



Loyola Institute Newsletter

Summer 2019



Loyola Institute MPhil graduates Anne Potter, Edith O'Nuallain, Leslie Flores, Eoin Walshe and Paul McManus throw their caps in the air, watched by Loyola Institute Director Dr Fáinche Ryan and Dr Con Casey.

Is Reform Possible?

As I write this, I am just about to go to the first graduation of students who completed the **MPhil in Christian Theology**. Last week Loyola certificates were awarded to the fourth group of students, (Adult Learners), who completed a 'taster' course in theology – **Faith Seeking Understanding** – a course organised with School Trusts. We had students travelling from Kilkenny and even from Kerry to attend this course. Some of these students will return to do further studies in theology, all return to their schools and parishes with increased knowledge of their Christian tradition, and with the vocabulary to challenge and to seek change. Yesterday I received a request to bring this course to the parishes as 'there is a hunger for theology'.

This academic year our **Research Seminars** made great strides. We had excellent speakers, and a great turn out from Loyola PhD students, and from Masters' students – some of the latter are applying for our doctoral programmes. Our students come from Ireland, China, the US, the UK, India and The Gambia – and I hope I haven't left anyone out. The variety of cultures and experiences of Church give rise, at times, to very fruitful conversations. The **Loyola Lecture series** has been wonderful this year, with excellent inputs, a full house for each of the six lectures, and perhaps possibilities for future collaboration on the topic of Religious Sisters with Prof Raftery UCD. Aidan Matthews talk is published in the April version of *Doctrine and Life*.

Loyola Institute Short Courses



Brendan Ward with Amanda Dillon,
Adjunct Professor, Loyola Institute.

"I audited (i.e. no assignments or exams) a selection of courses at the Loyola Institute, Trinity College, Dublin. The quality of the teaching was great. I found the courses engaging, positively challenging, refreshing and easily accessible. There were also regular opportunities for shared discussions with fellow students around coffee tables within and beyond the Trinity campus."

Fr Brendan Ward,
Rector,
Holy Cross Seminary Auckland, New Zealand.

Our Short Courses Programme is an integral part of the Loyola Institute's outreach activity. These courses are designed to provide an enriching opportunity to explore important themes and today's critical issues. They provide a way to experience what we have on offer by joining our students in classes, without having to undergo formal assessment. These courses are suitable for all who have a curiosity about theology and the big issues of life, as well as those who may be considering undertaking further studies in theology.

Courses available in the 2019/20 academic year include:

- Catholic Life and Thought in the Age of Enlightenment
- Mission, Culture and Diversity in a Global World
- Ecclesiology: Unity and Diversity in Catholic Christianity
- Eucharistic Theology
- Prophets, Seers and Sages

These are daytime courses and comprise two lectures a week for an eleven week term. The cost per course is €150 (Concession €100). See www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute or contact Helen at loyola@tcd.ie or 01 8964790 for further details.

SAVE THE DATES

Thursday 16th January 2020 Loyola Institute International Colloquium on Religious Literacy in Western Societies

Keynote speaker : Prof. Alberto Melloni,
Director of the John XXIII Foundation
for Religious Studies, and holder of the
Unesco Chair on Religious Pluralism
and Peace at the University of Bologna.
The colloquium will be followed by the launch of
*The Church in Pluralist Society:
Social and Political Roles*
edited by Dr Cornelius J. Casey and Dr Fáinche Ryan

1st - 4th July 2020

Loyola Institute will co-host
The Power of the Word International Conference VI
**The Call of Literature
Theology, Philosophy and Literature
in Conversation**

Further details to be announced shortly.



Moses In Stained Glass

Loyola Institute's Dr David Shepherd, has been awarded an Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Benefactions Fund Grant to support research into his project:

'See this great sight': the visualisation of Moses/Exodus traditions in stained glass in Presbyterian churches in Ireland.

At Loyola Events



Conor McDonough led us in a very stimulating and interesting seminar on 'John Calvin and Thomas Aquinas: Christ's headship of the Church'. This was one in the series of Graduate Research Seminars hosted by the Loyola Institute.

The level of enthusiasm for the Camino de Santiago de Compostela was clear from the packed audience to hear Prof. Piotr Roszak of Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń, Poland speak on *Compostela. The Camino de Santiago and Christian identity*.



Prof. Roszak is photographed with Dr Bernadette Cunningham, deputy librarian of the Royal Irish Academy (and author of the recently published *Medieval Irish Pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela*) who chaired the event, Dr Fainche Ryan of Loyola Institute and Turlough O'Donnell S.C chair of the Irish Camino Society.

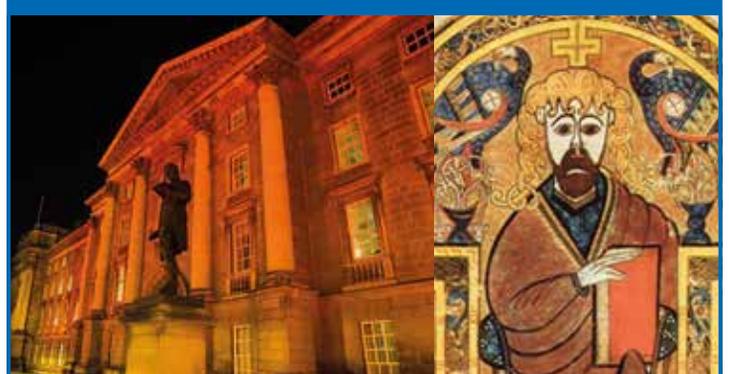


Loyola Institute PhD student Kate Oxsen enjoying a glass of wine with MPhil students Fergus Higgins and Kate Higgins at the Loyola Institute Open Evening.

"Time is running out. There are ten, possibly fifteen years before the archives of some orders of nuns are lost forever." Prof. Deirdre Raftery of UCD made a very clear case in her recent Loyola Institute lecture for more postgraduate researchers to work on projects linked to Irish women in religious life and the need for funding to be made available for such research. You can listen back to her lecture on the Loyola Institute sound cloud page (or go to our website for a link).



Prof. Raftery photographed with Loyola Institute trustee Rionach Dolan, who chaired the lecture.



The Loyola Institute

TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

is dedicated to education and research in theology in the Catholic Christian tradition and offers degrees at postgraduate level, both taught and by research.

Scholarships available.

Further information: www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute

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Trinity College Dublin

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The University of Dublin