



The St Wilfrid Lectures 2010

Religion & Politics

St Wilfrid Lectures on Theology and Education



Founded in AD 650, Ripon Cathedral has a long history of commitment to, and involvement in learning. The St Wilfrid lectures are a response to the growing need for theology and education to interact with issues facing society in the 21st century. In the contemporary world, both theology and education need to engage in dialogue with a range of communities on issues wider than narrowly defined matters of religion and schooling.

The series began in 2009 as part of the year long celebrations to mark the 1300th anniversary of the death of St Wilfrid. The series is to be an annual event and aims to promote public conversation and to contribute to the formation of personal decisions and collective policy-making in economic, political and social spheres. It is also an ecumenical project that seeks to exchange insights between academic, religious and educational tradition, and to build bridges between church and different faith and community groups and organisations. The lectures relate faith to public concerns including politics, the arts, religion and education, local and global Christianity and the multi-faith and multicultural society.

Theme for 2010 lectures:

Religion and Politics – The Role of the Church in Contemporary Society

2010 should prove to be an interesting year in terms of party politics, with many suggesting we could witness the closest fought election for decades. Whether a coalition or a single party is victorious, all agree we are facing significant political challenge as we move into the second decade of the 21st century. The economy, the environment, ideologies and the challenge of fundamentalism, the politics of fear, global communication – these are just some of the issues. The St Wilfrid lectures for 2010 will look to address these and other themes and reflect on the extent to which religion and politics converse.

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2010: Thursday evenings at 7.00pm | Ripon Cathedral

18 February

Bishop James Jones - Bishop of Liverpool
'My Kingdom is not of this world' - Really?

22 April

Professor Roger Trigg - Academic Director of the Centre for the Study of Religion in Public Life, Kellogg College, University of Oxford
Does 'Equality' Override Religious Freedom?

17 June

Ruth Gledhill - The Times, Religion Correspondent
Don't Shoot Me I'm Just The Messenger: Media, Church, State and Politics

8 July

Aaqil Ahmed - BBC Commissioning Editor, Religion & Ethics
Religion, Politics and Public Broadcasting

30 September

Baroness Estelle Morris - House of Lords
The Church, the State and our Schools: is it a relationship that can still work?

18 November

Rabbi Dr Tony Bayfield - Head of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain
Politically Engaged Religion: Faith in the Public Square

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General information

The lectures will be held at Ripon Cathedral. For further information please see the websites:
www.yorks.ac.uk/stwilfridlectures or www.riponcathedral.org.uk

Admission is free but by ticket only. Disabled access is available but please mention when booking.
To book a ticket: E: judithbustard@riponcathedral.org.uk
T: 01765 603462 or write to: St Wilfrid Lectures, Cathedral office, Liberty Courthouse, Minster Road,
Ripon HG4 1QS

The St Wilfrid Lectures

Jointly organised and sponsored by:
Ripon Cathedral
Methodist District of York and Hull
Ripon and Leeds Diocese
York St John University

