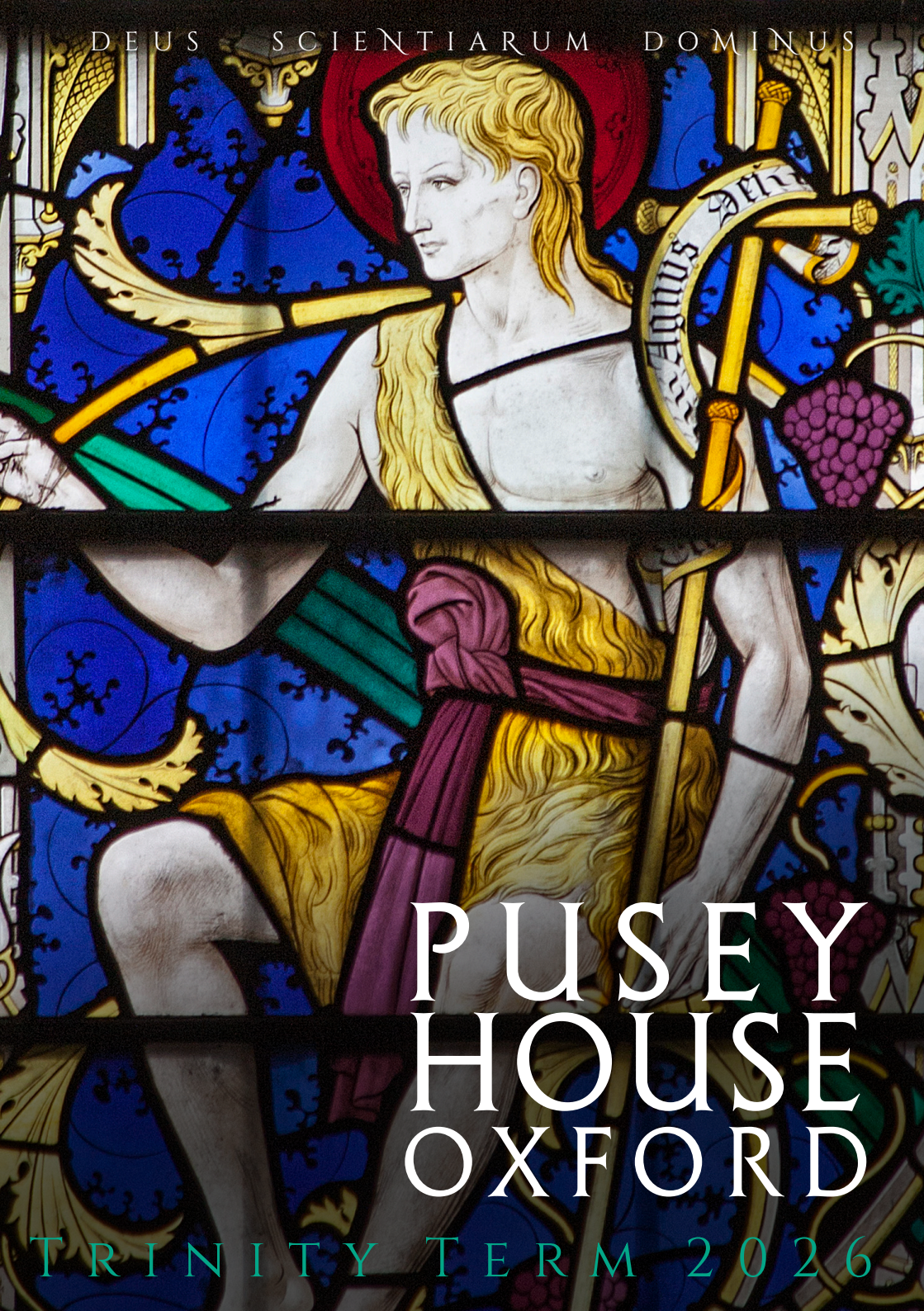


DEUS SCIENTIARUM DOMINUS



PUSEY  
HOUSE  
OXFORD

TRINITY TERM 2026

# PUSEY HOUSE

Pusey House was opened in 1884 as a memorial to Edward Bouverie Pusey (1800-1882), Regius Professor of Hebrew and Canon of Christ Church, who was for forty years a figurehead of the Oxford Movement and its de facto leader after John Henry Newman's conversion in 1845. According to its founding documents, the House exists 'to promote theological study and holiness of life', and 'to provide spiritual counsel and comfort to members of the University'.

Today, the community of Pusey House embraces not only members of the University, but all who avail themselves of the work and ministry of the House within the Church of England and beyond. In working to renew the Church of England's Catholic life and witness, Dr Pusey and his colleagues also sought to understand and respond to the most profound needs of society in their day. One of the basic principles of the Oxford Movement was that the life of the mind and the life of prayer belong together, and that holiness of life overflows in ministries of love and service. In different ways and in a different context, Pusey House today seeks to embody these founding principles.

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

### **Monday:**

7.40am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Mass  
11.30am Midday Office  
5.30pm Evensong

### **Tuesday:**

7.40am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Mass  
11.30am Midday Office  
5.30pm Evensong  
9.30pm Compline

### **Wednesday:**

7.40am Morning Prayer  
8.00am The Litany, followed by  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
11.30am Midday Office  
5.30pm Evensong  
6.00pm Mass with Homily

### **Thursday:**

7.40am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Mass  
11.30am Midday Office  
5:00pm Rosary of Our Lady  
5.30pm Evensong

### **Friday:**

7.40am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Mass  
11.30am Midday Office  
5.30pm Evensong  
6.00pm Benediction of the Blessed  
Sacrament

*Confessions are heard regularly on Thursday mornings from 9.00am -10.00 am (9.30am -10.00am outside of term) and before Evensong on Fridays at 5.00 – 5.30pm (term time only) and at other times by appointment with the clergy.*

# SUNDAY & HOLY DAY SERVICES

## SUNDAYS

*At 10.30am, Morning Prayer precedes the 11am Sunday High Mass  
All sermons are recorded and available to listen to on the Pusey House website  
Sunday School takes place during Mass every week  
Hospitality follows in the Ursell Room and Blackwell Quad. All are welcome.*

## HOLY DAYS

*On Holy Days, an additional 6pm Sung Mass is celebrated. Please check the website  
[www.puseyhouse.org.uk](http://www.puseyhouse.org.uk) for the most up-to-date information.*

## CONFIRMATIONS

*Confirmations will take place in Trinity Term on the Feast of Pentecost, Sunday 24th  
May, by the President of the Trustees of Pusey House, the Rt Revd Michael Langrish.  
Anyone interested in exploring the sacrament of confirmation is invited to contact a member  
of the clergy.*

*Trinity Term begins on Sunday 19th April*

**Sunday 19th April, *The Second Sunday after Easter***

**11am High Mass** – Preacher, The Principal  
Oldroyd, Mass of the Quiet Hour  
Finzi, Welcome Sweet and Sacred Feast

**Thursday 23rd April, *St George, Patron of England***

**6pm Sung Mass** – Preacher, The Revd Canon John Paton, *Honorary Priest in  
Charge, Sulhamstead Abbots (St Mary) and Bannister with Ufton Nervet, sometime Precentor  
of Christ Church Cathedral*

**Friday 24th April, *the Eve of St Mark the Evangelist***

**6pm Sung Mass** – Preacher, The Revd Dr Thomas Plant, *Rector, St Margaret of  
Antioch, Iver Heath*

**Sunday 26th April, *The Third Sunday after Easter***

**11am High Mass (with Orchestra)** – Preacher, The Chaplain  
Schubert, Mass in G  
Haydn, Victimae Paschali Laudes

**Wednesday 29th April, *St Catherine of Sienna***

**6pm Mass (with members of the Pusey Guild)** – Preacher, The Revd Canon Nicholas Spicer SSC, *Vicar, Worksof Priory with Carburton and Clumber, Master General of the SSC*

**Friday 1st May, *SS Philip and James***

**6pm Sung Mass** – Preacher, The Very Revd Ian Graham, *Priest, The Orthodox Church of the Holy Trinity and the Annunciation, Oxford*

**Sunday 3rd May, *The Fourth Sunday after Easter***

**11am High Mass,** – Preacher, The Revd Dr Ranall Ingalls, *Chaplain, University of King's College, Halifax, Nova Scotia*

Whitlock, Communion Service in G

Tomkins, Almighty God the Fountain of All Wisdom

**Wednesday 6th May, *John the Evangelist, ante Portam Latinam***

**6pm Sung Mass** – Preacher, The Revd Canon Dr Andrew Bishop, *Vicar, Croydon Minster, Vicar-designate of Walsingham*

**Friday 8th May, *Julian of Norwich***

**5:30pm Evensong**

**6pm Choral Benediction** *sung by the Pusey Singers*

Elgar arr. Higgins, O salutaris

Brough, Tantum Ergo

**Sunday 10th May, *The Fifth Sunday after Easter (Rogation Sunday)***

**11am High Mass** – Preacher, The Revd Canon Dr Peter Groves, *Associate Archdeacon of Oxford, Senior Research Fellow, Worcester College*

Haydn, Little Organ Mass

Mendelssohn, Hear my Prayer

**Monday 11th May, *Rogation Monday***

**6pm Sung Mass** – Preacher, The Revd William Allen, *Curate, St James' Sussex Gardens, Paddington*

**Tuesday 12th May, *Rogation Tuesday***

**6pm Sung Mass** – Preacher, Mr Petter Kringberg, *Ordinand, St Augustine's Theological College, sometime Intern at Pusey House*

**Wednesday 13th May, Rogation Wednesday****8.00am Mass**

**5.30pm Evensong with Homily (following the Novel Conference)** – Preacher, The Revd Dr Michael Ward, *Associate Member, Faculty of Theology and Religion, University of Oxford*

**Thursday 14th May, Ascension Day****8am Mass**

**12 noon High Mass** – Preacher, The Rt Revd Peter Eagles, *sometime Bishop of Sodor and Man*

Willan, Westron Wynde Mass

Willan, Rise up, my Love

**1.30pm Hymns and Music from the Tower***Followed by Pimms in the Quad.***6pm Sung Mass** – Preacher, The Revd Dr Andrew Moore, *Associate Priest***Sunday 17th May, The Sunday after the Ascension****11am High Mass** – Preacher, The Revd Alexander McGregor, *Associate Priest*

Wood, Short Communion Service in the Phrygian Mode

Stanford, Coelos Ascendit Hodie

**Saturday 23rd May, The Eve of Pentecost****5pm The Vigil of Pentecost** – Preacher, The Assistant Chaplain**Sunday 24th May, Whitsun (Pentecost)****11am High Mass with Confirmations** – Preacher, The Rt Revd Michael Langrish, *President of the Trustees of Pusey House and sometime Bishop of Exeter*

Batten, Short Communion Service

Elgar, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me

Poyser, I am the Fiery Life of Divine Substance

**Monday 25th May, Whit Monday****6pm Sung Mass** – Preacher, The Chaplain**Tuesday 26th May, Whit Tuesday****6pm Sung Mass** – Preacher, The Revd Dr Oliver Wright, *Junior Research Fellow, Theology and AI, Pembroke College, Curate, St Clement's Church, Oxford*

**Wednesday 27th May, *Ember Wednesday in Whit Week*****8am Mass**

**5.30pm The Peter Toon Memorial Evensong** – Preacher, The Revd Ben Bell, *Rector, St George the Martyr, Borough*

Attwood, Come Holy Ghost

Stanford, Evening Service in A

Ayleward, Versicles & Responses

Wood, O Thou Sweetest Source

**Sunday 31st May, *Trinity Sunday***

**11am High Mass with Baptism** – Preacher, The Revd Dr Matthew Cheung *Salisbury, Assistant Chaplain, Worcester College*

Stanford in B flat (Communion & Te Deum)

Willan, O Lord, Our Governor

Elgar, Ave Verum Op. 2, No. 1

**Thursday 4th June, *Corpus Christi*****8.00am Mass**

**6.00pm High Mass with Procession to Keble College Chapel** – Preacher, The Rt Revd Dr John Hind, *sometime Bishop of Chichester*

**Friday 5th June, *St Boniface***

**5:30pm Evensong, 6pm Choral Benediction** *sung by the Pusey Singers*

Anon., O Salutaris (16th Century), Anon. Corsican, Tantum Ergo (17th Century)

**Sunday 7th June, *The First Sunday after Trinity***

**11am High Mass** – Preacher, The Revd Andrew Swift, *Team Rector, Potteries, North, Comprising Burslem St Werburgh, Smallthorn, and Sneyd*

Gabrieli, Missa Brevis

Manchicourt, Caro Mea

**Wednesday 10th June, *The Eve of St Barnabas the Apostle***

**6pm Sung Mass** – Preacher, The Ven David Gunn-Johnson, *sometime Archdeacon of Barnstaple*

**Thursday 11th June, *St Barnabas the Apostle*****8.00am Mass**

**5.30pm Evensong (during the MacIntyre Conference)** – Preacher, The Revd Dr Nicholas Austin SJ, *Master, Champion Hall*

**Friday 12th June**, *The Sacred Heart of Jesus*

**8am Sung Mass**

**5.30pm Evensong (concluding the MacIntyre Conference)** – Preacher, The Revd Dr Richard Conrad OP, *Fellow and Lector, Blackfriars Hall*

**Sunday 14th June**, *The Second Sunday after Trinity (Friends' Festival)*

**11am High Mass with Address** – Celebrant & Preacher, the Rt Revd Paul Thomas, *The Bishop of Oswestry*

Dove, Missa Brevis

Vaughan Williams, Love Bade me Welcome

**Thursday 18th June**, *Bernard Mizeki, Apostle of the MaShona*

**5.30pm Choral Evensong (during the Natural Law and War Conference)**

**Sunday 21st June**, *The Third Sunday after Trinity*

**11am High Mass** – Preacher, The Assistant Chaplain

Howells, Communion Service "Collegium Regale"

Bainton, And I Saw a New Heaven

**Wednesday 24th June**, *The Nativity of St John the Baptist*

**6pm Sung Mass** – Preacher, The Revd Alex McGregor, *Associate Priest*

*Trinity Term concludes on Saturday 27th June*

**Sunday 28th June**, *The Fourth Sunday after Trinity*

**11am High Mass**

**Monday 29th June**, *St Peter the Apostle*

**6.30pm High Mass, to mark the 40th anniversary of the Ordination of Fr James Finnemore** – Preacher, The Revd Alexander Honey, *Curate, St Michael and All Angels, Heavitree*

**Thursday 2nd July**, *The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

**6pm Sung Mass**

**Sunday 5th July**, *The Fifth Sunday after Trinity*

**11am High Mass**

**Sunday 12th July**, *The Sixth Sunday after Trinity*

**11am High Mass**

**Sunday 19th July**, *The Seventh Sunday after Trinity*

**11am High Mass**

**Wednesday 22nd July**, *St Mary Magdalene*

**6pm Sung Mass**

**Friday 24th July**, *The Eve of St James the Apostle*

**6pm Sung Mass**

**Sunday 26th July**, *The Eighth Sunday after Trinity*

**11am High Mass**

*Daily Offices conclude*

## THE LIBRARY & ARCHIVE

The Library at Pusey House is a hidden gem in Oxford. The Library began with Dr Pusey's personal collection of rare books, bought by his friends from his only surviving daughter, Mary Amelia Brine, after his death in 1882. Since 1884, it has continually expanded with the latest theological and historical scholarship and now holds over 75,000 volumes. Its main specialism is the history of the Oxford Movement, but it also has extensive holdings in patristics, liturgy, doctrinal theology, and broader church history.

The Library is open between 9.30am and 5.25pm, Monday to Friday and everyone is welcome. To sign up as a new reader, complete a registration form (found at [puseyhouse.org.uk/study](http://puseyhouse.org.uk/study)) and bring a form of photo ID on your first visit.

The Archive contains extensive material on the Tractarians and the Oxford Movement, records of several Anglo-Catholic societies and monastic orders, letters and papers of numerous notable Anglicans, and memorabilia of Dr Pusey himself, including many letters transcribed by Henry Parry Liddon for his *Life of Pusey*, the manuscript of which is also held. Some of the autograph letters which Liddon transcribed and returned to their owners have now been lost, which lends the transcriptions added importance. Our John Henry Newman papers are fully digitised on the NINS Digital Collections platform.

Please contact [\*\*pusey.librarian@stx.ox.ac.uk\*\*](mailto:pusey.librarian@stx.ox.ac.uk) if you would like to consult material from the Pusey House Archives.

# DIARY | REGULAR EVENTS

Midweek hospitality is regularly offered, to which all are welcome:

**Breakfast** *after Mass or the Office, Monday- Friday in the Hood Room*

**Post Compline Hospitality**, *port served in the Hood Room after Compline*

**G&T and Tea**, *6.20-7.20pm in the Hood Room each Friday (0th-9th weeks)*

**Scriptorium** is a study group, run by Pusey House, structured around periods of private study, prayer, and breaks. It takes place from 0th – 9 th Weeks (beginning 21<sup>st</sup> April) each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9.15am to 5.20pm. Lunch, tea and coffee are provided. Please contact [pusey.office@stx.ox.ac.uk](mailto:pusey.office@stx.ox.ac.uk) for further details.

Volunteers from the **Arts Society** meet each Tuesday from 10.00am - 3.30pm in the Ursell Room, carrying out important conservation work on the many historic volumes in the Pusey House Library. For more information, visit [theartssocietywantage.org/library-conservation](http://theartssocietywantage.org/library-conservation)

**The Womens' Group** meets on Tuesdays from 1st - 8th Weeks at 6.30pm (1st - 8th weeks) for a meal, fellowship, prayer and study. It welcomes women of all ages and walks of life.

*N.B. the following events are not run by Pusey House.*

The **Oxford C.S. Lewis Society** meets each Tuesday (1st - 8th Weeks) at 8pm in the Ursell Room for Talks and Discussion. Founded in 1982, the Society promotes the works of C. S. Lewis and his intellectual and spiritual colleagues. For more information, visit [www.oxfordcslewisociety.org](http://www.oxfordcslewisociety.org)

The **Graduate Christian Forum** explores the intersections between the Christian faith and the full range of academic subjects studied at Oxford, by interviewing Christian faculty members about their faith and their work. GCF is a postgraduate-led Oxford University group and meets each Monday (1st-8th week) in the Ursell Room at 7.30pm. For more information, visit [www.graduatechristianforum.org](http://www.graduatechristianforum.org)

# DIARY | STUDY DAYS, READING GROUPS etc.

• **Reading Group - Hillbilly Thomists: Roman Catholic Fiction in 20th Century America** This reading group will cover short fiction (as well as selected prose) from Flannery O'Connor, Walker Percy, and J.F. Powers, three Roman Catholic writers who lived and wrote in America in the mid-twentieth century. In addition to biblical types and symbolism, the group will consider the idea of man as pilgrim and Percy's conception of the novelist—particularly the existential novelist—as a sort of prophet who provides “signposts in a strange land”. The group will meet in the **Liddon Room** at **9.15am** each **Friday in Term (starting 1st May) 1st – 8th Weeks**. For more information, please contact [matti@puseyhouse.org.uk](mailto:matti@puseyhouse.org.uk)

• **Natural Law Study Group**. During Trinity Term, the Matraszek Fellow, Dr Jonathan Price, will continue to offer a regular Study Group on Natural Law. These will take place in the **Liddon Room** at **1pm** on **Fridays** of **2nd, 4th, 6th and 8th Weeks**, beginning on **8th May**. For further information, please contact [jonathan.price@stx.ox.ac.uk](mailto:jonathan.price@stx.ox.ac.uk)

## DIARY | CONCERTS

*Please visit [www.puseyhouse.org.uk/concerts](http://www.puseyhouse.org.uk/concerts) or use this QR code for more information:*



**Pusey House Recital Series**. Under the direction of the House's Master of Music, Edward Gaut, a series of free 30-40 minute concerts will be offered on Tuesday lunchtimes (1st – 8th Weeks) at 1.10pm.

The **Oxford Bach Soloists** will present two concerts, each at **2.30pm**, the first on **Saturday 2nd May** - “*Galanteries*” - and the second on **Saturday 27th June** - “*Gigue*”. J.S. Bach's Cello Suites BWV 1007–1012 are now among his best-known works, but they were largely forgotten until the early 20th century. Most likely written during his time in Köthen, each suite is based on Baroque dance forms and combines clarity, control, and expressive detail. This six-part concert series (the first four concerts took place in Michaelmas and Hilary Terms) features all six Cello Suites performed by principal cellist Henrik Persson. Each performance also includes choral music and keyboard works.

*Tickets available from [www.oxfordbachsoloists.com](http://www.oxfordbachsoloists.com)*

# DIARY | SPECIAL EVENTS

*Tickets to the following events can be found at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/pusey-house](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/pusey-house) or via this QR code:*



The Ascension Day Feast will take place on the evening of Ascension Day, Thursday 14th May. Pre-Dinner drinks will be held in the Library, followed by a 4-course dinner in the Hood Room with wine. Tickets priced at £75.00 (full-price) £37.50 (student)

- Pusey House Guest Night will take place following the Peter Toon Memorial Lecture and Evensong on Wednesday 27th May. Tickets, priced at £55.00, for a 4-course dinner with a pre-dinner drinks reception.

*The following events are unticketed.*

- Pimms in the Quad will follow the Hymns and Prayers from the Tower on Ascension Day.
- A Book Launch for *The Eucharistic God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*, the latest work by the Revd Dr Ralph McMichael, will take place in the Hood Room from 4 - 5pm, 4 June (Corpus Christi). This is the second in a series of books, beginning with *The Eucharistic Faith* (2019), that Dr McMichael plans to write to re-centre all of Christian theology on the Eucharist. Tea and coffee will be served beforehand at 3:30pm.

## LECTURES, CONFERENCES & COLLOQUIA

*All public lectures are available to stream and watch again on the Pusey House YouTube channel*

**Wednesday 29th April** (1st Week), 4.00pm

**The Scriptorium Lecture: What Makes Theology 'Scientific'? Schleiermacher, Newman, and Kuyper on Theology and the 'Demarcation' of 'Science'**, *David Williams, Doctoral Scholar in Christian Ethics and Theologos Coordinator, Wycliffe Hall*



The 19th century witnessed a revolution in higher education with the rise of the modern research university and the establishment of the first secular colleges and universities. In a growing number of institutions, theology was not only dethroned as 'queen of the sciences' but was marginalized or, indeed, excluded altogether.

With these developments, theologians found themselves confronted anew by old questions—Is theology a 'science'? For that matter, what qualifies any subject as a 'science'?—with dramatically raised stakes. Now these were questions about whether theology is a subject suitable for serious study within the modern university at all.

This lecture will explore the ways in which three very different 19th-century theologians who helped to found modern universities — Friedrich Schleiermacher, John Henry Newman, and Abraham Kuyper — grappled with these questions to contend for theology's role in the modern research university, and how their arguments relate to contemporary debates about the 'demarcation' of science, the nature of academic disciplines, and the value of theology for universities today.

**Wednesday 6th May** (2nd Week), 4.00pm

**Recollection Lecture: E.L. Mascall's Doctrine of the Incarnation and its Implications for Christian Sociology, Mike Michielin**



To understand Eric Mascall's doctrine of the Incarnation, we must look at the ontological account he develops in his natural theology of the relationship between God as Creator and the human creature. For Mascall, an ontologically informed doctrine of the Incarnation is not only faithful to Chalcedon's definition of the Incarnation, but also provides the necessary theological foundation for a Christian understanding of humanity and its purpose, upon which a Christian Sociology can be developed. How Mascall's Christology provides a Christian vision of humanity and its purpose, and how that vision can be advanced by the Church in the Eucharist, will be considered in this lecture.

**Wednesday 13th May** (3rd Week), 9.30am – 5.20pm

**Conference: What makes the novel Christian?**

What makes us consider *Pilgrim's Progress* and *The Brothers Karamazov* to be Christian novels? Is it because the author professes certain beliefs? Can a novel be Christian even though the author is not? Is a novel Christian because it presents morality and mortality in a particular way? Should we accept Alastair MacIntyre's suggestion in *After Virtue* that Jane Austen and Dante wrote comedies precisely because of their Christian faith? Could a novel ever be truly Christian if its story is a tragedy?

*Speakers include:*

- Professor Randy Boyagoda (University of Toronto) 'What is seen, what is believed: Belief in/and the Novel'
- Dr Bonnie Lander Johnson (Downing College, Cambridge) 'Mysticism and the Modern Novel'
- Dr Alison Milbank (University of Nottingham), tbc
- Dr Grace Oliver (Wilson Hill Academy) 'Elizabeth Gaskell and the Christian Imagination: Prayer, Scripture, and Character Formation in Gaskell's Works'
- Professor Lori Peterson Branch (University of Iowa), 'What if the Novel is Secular? The Novel as Secularism's Theology.'
- Professor Holly Ordway (Word on Fire Institute), tbc
- Ms Beatrice Scudeler (Fairer Disputations) 'The Evidence of Things Not Seen: Eschatological Hope in Dorothy Sayers' Detective Fiction'
- Dr Clare Walker Gore (Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge) 'Revealed Truths and Reserved Plots: Charlotte M. Yonge and the Tractarian Novel'

Tickets are available for £15. They can be booked by visiting [www.ticketsource.co.uk/pusey-house](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/pusey-house). See the QR code on the “Special Events” page above.

All tickets come with a livestream link which will be emailed to all ticketholders before the colloquium, which will also grant access to recordings of the talks after the conference is over.

Please email [mehmet.ciftci@stx.ox.ac.uk](mailto:mehmet.ciftci@stx.ox.ac.uk) with any questions.

The Conference will conclude with Evensong at 5.30pm, at which the Revd Dr Michael Ward will preach.

**Wednesday 20th May** (4th Week), 4.00pm

**Recollection Lecture: Re-Storying the Modern Self: Liturgy, Narrative, and Ethical Formation**, *Victoria de Haan, Lector in Catholic Theology, Blackfriars Studium*



Can the modern world be reconciled to the world of the liturgy?

What can the liturgy offer to the existential and ethical concerns of modern people? By embodying and communicating the Christian story, liturgy can challenge and reshape the often-impoverished modern narratives through which we understand human identity and ethics. I situate my discussion within the framework of liturgical social imagery, which understands the world as created, fallen, redeemed in Christ, and directed toward its final eschatological fulfilment in the Kingdom of God. Within this vision, the transformation of worldviews and cultures occurs primarily through the embodied and narrative reconfiguration of our “being-in-the-world,” rather than through rational proofs. I demonstrate that through liturgical practices and prayers, we deepen our understanding of identity and belonging, shape our ethical decision-making, and expand our social and communal horizons beyond the limits of individualism.

**Wednesday 27th May** (5th Week), 4.00pm

**The Peter Toon Memorial Lecture: The Prayer Book and the Quiet Revival**, *Fergus Butler Gallie, Vicar, Charlbury (St Mary the Virgin) with Shorthampton*



‘The reports of my death are an exaggeration’. So wrote a disgruntled Mark Twain to an editor when he was, twice, accused of being dead by the American press. It is a quote that naturally comes to mind when considering the *Book of Common Prayer*. Despite efforts to suppress and sideline its use, it has emerged into the 21<sup>st</sup> century stronger than anyone in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> could have thought. Its survival and revival has mirrored that of Christianity more generally. There appears to be considerably more anecdotal and statistical evidence for Christianity’s growth in this first quarter of the century than any might have thought possible. This lecture will address why and how the *Prayer Book* might be an asset to this

revival, putting forward the case that both the theological underpinnings and the practical usage of the *Book of Common Prayer* make it uniquely helpful in enabling the Church to address the thirst for faith, hope and love which is now apparent in the wider world.

The Lecture will be followed by the **Peter Toon Memorial Evensong at 5.30pm** at which the **Revd Ben Bell** will preach.

Wednesday 3rd June, (6th Week), 4.00pm

**Recollection Lecture:**

**Prudentius: Hymns Ancient & Modern, E. V. Mulhern Barnes**



Several hymns of the fourth- and fifth-century Spanish poet Prudentius are often sung from the *New English Hymnal*, and he seems comfortably familiar. 'Bethlehem of noblest cities' or 'Of the Father's heart begotten' do not confront us with theological difficulties, but appear to sit contentedly among the Renaissance and Victorian classics of the Christmas season. Yet Prudentius wrote in a politically, aesthetically, and religiously unsettled time, when neither the Nicene consensus nor the rules of Latin poetry were stable. His oeuvre, which ranges from hymns for the daily hours to a versification of Genesis or an attack on pagan magistrates and monuments, responds vibrantly to the vicissitudes of the period. This talk will situate Prudentius in his historical and literary contexts, before considering several works in detail, including his hymns for the martyrs (the *Liber Peristephanon*) and his elaborate allegorical epic on the battle of Virtues and Vices in the human soul (the *Psychomachia*). I hope to show that, through remarkably adept composition and unparalleled generic agility, the poet deals sensitively with the shifting polemical targets of late antique Roman Christianity.

Thursday 11th & Friday 12th June, (7th Week)

**Conference: MacIntyre in the Conflicts of Modernity**

The death of Alasdair Chalmers MacIntyre (12 January 1929 – 21 May 2025) provides all who are indebted to his work with an opportunity to consider how he has made them rethink those areas of philosophy to which he made outstanding contributions.

The Centre for Theology, Law, and Culture at Pusey House is partnering with the Canterbury Institute, and the Aquinas Institute at Blackfriars Hall to organise a conference to consider how we ought to commemorate the work that MacIntyre began, whether that be by developing and deepening it, by refining and correcting what he overlooked or dismissed, or by sharply disagreeing with the positions he held. It will consider how his work provokes us to redefine our positions in light of the arguments he made. As he wrote in his last book: 'In philosophy it is only rarely that anyone or any argument has the last word. Debate almost always continues, and this is notably so with the topics and issues with which I am concerned in this book' – MacIntyre, *Ethics in the Conflicts of Modernity*.

There will be two keynote lectures in the Chapel of Pusey House at 4pm on both days, which are open to the public and do not require registration to attend. **Evensong with a homily** will follow each public lecture, at **5.30pm**.

The majority of the conference will take place in Campion Hall and Christ Church and registration is required to attend the sessions. To register your interest in attending, please email: [andreas.masvie@chch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:andreas.masvie@chch.ox.ac.uk)

*Keynote lectures:*



**Thursday 11 June**

'MacIntyrean Insights for the Leonine Era'

Professor Tracey Rowland, *St John Paul II Chair of Theology, University of Notre Dame, Australia*



**Friday 12 June**

Last of the Utopians: Alasdair MacIntyre as Radical Humanist,

Professor Jason Blakely, *Professor of Political Science, Pepperdine University*

**Thursday 18th & Friday 19th June, (8th Week)**

***Conference: Natural Law and War***

In *The Law of War and Peace* (1625), Hugo Grotius revives two ancient questions: 'What is war? What is law?'. The Dutch theologian-jurist thereby commences modern European discussions about just war and just peace, both of which were now meant to be conducted according to 'law'.

Four hundred years later, war is still with us and peace seems just as difficult to make as it ever was. Law remains a contested domain, especially between jurisdictions and nations. It is unclear whether war is being waged or peace is being made according to any law. The questions are still with us. But we also enjoy the benefit of a well-developed tradition of natural law.

What can doctrines of natural law tell us about waging war and about peace-making? Are ancient sources that may have been unknown to Grotius's age helpful in answering the questions? Do the 'laws of nature' that science has since uncovered help us? Can the theology, which undergirded both Grotius's writings and the modern natural rights and human rights doctrines, help in answering these questions?

Join the Centre for Theology, Law, and Culture in Oxford for a two-day international conference, held in partnership with the Chase Center at Ohio State University, and the School of Civic Leadership at the University of Texas at Austin.

For tickets to all of our conferences, see the Pusey House website or use this QR code:



*For more information, please email [pusey.conference@stx.ox.ac.uk](mailto:pusey.conference@stx.ox.ac.uk)*



# THE CHAPTER OF PUSEY HOUSE

**The Revd Mark Stafford**

*Chaplain*

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Front cover image:

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