ‘discipleship learning’. The discussion will draw in particular on recent scholarly work on religious and spiritual experience in Britain, developed within the context of the philosophy of religion. The paper will conclude with a critical evaluation of some of the issues raised by its claims, as well as some reference to their implications for the practical work of the teaching ministry of the Church.

The Revd Professor Jeff Astley is the Alister Hardy Professor of Religious and Spiritual Experience within the Warwick Religions and Education Research Unit (WRERU), University of Warwick.