



ST THEOSEVIA CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY
OPEN STUDY DAYS IN TRINITY TERM 2016
at St Theosevia House, 2 Canterbury Road, Oxford OX2 6LU
An Ecumenical Centre for Christian Spirituality in Oxford
www.theosevia.org

Saturday 7 May 10.30 am – 4 pm:

Mediaeval Serbia and Macedonia:
Art and Architecture
Illustrated talks by Dr Nicholas Gendle

Saturday 28 May 10.30 am – 4 pm:

Spirituality in Changing Media:
manuscripts, print, and the transmission of sacred texts
Dr Sebastian Brock, Prof. Ralph Cleminson,
Prof Michael Jeffreys, Dr Geri della Rocca de Candal

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

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From the Director

Revd Dr Liz Carmichael

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April 2016

Dear Friends of St Theosevia's,

Thank you for your support of last term's programme with its study days on icons and stained glass windows, and the very well attended day on angels! Metropolitan Kallistos gave a brilliant summary of the Theology of Icons, which you can hear at: <http://www.puseyhouse.org.uk/lectures-this-year.html>

This term we begin on 7 May with a presentation by Dr Nicholas Gendle on the art and architecture of churches in mediaeval Serbia, which expanded to include the Greek-speaking parts of Macedonia. Dr Gendle's talks are always interesting, erudite and accessible, and beautifully illustrated with his own slides.

We are living today in an era of changing media, when sacred writings are available in new ways in digital form, liturgies are 'downloadable' and debate arises as to the relative merits of virtual and hard copies. The second study day this term, on 28 May, looks at the earlier revolution when texts began to transfer from hand-written manuscripts to the printed form. What texts were favoured and why? What changes occurred, what were the outcomes for readership and use? This day features Dr Sebastian Brock who is well known to the Centre, and three new speakers: Prof Michael Jeffreys, Dr Geri della Rocca de Candal and Professor Ralph Cleminson. All have worked on the transmission of eastern liturgical texts in the early years of printing, when the technology was available only in the west. We look forward to welcoming you to these Study Days. All are welcome.

LIZ CARMICHAEL

<p>Newsletter subscriptions for 2015-16: Please send at least £3 (cheques to 'St Theosevia Trust') 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
- 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 TRINITY TERM

Saturday 7 May 10.30 am – 4 pm

Mediaeval Serbia and Macedonia: Art and Architecture *Dr Nicholas Gendle,*

This study day examines the remarkable legacy of mediaeval Orthodox church architecture and painting in Serbia. Originally a province of the Byzantine Empire, from which it learnt its Orthodox religion and culture, by the C12th Serbia was emerging as a strong South Slavic kingdom; by the C14th it had annexed much of Macedonia and was a major power in the Balkans. Under the patronage of enlightened rulers and bishops, numerous churches and monasteries were built, some of notably original design, and almost all containing fine mural paintings and icons. We will trace their historical development, illustrated by slides of the best examples—eg Ochrid, Mileševa and Sopoćani—from the C11th to the C15th, when Turkish occupation slowed down (but never extinguished) the creation of art and architecture.

Saturday 28 May 10 am – 4 pm:

Spirituality in Changing Media: manuscripts, print, and the transmission of sacred texts *with Dr Sebastian Brock, Prof. Ralph Cleminson, Prof. Michael Jeffreys, Dr Geri della Rocca de Candal*

Dr Sebastian Brock, Emeritus Fellow of Wolfson and Emeritus Reader in Syriac studies, speaks on: 'From manuscript to print: the varying fates of Syriac liturgical texts', exploring why some printed editions were ignored, while others were taken up and proved to be influential. **Prof Michael Jeffreys** will explore the transmission of Byzantine liturgical texts and **Dr Geri della Rocca de Candal**, ERC Research Fellow at Lincoln College and the Bodleian, focuses on 'Early-printed Greek Psalters, between Italian Humanism and Greek Diaspora'. The Psalterion was published three times in the C15th: in Milan in 1481; in Venice in 1486 by two Cretan printers; and finally Venice again in c.1496/98 by Aldus Manutius, one of the greatest printers of the Italian Renaissance. The talk will concentrate on these three editions, the context in which they were printed, and the way they were used by contemporary readers. At least one of these editions was aimed at Renaissance humanists rather than at Greek audiences. Geri will also look at some Latin editions of the Psalter.

Professor Ralph Cleminson compiled the Union Catalogues of Cyrillic Manuscripts, and of Cyrillic Books printed before 1701, in British and Irish Collections; and has catalogued some overseas collections, developed electronic research tools for the study of premodern Cyrillic, and does text-critical research on the Church Slavonic translation of Acts and Epistles. He will trace the history of Slavonic liturgical texts, focusing on their transmission into print, and the destinations of the printed books. Again, the printing was carried out in the west: first in Poland (Krakow) and then in Venice where a philanthropist paid for the production of Slavonic liturgical texts for Serbia and Bulgaria, then under Ottoman rule. Other texts were destined for Russia and Ukraine. With illustrations.

THE UNICORN GROUP

An Ecumenical group founded by Professor Nicolas Zernov in 1959

Friday 6 May Reverend Peter Boulton Lea, a faithful and active priest from the Sheffield Diocese who has retired to Oxford, will speak about “Being Gay in the Church – a personal testimony”

Friday 20 May Elizabeth King. Elizabeth, who has personal experience of Alzheimer’s disease within her family, was Senior Researcher Nurse and manager of the Oxford Project to Investigate Memory and Ageing (OPTIMA) from 1988 to 2000. She also established “Young Dementia UK”. Elizabeth will give us “An Overview of Research into Dementia”

The meetings are open to all and are held on Fridays in the House of St Gregory and St Macrina, 1 Canterbury Road, Oxford. We welcome everyone from **12.30 pm** when tea and coffee are served. Packed lunches may be brought. The talks, followed by discussion, run from **1.00 pm to 2.00 pm**. Donations to cover expenses are welcome.

Enquiries (no booking needed) to Judith Baker 07981 345 125, jpbaker@hotmail.co.uk

MEDIEVAL ARTS GROUP

The Medieval Arts Group with Dr Nicholas Gendle, does not meet in Trinity Term. It reconvenes in Michaelmas.

Enquiries: Valerie Sansom, 0118 947 9471, Ann Weizmann 0118 948 1884

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP

This group meets every Tuesday evening at 7 pm at St Theosevia House, 2 Canterbury Rd, for one hour of reflection and silent prayer, 7 - 8 pm. All are welcome, please contact Patricia Simon: patriciasimon@tiscali.co.uk

FELLOWSHIP OF SS ALBAN & SERGIUS (OXFORD BRANCH)

Enquiries: fr.stephen.platt@googlemail.com

OXFORD CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

For programme please contact info@ocsg.uk.net or call 07803 031 977
Talks on Meditation will be given in St Giles Church on Thursdays at 12.30 pm, starting with Chris Cullen on ‘Mindfulness’ on Thurs 28 April