

Preliminary Conference Programme

THE SPIRITUALITY OF RELIGIOUS WOMEN: FROM THE OLD WORLD TO THE ANTIPODES, 1400-1900

LOCATION Centre for Theology and Ministry, 1 Morrison Close, Parkville,
Melbourne

DATE May 11-12, 2007

Day 1. Friday, May 11 OLD WORLD

REGISTRATION 8:30 – 9:15 am

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS 9:15 – 9:30 am

Presenters, please note the 20-minute time limit on papers. This will allow for 10 minutes of questions and discussion at the end of each half-hour presentation.

Session 1: 9.30 – 11:00am

Constant Mews “ ‘Get thee to a Nunnery’: Reflections on the Ambiguous Status of Nuns in Medieval Tradition.”

Elizabeth Freeman “Cistercian Nuns in Medieval England: What Were Their Spiritualities, and How Were Their Spiritualities Expressed in Different Sources?”

Rina Lahov “Marguerite Porete (d. 1310) and the Predicament of Her Preaching.”

MORNING TEA 11:00am – 11:20am.

Session 2: 11:30 – 1:00 pm

Anne Margot Boyd “Fashioning the Foundress: Questions and Considerations for Studying the Cult and Spirituality of the Foundress in Religious Communities.”

Peter Howard “ ‘Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thy ear...’: Archbishop Antonino (1389-1459), the Nuns of ‘Il Paradiso’, and the *cura animarum* of Women in Renaissance Florence.”

Claire Renkin “Performing Penitence: Botticelli’s Altarpiece (c. 1490) for the Convent of Penitent Prostitutes, Florence.”

LUNCH 1:00 – 2:30 pm

“SPINNING THE THREADS” 2:30 – 3:30 pm

Each presenter will have five (5) minutes of summarising to be followed by ten minutes of group discussion.

Elizabeth Freeman. Elizabeth will report on her anthology-in-progress, “To My Dearest Sister: Cistercian Monks Writing to Religious Women in the 12th and 13th Centuries.”

Julie Roberts "Suor Arcangela Tarabotti's Use of Dante's Alighieri's *Divina Commedia* as a Spiritual Guide and Literary Model".

Julie will discuss Tarabotti (1604-1652) and the way she used Dante Alighieri as a spiritual guide and model in the writing of her *Inferno Monacale* and *Paradiso Monacale*.

Joan Winter, O.P. “Up She Goes for Up She Must: Reflections on the Diary of the Voyage to Australia by a Dominican nun in the 1860’s.”

Berenice Kerr, R.S.M. To be announced

AFTERNOON TEA 3:30 – 3:50 pm

Session 3: 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Jan Pinder “The Spiritual Reading of French Poor Clares in the Fifteenth Century: a Book for Nuns from Amiens.”

Julie Hotchin “Becoming Brides of Christ: the Self-Understanding of Nuns in Later Medieval Germany.”

Mary Ryllis Clark “Mary Ward (1585-1645) and her ‘Gallopers.’”

KEYNOTE ADDRESS 7:30 – 9 pm

Prof. Querciolo Mazzonis, University of Siena, Prato.

“The Experience of the Sacred According to Angela Merici: Some Reflections.”

Day 2. Saturday May 12th. ANTIPODES

LITURGY OF COMMEMORATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

9:00 – 9:45 am

Session 4: 10:00 – 11:00 am

Margaret Malone, S.G.S. “The Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St. Benedict.”

Catherine Kovesi-Killerby “ ‘A sheepfold in a distant land’ ”: The Charism of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd in an Australian Context.”

MORNING TEA 11:00 – 11:20 am

Session 5: 11:30 – 12:30 pm The Mercy Congregation

Berenice Kerr, R.S.M. “ ‘ Much Like Home’ : Bringing Culture to the Clarence. The Story of the Pioneer Grafton Sisters of Mercy as told by Themselves.”

Sophie McGrath, R.S.M. “A Fascinating Mix: An Analysis of the Spiritual Influences in the Lives of the Founding Pioneers of a Mercy Congregation in Late 19th-century Australia.”

LUNCH 12:30pm – 1:15 pm

Session 6: 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Katharine Massam “Maria Harispe and Resident Aliens: the Teresian Sisters in Australia, 1904-1910.”

Janet Crawford “The School Island: The Sisters of the Cross and Girls’ Education in the Solomon Islands Pre-World War II.”

CONCLUDING DISCUSSION AND AFTERNOON TEA 2:30 – 3:30 pm

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