



**ST THEOSEVIA CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY
OPEN STUDY DAYS IN HILARY TERM 2015**

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

Saturday 21 February 10.30 am – 4 pm:

Holy Russia: Art and Architecture
Illustrated talks by Dr Nicholas Gendle

Saturday 14 March 10.30 am – 4 pm:

**Identity and individuality: psychological and
spiritual growth in Gregory of Nyssa,
Maximus the Confessor, and Dostoevsky**

*Prof Johannes Zachhuber, Dr Irina Kirillova,
Revd Dr Grigorios Chrysostom Tympas*

*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: Asst Director of Studies: Fr Tikhon Vasilyev, Wolfson College,
Tikhon.vasilyev@wolfson.ox.ac.uk, 01865 310341*

The St Theosevia Centre for Christian Spirituality

2 Canterbury Road, Oxford OX2 6LU Tel (01865) 310 341

Director: Revd Dr Liz Carmichael, St John's College; Asst Director of Studies: Fr Tikhon Vasilyev, Wolfson College, Tikhon.vasilyev@wolfson.ox.ac.uk, 01865 310341

From the Director

Revd Dr Liz Carmichael

Tel (01865) 277351

liz.carmichael@sjc.ox.ac.uk

January 2015

Dear Friends of St Theosevia's,

Thank you for your support of last term's study days. Julian of Norwich, the C14th English anchoress, proved a popular topic. Emma Pennington provided a biographical and theological introduction with food for thought both for those who knew very little about Julian and for those who had encountered her over many years.

The day on Christian spirituality in poetry attracted a smaller but keen audience, and again provided new angles for those familiar with the writers and opened up new territory for those who had not previously encountered George Herbert, Ephrem the Syrian, or the living poet Lawrence Sail.

In Hilary Term the emphasis turns eastwards. Last summer, Dr Nicholas Gendle toured central Russia and returned with hundreds of photos, a selection of which he will be sharing on **Saturday 21 February** on the Study Day on 'Holy Russia: Art and Architecture'. Not to be missed!

On **Saturday 14 March**, three excellent speakers consider the explorations of spiritual and psychological growth, and the relation between the two, in the Cappadocian Father Gregory of Nyssa (ca 335-395), Maximus the Confessor (ca 580 – 662) who lived and wrote in Constantinople, and the Russian writer Fyodor Dostoevsky (1821-1881).

LIZ CARMICHAEL

Newsletter subscriptions for 2014-15: Please send at least £3 (cheques to 'St Theosevia Trust') to Newsletter, St Theosevia House, 2 Canterbury Rd, OX2 6LU.

- If you would like to receive newsletters and reminders by email, you can subscribe by sending a blank email to: theosevia-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
- Free tea and coffee are available at Study Days, from 10 am and at lunch-time. Lunch break is about one hour, 1-2 pm. Bring packed lunch, or you can find food nearby in North Parade.
- If you are willing to help serve coffee for a study day you will have a free place. Please contact the Assistant Director of Studies if you would like to help in this way.

DETAILS OF EVENTS IN HILARY TERM

Saturday 21 February, 10.30 am – 4 pm:

Holy Russia: Art and Architecture

Dr Nicholas Gendle

The day will offer a critical survey of the finest works of mediaeval Russian architecture - cathedrals, monasteries, churches, fortifications - in the area north west of Moscow, formerly the centre of the Russian state after the fall of Kiev in the late C11th. We will concentrate mainly on the buildings constructed in the service of the Russian Orthodox Church and principalities from the C12th to the C17th, with a selection of their wall paintings and icons. To this may be added some of the earliest icons to survive in the collection of the Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow.

Saturday 14 March, 10.30 am – 4 pm

Identity and individuality: psychological and spiritual growth in Gregory of Nyssa, Maximus the Confessor and Dostoevsky

*Professor Johannes Zachhuber, Dr Irina Kirillova,
Revd Dr Grigorios Chrysostom Tympas,*

The Revd. Dr. Chrysostom Tympas, a London-based Greek Orthodox priest, has recently published *Carl Jung and Maximus the Confessor on Psychic Development* (Routledge 2012) in which he addresses the issues of identity and personhood, psychological and spiritual, through the lenses of Carl Jung and Maximus the Confessor, a philosopher and theologian of the C7th. He seeks to identify the convergent and divergent points between psychological development and spiritual progress, and in what ways psychological experience differs from spiritual experience.

These themes will be explored throughout this day, beginning with Professor Johannes Zachhuber on the C4th Cappadocian bishop and theologian Gregory of Nyssa.

Ms Irina A. Kirillova, formerly Senior Lecturer in Russian literature in Cambridge, whose work on Dostoevsky and fin-de-siecle European culture has received international acclaim, will speak on Dostoevsky's *The Idiot* and in particular the figures of Prince Myshkin and Jesus Christ.

THE UNICORN GROUP

An Ecumenical group founded by Professor Nicolas Zernov in 1959

Friday 30 January Extremely well received on their last visit, Oxfordshire Organic Farmers **Lufti and Ruby Radwan** have kindly agreed to return to address us on “**Conservation and Islam**”

Friday 13 February **Rev Canon John Oviden**, previously chaplain to HM the Queen at Windsor Castle and currently chaplain of Harris Manchester College will speak to the intriguing title “**A Royal Peculiar**”

Friday 27 February **Revd Bob Whorton**, a Methodist Minister who has experience of both Circuit and Chaplaincy ministries including that of Sobell House, will speak about “**Stations on the Journey: Psalms and perseverance**”

Friday 13 March “**In the steps of St Benedict**”, **Revd Georgie Simpson**, Founder and Director of the Oxford Centre for Spiritual Growth (which was founded in 2009), based at the Church of St Michael at the North Gate

All Meetings are held in the House of St Gregory and St Macrina, 1 Canterbury Road, Oxford. We welcome everyone from 12.30 p.m. when tea and coffee are available to drink with a packed lunch before the talk begins at 1.00 p.m. Discussion follows the speaker and the meeting closes at 2.00 p.m.

Enquiries: Convenors Judith Baker 07981345125, Ann Stedman 01865 559179

MEDIEVAL ARTS GROUP

The **Medieval Arts Group** with Dr Nicholas Gendle will continue focusing on Art and Architecture of Florence on Tuesdays at 2 pm at St Gregory's House from 6 January for 10 weeks. It costs £50 per term. Free tea, coffee and biscuits are provided during the lectures. **Enquiries:** Valerie Sansom, 01189479471, Ann Weitzmann 0118 948 1884

Women's Ministries Initiative

A study day on the ministries of women in the church: “Priesthood and Laity”, with Metropolitan Kallistos and Prof Mary Cunningham, Sat 7 March 10.30-4.30 at St Cross Church, £12 (£6 students) please register with Elena Narinskaya: elenarinskaya@yahoo.com

FELLOWSHIP OF SS ALBAN & SERGIUS (OXFORD BRANCH)

Enquiries: fr.stephen.platt@googlemail.com