

DIOCESE OF LEEDS YEAR OF THE WORD SPEAKER SERIES - SCRIPTURE PROMOTING FLOURISHING

Date	Speaker	Venue	Theme
Thursday 9th January 7:00pm	Dr Simon Hewitt <i>School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science Leeds University</i>	Hinsley Hall	<i>The God who's there – The Psalms and Mental Health</i> Dr Hewitt will suggest that we can explore depression in and through the Psalms, placing them in their context as the prayers of individuals and as part of the prayer of the Universal Church.
Thursday 13th February 7:00pm	Rev Dr Richard Ounsworth OP <i>Faculty of Theology & Religion Oxford University</i>	Hinsley Hall	<i>The God who leads by example – How Christ in the New Testament teaches us to be human</i> Fr Ounsworth, Dominican Friar and expert in New Testament studies will focus on ways in which the writers of the Gospels and New Testament epistles depict Christ as an exemplary human being.
Thursday 12th March 7:00pm	Dr Margaret Barker <i>Methodist Preacher & Biblical Scholar</i>	Hinsley Hall	<i>The God who blesses the Earth - Care for Creation as Liturgical Action</i> Dr Barker has produced a number of ground-breaking studies on the Jerusalem Temple and the origins of Christian liturgy. She will talk about how viewing humankind's role in caring for creation in "priestly" terms can lead to a deeper flourishing of the relationship between humans and their environment.
Tuesday 31st March 7:00pm	Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ <i>Writer & Broadcaster</i>	Hinsley Hall	<i>The God who empowers - Women in the Old Testament</i> Renowned theologian and broadcaster Sr. Gemma Simmonds will explore the role of female protagonists in the Hebrew Bible, looking at their often-overlooked contribution to salvation history.
Thursday 21st May 7:00pm	Rev Dr John Hemer MHM <i>Scripture Scholar Allen Hall Seminary Westminster</i>	Hinsley Hall	<i>The God who gathers – Using the Bible to make Mission fit for the 21st Century</i> Fr. John Hemer is a Mill Hill Father who has worked in Pakistan, Kenya and Uganda. Drawing on his experience as a missionary and teacher of scripture, he will examine the role of the Bible in mission.

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<p>Tuesday 9th June 7:00pm</p>	<p>Dr Ruth Valerio <i>Author and Campaigner</i> <i>Advocacy Director at Tearfund</i></p>	<p>Wheeler Hall, Leeds Cathedral</p>	<p><i>The God who Sustains – Cultivating environmental virtue using the Bible</i></p> <p>Ruth Valerio is a leading authority on justice, environment and lifestyle issues. She helped set up the Eco Church project with <i>A Rocha UK</i>. Ruth's talk will look at the role of scripture in ecological flourishing, combining biblical insights with practical suggestions for Christian communities.</p>
<p>Wednesday 9th September 7:00pm</p>	<p>Dr John Newton <i>Aid to the Church in Need</i></p>	<p>Hinsley Hall</p>	<p><i>The God who suffers? Flourishing in the face of persecution</i></p> <p>Dr John Newton will discuss the relationship between contemporary oppression of Christian minorities and their biblical precedents.</p>
<p>Thursday 8th October 7:00pm</p>	<p>Rev Dr Kieran Heskin <i>Diocese of Leeds</i></p> <p>Rt Hon John Battle KCSH <i>Chair of Leeds Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission</i></p>	<p>Hinsley Hall</p>	<p><i>The God who demands justice – Social Action and the Old Testament</i></p> <p>In this talk, Dr Heskin will examine God's special concern for the poor in the Hebrew Bible. John Battle will respond with insights from his experience as a politician and community activist.</p>
<p>Tuesday 10th November 7:00pm</p>	<p>Dr William Flynn <i>School of History</i> <i>Leeds University</i></p>	<p>Wheeler Hall or Cathedral (TBC)</p>	<p><i>The God who sings – Music, Mary & Scripture</i></p> <p>Dr William Flynn will speak about devotional liturgies in the Pre-Reformation Church. These liturgies, often lay-led, were infused with the Medieval interpretation of Scripture. The talk will conclude in the Cathedral's Lady Chapel with a celebration of Dr Flynn's own translation of the Vespers for Compassion of Mary led by Dr Flynn and his wife Dr Jane Flynn who is a Musicologist at Leeds University.</p>