

Dear All,

Warm greetings on this windy November afternoon! I hope you will agree that the Michaelmas Term and the whole Silver Jubilee Year have been full of excitement, nourishment and joy. Our public lectures series 'Women Who Changed the Church' was a wonderful success. I am grateful to Amy for leading this very innovative project and to our guest speakers for their stimulating talks. And, we thank Férdia for her new and exciting module 'On the Im/possibility of Talking About God'. The new 'Spirituality, Religion and Ethics' course was another success. I would like to thank Tonie Askin for her inspiration and generosity as well as other contributors including Férdia and Dominic White OP. Thank you to all those who have participated in this term's courses and other events. You motivate us to continue to develop The Institute's new learning opportunities and projects.

May I also thank Ged McHale for coordinating liturgy this term; Kate Scotland and Mari Kelly-Gross for their work for the Margaret Beaufort Association; Sue Price as Student Representative and Rosalie Moloney as Warden for their help with a variety of tasks. And, we thank Jan Lash, Susan O'Brien, Sally Livesey, Martine Walsh, Ann Taylor, Sue Price and Julie Manniche for the delicious meals and priests, Fr Mark Langham, Fr Ray Tangonyire SJ, Fr Liam Hayes, Fr Bob Eccles OP, Fr Bruno Clifton OP, Fr Dominic White OP, Fr Tony Shryane and Fr Luke Goumour for presiding at Mass on Thursdays. None of our events and initiatives would work without the support of Ela, Lynda, Mick and Neil. My thanks go to them and to everyone who has contributed to the work of the Institute during this term and this extraordinary year.

Last Thursday, we held a simple ceremony of mounting two special Silver Jubilee gifts: the olive wood carving from the Holy Land from Sr Bridget Tighe and Pope Francis' Apostolic Blessing obtained for the Institute by Prada Yordanova and Rosina Abudulai. If you missed this ceremony, please visit the Stonehill Foyer to see the new symbolic additions on the walls. While rejoicing in the 25 years of the Institute's fruitful and transformative existence we thank all our benefactors for the gifts and donations we have received this year.

At this time, we remember Rosalie Moloney as she finalises her doctoral dissertation and prepares for its submission. We thank her for the many years of her generous service to the Institute. To say that we will miss her will be an understatement. So, instead, we wish Rosalie a safe return to Ireland and are already looking forward to her future visits to the Institute.

Finally, may I draw your attention to a number of forthcoming events, courses and other opportunities:

- **Quiet day 'Blessings'** with Kate Scotland and Mari Kelly-Gross, led by Ged McHale on 8 December, 10 am–3.30 pm (please bring your own lunch; suggested donation £10)
- **Advent Candlelight Concert**, Friday 14 December 2018, 7:00 pm–8:15 pm; performed by the Chameleon early music ensemble: Kristi Bryson, soprano, Férdia Stone-Davis, recorders, Douglas Hollick, chamber organ. Works include Bach, Buxtehude, Telemann and Mozart. Entrance is free. All welcome.
- **Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies** – for more information please visit <http://www.margaretbeaufort.cam.ac.uk/ccrs/>
- **Lent Term Thursday afternoon courses for Catholic women, 2.00 pm–5.30 pm:** 'Theology of Pope Francis', 17 January–7 February; 'From Jesus to Nicaea: Judaism and Nascent Christianity', 14 February–7 March.
- **Liturgy Training day** (date TBA)
- **Fisher House Soup Run, Lyn's House and Cambridge Food Bank are looking for volunteers** – for more information, please contact me at aa2008@cam.ac.uk
- **Catherine of Siena College bursaries for online courses** – please visit: <https://www.roehampton.ac.uk/catherine-of-siena/studying-with-us/> and mention 'Margaret Beaufort Institute' if applying for a bursary.

There are beautiful Christmas cards (provided by and sold in support of Aradin Charitable Trust) on sale at Ela's office.

You will find a detailed calendar of events for 2019 in the Christmas/End of Silver Jubilee Year edition of MBI Newsletter which Amy is kindly editing. It will be with you by e-mail by Christmas.

As we approach Advent, let us keep each other in prayer, especially those amongst us who are sick and need extra support. We also pray for our Directors and members of the Council who will hold their meetings in December.

with all good wishes,
Anna Abram