

Engaging with Poverty in the Early Church and Today

Friday 4th and Saturday 5th
December 2015

at St Mary's University
Waldegrave Road
Twickenham TW1 4SX



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

The Centre for the
Social-Scientific Study
of the Bible

tearfund



Photo courtesy of Ralph Hodgson/Tearfund

This unique conference will enable reflection and action which is deeply rooted in the mutual relationship between early Christianity and today's world. It will bring together in dialogue experts in early Christianity and in modern strategies for alleviating poverty, to enable people today to understand and engage with poverty.

Speakers will address the issues in accessible ways for those involved with charitable bodies, churches, and mission and development agencies. Each session will focus on a theme seen from both the modern world and early Christianity. Further conversation, discussion, debate and questions will promote good dialogue.

The conference is a collaborative project of St Mary's University, Twickenham, Tearfund, and Caritas (Diocese of Westminster).

Sessions will include:

- Poverty and its causes
- Benefaction: what it is and what it looks like
- Patronage and being patronised
- Raising funds in one place, giving to another
- Poverty, choice and dehumanisation
- The 'undeserving poor': a problematic category
- State, church and civil society: who is responsible for the poor?
- 'The poor will always be among you'

Speakers include:

- Prof John Barclay, University of Durham
- Francis Campbell, St Mary's University, Twickenham
- Prof Lynn Cohick, Wheaton College, Illinois (USA)
- John Coleby, Caritas (Diocese of Westminster)
- The Revd Dr Fiona Gregson, Birmingham
- Dr Christopher Hays, Fundación Universitaria Seminario Bíblico (Colombia)
- Helen Hekel, Tearfund
- Elie Hughes, Riverbank Trust, Richmond
- Prof Bruce Longenecker, Baylor University (USA)
- The Revd Virginia Luckett, Tearfund
- Dr Hannah Swithinbank, Tearfund
- Dr Myrto Theocharous, Greek Bible College, Athens (Greece)
- The Rt Hon Stephen Timms, MP for East Ham
- Prof Steve Walton, St Mary's University, Twickenham

For more information and to register, visit:

www.stmarys.ac.uk/christian-engagement

Registration is £75

(£50 for students, people on benefits, and senior citizens)
Some of the registration fee will contribute to Riverbank Trust's work with vulnerable single mums and their families in Richmond.

Food and Accommodation:

Lunch and drinks at breaks will be provided each day. Otherwise, conference attendees are responsible for making their own arrangements for meals and accommodation. St Mary's University has an excellent Refectory with reasonable prices for meals, and there are also numerous local restaurants.

For hotels, we recommend The Alexander Pope Hotel (5 mins walk) www.alexanderpope.co.uk, or Travelodge Twickenham (20 mins walk) www.travelodge.co.uk/hotels/537/London-Twickenham-hotel or Travelodge Teddington (20 mins walk) www.travelodge.co.uk/hotels/542/London-Teddington-hotel