

COURSE CONTENT

- A. **The Spirituality of the Abrahamic Faiths.**
- i. The One God who Creates
 - ii. The One God who Guides
 - iii. The One God who is merciful and forgiving
 - iv. The One God who offers Life after Death or Resurrection
 - v. Adam
 - vi. Noah
 - vii. Abraham
 - viii. Joseph
 - ix. Moses
 - x. Sharing the Word in prayer, meditation and contemplation
 - xi. Jesus and Mary in the Inspired Scriptures
 - xii. Jesus and Mary in the Spiritual Writers
 - xiii. Summary and evaluation
- B. **Subjects of Interest (if requested)**
45-minute slot aimed to inform and provoke discussion.
- i. Syria
 - ii. Arctic
 - iii. Ali Khameni (Supreme Leader of Iran)
 - iv. Human Trafficking
 - v. Fundamentalism
 - vi. Afghanistan
 - vii. Drones
 - viii. Gambling
 - ix. ISIS
 - x. Zionism, a failed identity

Information / Registration:

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CHRISTIAN – MUSLIM DIALOGUE

*The Spirituality
of the Abrahamic
Faiths -
the Bible and
Ku'ran*

St. Scholastica's Center of Spirituality

DATES: JULY 3-5, 2015

JULY 17-19, 2015

JULY 24-26, 2015

JULY 31 – AUGUST 2, 2015

FROM FRIDAY, 4 PM TO SUNDAY AFTER LUNCH

About the Lecturer

ABBOT TIMOTHY WRIGHT, OSB, MA (Oxon), BD (London), PhD (Wales)



Timothy Wright is third of four sons born to Catholic parents in Nottinghamshire UK. His father was a coal mining engineer who rose to be Chairman of a family business, the Butterley Company based in nearby Derbyshire. Like his father and brothers he was educated in the Benedictine boarding school, Ampleforth College, from 1950-1960.

After his two elder brothers became monks (one later transferred to Ampleforth's foundation in St Louis, MO and is now an American citizen, Ralph Wright, a poet who has published; the other Stephen Wright is active in the charismatic movement, currently in the parish of St Mary's Leyland, Lancs) he decided to enter the White Fathers, a missionary order. That did not work out.

In 1962, he entered the Abbey at Ampleforth. His formation included degrees in Geography at the University of Oxford and Theology at the University of London.

After ordination in 1972 he taught in Ampleforth College for 25 years. In those years he held various positions of responsibility (Deputy Head, Head of Fundraising, Boarding Housemaster, Head of the Religious Studies Dept, Teacher).

In 1997 he was elected Abbot of the community, then numbering some 95 monks. He retired from that in 2005. Late in his abbacy he was involved in a dialogue with Muslim Shi'a Theologians in Qum, Iran and in UK. Three books were published 'Catholics and Shi'a in Dialogue.'

In 2005 he took up an appointment in Rome working for Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald, then President of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, an invitation later withdrawn as the dicastery was re-organized under Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

The Abbot Primate then asked him to research Benedictine-Muslim relations around the world, adding 'there is no money in it!' At that moment he was invited to be a Spiritual Director at the Pontifical Beda College, a seminary for older men (over 30!), from the English speaking world with a vocation to the priesthood. It carried a small salary. This provided the funds needed to visit Benedictine communities in all the continents and opened a possibility to research the relationship between the Rule of Benedict and Islam. Seven years later, the PhD was completed and six months later the book published (*No Peace without Prayer, encouraging Christians and Muslims to pray together, a Benedictine perspective*).