



**ST THEOSEVIA CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY  
OPEN STUDY DAYS IN HILARY TERM 2012**

*An Ecumenical Centre for Christian Spirituality in Oxford  
at St Theosevia House, 2 Canterbury Road, Oxford OX2 6LU  
www.theosevia.org*

**Saturday 28 January, 10.30 am – 4 pm**

**Windows on Holiness: Mediaeval Stained Glass, Orthodox Icons**

**Illustrated talks by Roger Rosewell and Fr John Baggley**

**Monday 30 January, 8.15pm**

**The Passage of Time:  
Childhood and Youth, Middle Life and Old Age**

Bring and share evening of poetry and music, please bring your favourite poems or music on these themes. With Metropolitan Kallistos.

A glass of wine will be served

**Saturday 25 February, 10.30 am – 4 pm**

**The Byzantine Mosaics of Sicily**

**Illustrated talks by Dr Nicholas Gendle**

*St Theosevia House, 2 Canterbury Road, left off Banbury Rd just after North Parade  
Study days **FREE for students** with card. Non-students £5 (on door). No booking needed, just  
come, for all or part of the day. Lunch break 1-2 pm (please provide your own lunch).*

*Director: Revd Dr Liz Carmichael, St John's College  
Enquiries: Assistant Director of Studies: Revd Steffen Weishaupt,  
01865 310341, [steffen.weishaupt@cbch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:steffen.weishaupt@cbch.ox.ac.uk)*

## The St Theosevia Centre for Christian Spirituality

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*From the Director*

Revd Dr Liz Carmichael

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December 2011

Dear Friends of St Theosevia's,

Thank you for supporting last term's programme. The day on the Carmelites was intriguing and very well attended. A keen but smaller group arrived to join Nicholas Vesey in wrestling with how to connect the unchurched with the traditions of Christian spirituality — a question that must remain live and important for all of us who know the spiritual resources that exist and yet are often missed.

This term we have two study days that offer a feast of visual art, and an evening of music and poetry. On 28 January we welcome **Roger Rosewell** who lives in the hamlet of Yelford, west of Oxford, which boasts one of the smallest parish churches in England. Roger Rosewell is an expert on western mediaeval church art, the News & Features Editor of *Vidimus*, the on-line magazine about medieval stained glass published monthly by the *Corpus Vitrearum Medii Aevi* (CVMA). He is the author of the award-winning *Medieval Wall Paintings in English and Welsh Churches* (2008 & 2011) and two forthcoming books: *Painting with Light: a History of Stained Glass in England*, and *Life in a Medieval Monastery* (2012). He will speak on the symbolism and function of stained glass in mediaeval churches. This day is shared with **Fr John Baggley**, parish priest of the RC parish of Corpus Christi in Headington, well-known author on icons and frequent contributor to Study Days, who will speak on Orthodox iconography.

On the second Study Day, Saturday 25 February, **Dr Nicholas Gendle** will explore the Byzantine mosaics of Sicily. Twelfth century Sicily saw a unique fusion of Norman, Byzantine and Arab cultural influences, to which its art and architecture, and not least its magnificent church mosaics, bear witness.

In between these two days we welcome you on Mon. 30 Jan. to a bring and share evening of poetry and music with **Metropolitan Kallistos**, on 'The Passage of Time'.

LIZ CARMICHAEL

<p>• <b>Newsletter subscriptions for 2011-12: Please send at least £3 (cheques to 'St Theosevia Trust')</b> to Newsletter, St Theosevia House, 2 Canterbury Rd, OX2 6LU.</p>
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- If you would like to receive newsletters and reminders by email, you can subscribe by sending a blank email to: [theosevia-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:theosevia-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)
- Free tea and coffee are available at Study Days, from 10am and at lunch-time. Lunch break is about one hour, 1-2pm. Bring packed lunch, or you can buy food nearby in North Parade.
- If you are willing to help serve coffee for a study day you will have a free place. Please

## DETAILS OF EVENTS IN HILARY TERM

**Saturday 28 January, 10.30 am – 4 pm**

### **Windows on Holiness: Mediaeval Stained Glass, Orthodox Icons**

with **Roger Rosewell and Fr John Baggley**

**Roger Rosewell** gives the two morning talks, on **Manifesting the Divine: Symbolism and Functions of Stained Glass in Medieval Churches**. By the late Middle Ages stained glass filled the windows of great cathedrals and most parish churches. The morning sessions will discuss how medieval audiences ‘saw’ these windows and the different functions and purposes they performed, from the metaphysical to the mnemonic, as foci for devotion and records of holy history.

**Fr Baggley** reflects on the decrees of the Second Council of Nicaea, AD 787: “... the revered and holy images, whether painted or made of mosaic or of other suitable material, are to be exposed in the holy Churches of God, on sacred instruments and vestments, on walls and panels, in houses and by public ways; these are the images of our Lord, God and saviour, Jesus Christ, and of our Lady without blemish, the holy God-bearer, and of the revered angels and of any of the saintly holy men. The more frequently they are seen in representational art, and more are those who see them drawn to remember and long for those who serve as models, and to pay these images the tribute of salutation and respectful veneration.”

**Monday 30 January, 8.15pm**

### **The Passage of Time: Childhood, Youth, Middle Life & Old Age**

A bring and share evening chaired by Metropolitan Kallistos. Please bring your favourite poetry and or music on this wide theme. A glass of wine will be served.

**Saturday 25 February, 10.30 am – 4 pm**

### **Byzantine Mosaics of Sicily**

**Dr Nicholas Gendle**

Illustrated talks on the magnificent mosaic art of the Norman-Byzantine churches of Sicily, a meeting point for western and eastern Christian cultures.

## OTHER EVENTS IN HILARY TERM

### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP

The Christian Meditation Group meets on Tuesday evenings from 7.25 pm in St Theosevia's (2 Canterbury Road) for a period of quiet, meditation and fellowship.

**Inquiries:** Brenda Newey, 792838, brendanewey@talktalk.net

### THE UNICORN GROUP

*An ecumenical discussion group founded by Nicholas Zernov in 1959*

The meetings, open to all, are usually held on Friday lunchtimes at the **House of St Gregory & St Macrina, 1 Canterbury Road**. The talks, followed by discussion, run from 1-2pm. Coffee is served from 12.30pm, packed lunches may be brought. Donations are invited to cover costs.

**Friday, 27 January:** Fr. John Salter (for the past 19 years vicar of SS Peter & Paul, Wantage): **Wantage – Flagship of the Anglo-Catholic Movement?**

**Friday, 10 February:** Ruby Radwan (Muslim mother of five children who runs an organic farm with her husband): **The Golden Thread of Mercy**

**Friday, 24 February:** Very Revd Robert Wilkes (priest-in-charge of St Michael at the Northgate and Oxford City Rector): **The Kingdom of God, a Comfort Zone?**

**Friday, 9 March:** Revd Dr Colin Thompson (Emeritus Fellow of St Catherine's College and associate minister of Wheatley United Reformed Church): **St John of the Cross: Poet of the Dark Night of the Soul?**

**Enquiries (no booking needed):** Lynda Ellis, 01491 875446, ellislynda@sky.com

### MEDIEVAL ARTS GROUP & BYZANTINE STUDIES CLASS

The **Medieval Arts Group** with Dr Nicholas Gendle will focus on **Art and Architecture of Venice**. Meetings take place on Tuesdays at 2pm from 10 January, at the House of St Gregory & St Macrina, 1 Canterbury Road.

The **Byzantine Studies Class** with Dr Gendle will focus on **Art and Architecture of Sicily**, on Wednesdays from 11 January, 10.30am, at 9 Fyfield Rd.

**Enquiries:** Valerie Sansom, 0118 9479471

### FELLOWSHIP OF SS ALBAN & SERGIUS (OXFORD BRANCH)

**Enquiries:** gregory.platten@lincoln.ox.ac.uk