



St Mary's
University
Twickenham
London

Faculty of Education, Theology, & the Arts

FETTA Newsletter June 2024

June and July are months of celebration and triumph for our students, most of whom have recently completed another year of studies at St Mary's. HUGE congratulations particularly to our finalists, who will now be waiting in eager anticipation for their graduations at Westminster Cathedral. This is the last FETTA newsletter of this academic year, and therefore my last newsletter as Dean – so best wishes to all FETTA students and staff for the summer, and beyond.



Prof Jacob Phillips
Interim Dean of the Faculty of Education, Theology, and the Arts
Professor of Systematic Theology



Meet a FETTA Student.
This month we talked to Joseph Masterson, final year student from BA Education Studies and Theology, Religion and Ethics



Tell us a bit about yourself and why you chose to study at St Mary's

I was really unsure what to study, but I was really interested in Theology, Philosophy and Ethics and one of my sixth form teachers suggested St Mary's. I went to an open day and met the teaching staff and thought this would be a good place for me in terms of both my personal and academic growth. I decided on a joint honours programme with Education Studies and Theology, Religion and Ethics

Is there a particular staff member you would like to give a shout out too, who particularly inspired or supported you?

I was taught Religion in Contemporary Society by Stephen Bullivant and he was amazing. We did loads of really interesting field trips like the Thai Buddhist temple in Wimbledon, the Jewish Museum in Camden. We have kept in touch; he has guided my personal reading and both Stephen and Jacob Phillips were absolutely fantastic in supporting my dissertation. The third person I'd like to give a shout out to is Bob Hope.

What is your proudest or most memorable moment at St Mary's?

One of my most memorable, was turning up to my first Theology class and half the class were seminarians and thinking I must be in the wrong room. Some of the guys were only 5 or 6 years older than me and I thought whoa! It's been an incredible eye-opening experience to talk and work with them you know, finding out what they did before and how they got to this point in their lives, having arrived at the decision to dedicate their lives to God.

One thing that I'm really proud of is that I took part in the Commuter Mentor Scheme this year, along with 8 others. We had a group of about 38 first year students who joined. Through regular meet-ups, we were able to show them the ropes and support them to settle in. My proudest moment though, is that I have been President of the Catholic Society this year. The membership has more than doubled, we've had a great committee and put on loads of events. The Eucharistic procession in February was really successful in raising our profile and spreading the Gospel.

Tell us about something you do outside of university.

I rap, I love a rap battle and I play guitar and piano. I was in a band for 5 years and we did a whole load of different things, including some charity fundraisers at arrivals in Luton Airport. Yeah, it was probably a bit baffling for some of the tourists, we got some funny reactions. We'd end up with a bucket of all sorts of currencies, we'd take literally anything and then we'd go round to the currency exchange desk to change it up before we left. I imagine they were thrilled to see us coming!

What are your plans for the summer?

Catch up on sleep, but also on a variety of people who I've been meaning to see. I'm also off to Silverstone to see the British Grand Prix in July, which is a 21st birthday present from my amazing family.

What do you want to do in the future?

I've been accepted onto PGCE Secondary RE here, so I'll be back!



Meet a FETTA Colleague

This month we talked to Susan Elderfield from the School of Education, Lecturer in School Chaplaincy and Youth Ministry



Tell us a bit about yourself and how you came to be Lecturer at St Mary's

I am the advisor for chaplaincy for the Archdiocese of Southwark and I found that many people who go into chaplaincy do so with very little training. I decided to approach St Mary's to see if we could put a programme in place to support them. The result was the launch, two years ago, of the Apprenticeship in Working with Children, Young People and Families (School Chaplaincy and Youth Ministry), which brings together all the elements of training you would want a person in one of these roles to have. It includes ethical and policy knowledge, guidance around mental health issues, disability etc. and the aim is to equip students so that they feel more confident in their skills and knowledge to act as chaplains and youth workers in their environment. COVID has heightened the need for skilled support of children with complex needs and even those who just need a friendly ear. So, the first cohort are about to complete the course, which is really exciting. What has been unexpectedly brilliant is that the students have formed their own community and they share resources and support each other which is just lovely to see. The collaboration of the University with the Diocese, particularly around funding, has been a real success and the hope is that this model might now spread to other diocese.

Who inspires you?

I'm an Ursuline High School old girl and our motto was 'to serve' as inspired by the teachings of St Angela Merici who founded the Ursuline Order and that is what I feel I have done for my whole life. That's been my inspiration.

If you could have another job for a day, what would you do?

I'd open a retreat house in Mid France and I would look after families who needed a bit of respite. I'd have activities for the children and I'd cook French food for them.

Do you have a secret talent?

I play bass guitar, no band at the moment, but there was a band in my university days. Now there's just me, sitting in the background at home, playing the bass!

What's on in FETTA?

Cricket, 1st July - St Mary's XI V The Vatican (St Peter's XI)



Students and staff are welcome to attend the T20 match at the Duke of Norfolk's ground, Arundel Castle. We expect alumnus Monty Panesar to be in the SMU team, plus Jake Oakes who was a member of the England deaf team which won the deaf Ashes in Australia. Chris Wylde and Leanne Griffiths are captaining and managing the SMU team.

There will be 30 free places on the coach leaving St. Mary's at 10:45am. Return departure is at 9:15pm. The match is scheduled between 2:40pm and 5:40pm. If you come by the coach, there is a post match reception for players only, but there are lots of opportunities to eat and drink in Arundel! For a place on the coach (first come, first served), please email

joey.oliva@stmarys.ac.uk.

Bring a picnic. There are also refreshments available at the ground. Admission is free. Car parking is £5. For further information, please email Philip.booth@stmarys.ac.uk

Staff Summer Party 10th July
reminder to book your place here:
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PH
TDHZ9](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PHTDHZ9)



St Mary's University
**Outstanding
Performance
Awards 2024**

Last chance to nominate your
outstanding colleagues for an award
under one of the five categories below:-

- Best Team Award
- Champion of the Student Experience
- Unsung Hero Award
- Inspirational Leader Award
- Living our Values Award

Nomination process closes on Monday
17th June. Link below:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BH6T
X79](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BH6TX79)



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CENTRE FOR WELLBEING
IN EDUCATION

Centre for Wellbeing in Education – Summer Teach Meet

20th June 2024
4-5pm

Free online professional learning event hosted by the Centre for Wellbeing in Education at St Mary's University. The event is open to teachers, teaching assistants, school leaders, ECTs and trainee teachers – all welcome!

The **Wellbeing in Schools Teach Meet** will provide a space for sharing reflections and exploring practical wellbeing ideas to put into practice. Do you have a short five-minute idea for teacher or pupil wellbeing? If you would like to contribute, email jennifer.murray@stmarys.ac.uk.

To book your place, please register via the link below:

[REGISTER HERE](#)

or scan the QR code 





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Generative AI in schools – research and insights



This free event explores the voices of students and teachers in primary and secondary schools about the use of generative AI.

The event will share findings from research completed by the School of Education and you will hear from others in the field about how these tools can shape education.



Scan QR code [to book](#)

This free event explores the voices of students and teachers in primary and secondary schools about the use of generative AI. The event will share findings from research completed by the School of Education and you will hear from others in the field about how these tools can shape education.

Sign-up here: <https://forms.office.com/e/PCc7JEj8xy>



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Bereavement in Education Summit

Tuesday 25th June 2024 9.30am-3pm

St Mary's University, Waldegrave Road, Twickenham, London

St Mary's University is delighted to host a high-profile Bereavement in Education Summit on 25th June 2024. The aim of the one-day event is to bring together practitioners, education leaders, policymakers, researchers, funeral directors, charities and the lived experiences of those in education.

The Bereavement in Education Summit will provide a range of research and practice-informed keynotes, engaging workshops and relevant resources aimed at those working at all levels across the education sector.

Key areas of focus:

- ▶ Bereavement policy and practice in schools
- ▶ Death literacy across the curriculum
- ▶ Professional development for staff in schools

The Bereavement in Education Summit is part of a funded research project and

the first 50 school-based participants to register will receive £100

towards supply cover costs and/or bereavement-related resources for their schools.

The event is FREE for all other participants; places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Any questions?

Contact event host, Prof. Anna Lise Gordon
annalise.gordon@stmarys.ac.uk

To register:

forms.office.com/e/7MnbbvcXXp



**The Art of
Dying Well**





Day for Life is the day in the Church's year dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. Day for Life will be marked on 16th June, to find out more: -<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life>

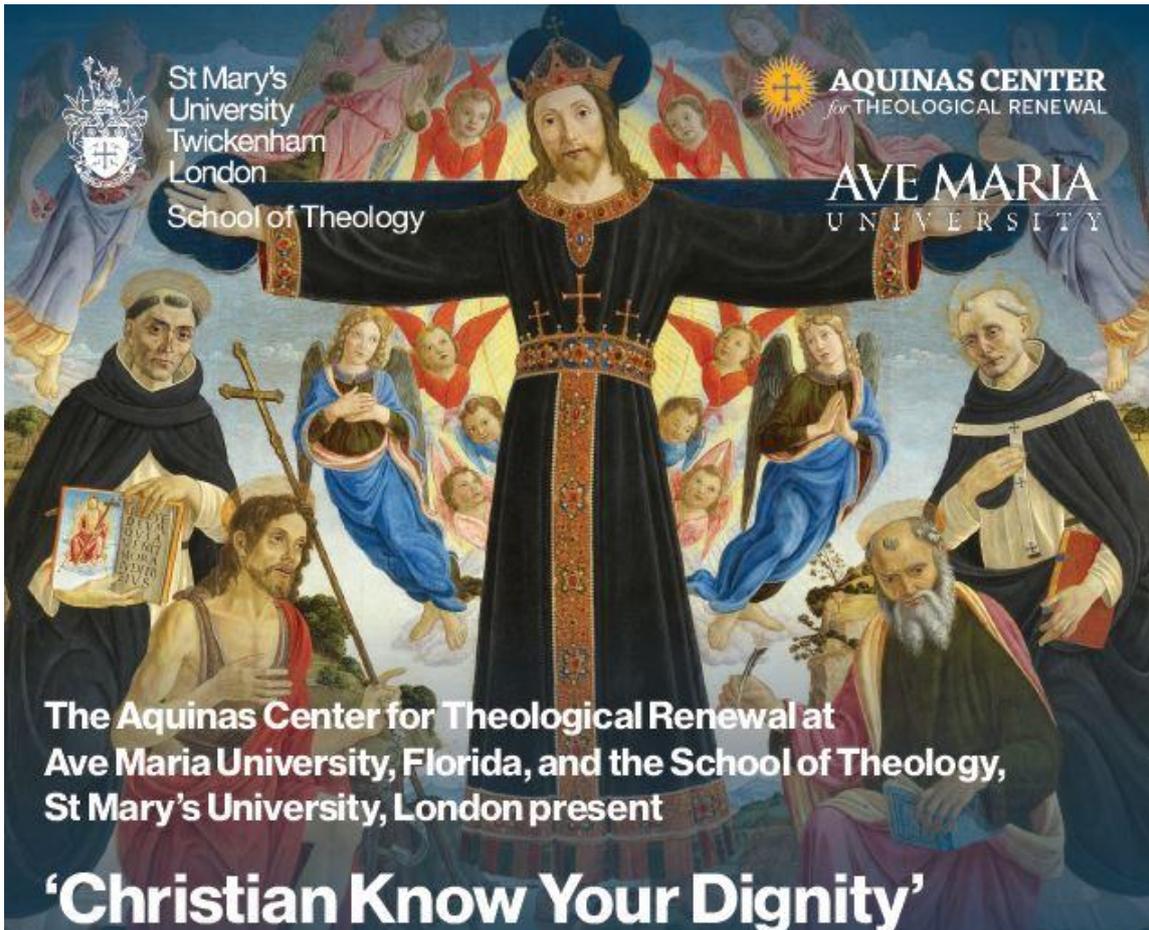


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AQUINAS CENTER
for THEOLOGICAL RENEWAL

AVE MARIA
UNIVERSITY



The Aquinas Center for Theological Renewal at Ave Maria University, Florida, and the School of Theology, St Mary's University, London present

'Christian Know Your Dignity' The Royal Priesthood and the Renewal of the Church

20th-22nd June 2024
St Mary's University, Twickenham, London

FEATURING:

John Bergsma, Lawrence Feingold, Matthew Levering, Uwe Michael Lang Cong. Orat., Michael Dauphinais, Roger Nutt, Isaac Morales OP, Mark Miravalle, and others

AREAS INCLUDING:

Scripture, Patristics, Aquinas, Sacraments, Ecclesiology, Liturgy, Mariology, Catechesis, Divine Filiation, Nature-Grace theology, Metaphysics of Participation, Indwelling Trinity, Sacred Art, and more

Episcopal Patronage: Bishop Richard Moth and Bishop Erik Varden

Register for the conference here:

SCAN ME



[Royal Priesthood and Renewal of the Church International Conference June 2024 | St Mary's University Online Store \(stmarys.ac.uk\)](#)

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You are warmly invited
to the celebratory launch of

**John of the Cross: Carmel,
Desire and Transformation**
(Routledge)

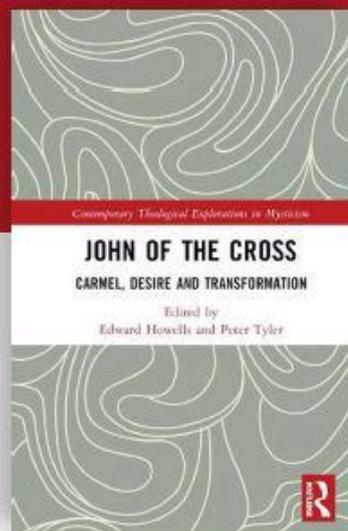
edited by
**Dr Edward Howells and
Prof. Peter Tyler**

13th June 2024 at 5 – 6.30pm
Senior Common Room,
St Mary's University,
Twickenham, TW1 4SX

(Includes a Drinks Reception)

(a 20% Discount on the book will be available on the evening)

For more information please visit:
www.stmarys.ac.uk/inspire





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Wound is the Origin of Wonder

An evening with Dr Maya C. Popa

Dr Maya C. Popa and Dr Richard Mills will be in conversation about her latest book *Wound is the Origin of Wonder* (Picador, 2023). The evening will begin with a reading, followed by an audience Q&A and a book signing.



Monday
24th June
7pm
in the
Waldegrave
Drawing
Room



Wine and snacks will be served.

175th Anniversary Project



This project investigates the history of St Mary's University which, in 2025, is celebrating its 175th anniversary.

The project aims to share the unique history of this institution with a wide audience. Archival research is being undertaken and the team are also conducting oral history interviews with past staff and students, while engaging current students with the University's history. The research will contribute to the anniversary heritage initiatives in 2025, including a pop-up exhibition.

The project is jointly funded jointly by CERRL and UKRI. It initially runs between February and July 2024, but is actively seeking extension funding to expand activities into St Mary's anniversary year. To find out more or to contribute :-
<https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/research/centres/catholic-education/history-of-st-marys.aspx>



First Meeting of the Collaborative History Forum

First Meeting, 26th June 1pm-5pm : St Mary's University is proud to announce the launch of a new Collaborative History Forum. At a time when the value of history within the education system has come under scrutiny as never before, we recognise that for the health of the discipline it is crucial that we build connections between practitioners in Schools, Universities (both Historians and Educationalists) and Heritage Organisations. In doing so, we aim to support the ongoing project of vital, engaging and relevant historical education from secondary school to University. In this first meeting of the collaborative history forum we will scope out the potential areas of collaboration between Schools, Universities and Heritage Organisations. Our aim is to facilitate mutual understanding of the perspectives and requirements of all parties, including the resources and expertise available, in order to map potential for future collaboration across three areas: curriculum and subject engagement, experiential learning, and transitions. For more information and to sign up, please see the website here: <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/events/2024/collaborative-history-forum-26th-june>