

Wed 9 September
Hinsley Hall

Dr John Newton
Aid to the Church in
Need



The God Who Suffers?

Flourishing in the Face of Persecution

Dr Newton, Communications Director of Aid to the Church in Need, discusses the relationship between contemporary oppression of Christian minorities and their biblical precedents.



Thursday 8 October
Hinsley Hall

Rev Dr Kieran
Heskin & Rt Hon
John Battle



The God Who Demands Justice
Social Action in the Old Testament

Biblical scholar Mgr Heskin (Leeds Diocese) examines God's special concern for the poor in the Hebrew Bible and John Battle responds with insights from his experience as a politician and community activist.

Tuesday 10 November
Wheeler Hall, Leeds
Cathedral

Dr William Flynn
Leeds University



The God Who Sings

Music, Mary and Scripture

Historian Dr Flynn is an expert on devotional liturgies in the Pre-Reformation Church. Often lay-led, these liturgies were infused with Medieval interpretations of Scripture. His 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* assisted by his wife, Dr Jane Flynn, who is a Musicologist at Leeds University.



Talks will run 7-8pm at Hinsley Hall, Headingley Lane, Leeds LS6 2BX with an opportunity to continue discussion over a drink at the bar. Please note that the final talk will be at Wheeler Hall, St Annes St, Leeds LS2 8BE. We hope to record the talks and post them on the Diocese of Leeds website. For more information about the Speaker Series & other Year of the Word events, contact:

gregory.stacey@dioceseofleeds.org.uk or
henry.longbottom@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Diocese of Leeds
THE YEAR OF
THE WORD

The God Who
Gives Life

Speaker Series
2020



***Nine talks exploring the interaction
between the Bible and human
flourishing in personal, community
and global contexts***

Thursday 9 January
Hinsley Hall

Dr Simon Hewitt
Leeds University



The God Who's There
The Psalms and Mental Health

Dr Hewitt, a philosopher, suggests 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 13 February
Hinsley Hall

Rev Dr Richard
Ounsworth OP
Blackfriars, Oxford



The God Who Leads by Example
How Christ Teaches us to be Human

Dominican Friar, Fr Ounsworth, an 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 12 March
Hinsley Hall

Dr Margaret Barker
Biblical Scholar



The God Who Blesses the Earth
Care for Creation as a Liturgical Act

Author of ground-breaking studies on the Temple and origins of Christian liturgy, Dr Barker believes that viewing care for creation in “priestly” terms leads to a deeper flourishing between humans & environment.



Tuesday 31 March
Hinsley Hall

Dr Gemma
Simmonds CJ
Writer & Broadcaster



The God Who Empowers
Women leaders in the Old Testament

Renowned theologian and broadcaster Sr Simmonds (Congregation of Jesus) explores the role of female protagonists in the Hebrew Bible, examining their often-overlooked contribution to salvation history.

Thursday 21 May
Hinsley Hall

Rev Dr John
Hemer MHM
Allen Hall, London



The God Who Gathers
A Bible fit for Mission

Fr Hemer, a Mill Hill Missionary, has worked in Pakistan, Kenya and Uganda. Drawing on his experience as a missionary & as a scripture teacher, he examines the role of the Bible for 21st Century mission.



Tuesday 30 June
Hinsley Hall

Dr Ruth Valerio
Author & Advocate



The God Who Sustains
Cultivating Environmental Virtue

Dr Valerio is Tearfund's Global Advocacy Director & expert on green living having helped set up EcoChurch with A Rocha UK. Drawing on Biblical insights she makes practical suggestions for faith groups.