

Quiet Mornings
of
Reflection
2014



Christ Church
Cathedral

Being quiet and reflective is part of a Christian's vocation, duty and joy. We are to "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10), indeed we might never know that God is God until we are still, quiet, attentive and listening in a way we have done for a while. This is hard to do because we are not only busy, but have got used to our busyness and often wear it as an emblem of how busy we are about God's business.

The Cathedral has provide a number of days each year where we can be quiet and at ease in God's presence. They were begun by Dean James Rigney in 2009 and will continue this year under the direction of Fr. Glen Hughes and Fr. Roger Sharr. Glen is the Parish Priest of Scone and Roger is the former parish priest of St. James' Morpeth and has recently retired.

Timetable

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| 10.00am | Gather in the Warrior's chapel |
| 10.15am | First Address |
| 11.15am | Second Address |
| 12.00 | Angelus and final address |
| 12.30pm | Eucharist |
| | Depart |

Participants may pray in the Cathedral itself and throughout the grounds. All the alarms will be turned off for the duration of the Quiet morning.

THEMES FOR 2014

- 8 February **We do not presume**
Thinking through the themes of the Prayer of Humble Access and how they can be applied to our approach to Christian discipleship and worship.
- 8 March **Dear Lord and Father of Mankind**
Deepen the journey of Lent with a reflection on one of our best known and loved hymns as we reflect on the mercy and grace of God, our own journey as disciples and our call to faithfulness and service.
- 12 April **Palms and processions**
How the rhythm of Holy Week and the Triduum allows us to enter more deeply into the Paschal mysteries, and some new perspectives on old habits.
- 10 May **Spirituality of Evelyn Underhill**
Evelyn Underhill's contribution to Anglican life and thought in the first half of the 20th Century has largely been forgotten. As one of the few mystics of the Anglican tradition, she has much to teach us about living and developing our understanding of the Christian faith not just from an academic/theological perspective, but from the development and growth of the interior life through love and service.
- 14 June **Praying with Icons**
Many were taught to pray with their minds and to find the right words. This reflection is for those who know they pray better with their eyes.
- 12 July **Moses—a type of Discipleship**
We're all "Leaders" now, which is why we're in such a mess. Moses offers a very different pattern of both leadership and being faithful to God ... and to himself.

9 August **No Meeting: Roger in Canberra**

13 Sept **Spirituality of John Betjeman**

Sir John B. was that rare kind of poet—both popular and accessible. He loved the Church of England and thought Anglicanism provided many ways of being Christian at a time when all the ancient authorities were failing. Try to read some of the poems I shall send out before we meet.

11 October **Via Negativa: God as Absence**

Our Culture yearns for clarity—is this marketable? Will it sell? “I want specific answers to specific questions. Without such values, I’m not buying”. And they don’t buy, do they? Thank God they don’t! But what they (and we) have to learn is that God is not a product. God is a vacuum at the heart of things, drawing everything to himself.

8 November **Time**

We know no other world than one that is not governed by Time. Imagine your gravestone: “19??” to “20??” ... whatever it is, Time will have stopped for you. So what do we do with our consciousness while we have it? Perhaps the present Moment, that is the only Time we may be sure of, the only Window into God?

13 December **Advent**

If Lent/Easter is supremely the season of Jesus, Advent is the season of Mary – a time of pondering, reflecting on “what sort of greeting this might be”.

*If you don’t believe a word of the Ho! Ho! Ho! and “Xmas is a time for Kids” and you’d like to **pray** Advent for a change, might be a morning for you.*