

Wednesday 14 June, 8<sup>th</sup> Week

## John Donne: Apostate Catholic, Visionary Anglican

**Paul Oliver** Author of *Donne's Religious Writing: A Discourse of Feigned Devotion* (Longman, 1997), *Donne's God* (Routledge, forthcoming) and the Anglican Classics edition of *Donne's Letters* (Carcenet, 2002).

John Donne (1572-1631) numbered Thomas More among his ancestors; his uncle, Jasper Heywood, was for a period head of the Jesuit underground mission to England; his younger brother Henry died in Newgate as a result of harbouring a Jesuit in his rooms at Thavies Inn. Not surprisingly, Donne was himself encouraged to aspire to martyrdom for the faith of his family and forebears. But at some point in the 1590s he made a conscious decision to abandon Rome and throw in his lot with the Church of England, going on to become Dean of St Paul's and one of the most distinguished and popular preachers of his day. Paul Oliver will argue that the highly unusual trajectory of Donne's life led him to espouse a very distinctive vision of Anglicanism and one which he defended to the best of his ability when it came under threat in the 1620s.



THE MNEMOSYNE PROJECT AT PUSEY HOUSE

This Series is open to all students, clergy, and members of the public. The aim of the series is to provide an intensive introduction to some of the key periods, characters, and ideas of Christian history.

Recollection Series - Trinity 2017  
**Pusey House**

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# THE RECOLLECTION SERIES 2017 TRINITY

Intensive introductions to some of the key periods, characters & ideas of Christian history.

*Wednesday 3 May, 2<sup>nd</sup> Week*

## **John Henry Cardinal Newman on Vatican II**

*Dr Ian Ker, Senior Research Fellow, Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford*

This talk will examine how Newman would have reacted to some major documents of Vatican II and the way these have been interpreted and implemented in the post-conciliar period.

*Wednesday 17 May, 4<sup>th</sup> Week*

## **Responses to Theological Crisis in the 1960s:**

### **Michael Ramsey and E.L. Mascall**

*Dr Peter Webster, Sr Research Fellow, Faculty of Philosophy, Blackfriars Hall*

Rightly or wrongly, the long 1960s are often viewed in terms of religious crises. Responses to these pressures were many, and varied radically within churches, and indeed within constituencies within individual churches. This lecture outlines some of the contours of Anglican Catholic reactions by means of a comparison of two theologians and teachers; Michael Ramsey, archbishop of Canterbury, and Eric Mascall. It focusses in particular on two themes: the impact of the theology of the 'death of God' most personified by John A.T. Robinson; and the ecumenical movement, particularly the unsuccessful Anglican-Methodist unity scheme. Although alike in background, Ramsey and Mascall dealt with these issues in radically different ways. The issues were of faith and certainty, ambiguity and precision, optimism and pessimism, and the relationship between theology, pastoral care and the workings of an institution.

*Wednesday 31 May, 6<sup>th</sup> Week*

## **John Wesley: The Man and his Influence on Eighteenth-Century Britain and Ireland**

*The Rev'd Dr Ralph Waller Principal of Harris Manchester College and Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford*

John Wesley was a preacher, teacher, social reformer, prolific writer, and theologian, but his life was often characterised by failure. And yet he helped change the climate of opinion in Great Britain and Ireland. Through his and his brother's hymns, which people sang in their homes as well as in Church, and through his preaching and care for individuals, he helped men and women capture a different and better vision of what life could be like. He gave poor people a sense of value and worth and reminded them that they were children of God. He called people back to the essential truths of Christianity that we are to love God with all our hearts and to love our neighbour with some of the love with which God has loved us. Through his efforts, keelmen and miners, prostitutes and prisoners, sailors and smugglers, became devout people with a purpose in life and valued in society.

**4.00 pm - 5.30 pm**

*Tea & Coffee from 3.30pm*

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