

**An introductory course
to the Orthodox faith**



About THE WAY

'I am the way, the truth and the life' (John 14.6)
'I worship the God of our fathers as a follower of the Way'.
(Acts 24.14)

What is THE WAY?

It is the outreach programme of the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies. It is a course of 12 sessions, usually over 12 weeks, and consists of:

- » a meal together
- » a talk on a central aspect of Christian belief
- » free discussion in small groups
- » a "question and answer" session, where members of each group put questions to a panel

What does THE WAY do?

The course aims to present the basics of Orthodox Christian faith in an atmosphere of friendship, free exchange and trust, where no question or opinion is treated as foolish or unworthy of attention.

Who is the course for?

The course is taught in English and was initially designed for people between 18 and 45 who had completed secondary school. In practice, it has been enjoyed by those of all ages and attainments, people with considerable Christian knowledge or very little, those from a variety of racial backgrounds, by Orthodox wanting to better understand their faith, by other Christians seeking to know more, and by those of goodwill who have a curiosity as to what Christians believe.

Is it different from other courses?

THE WAY builds on the understanding of social dynamics and the importance of human relations in transmitting the faith as shown in courses such as Alpha. However, its understanding of key issues is distinctively Eastern Orthodox, its emphasis is sacramental, and it integrates teaching with worship and prayer.

What is its authority?

THE WAY derives its authority to teach from the blessing given to the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies by those Orthodox bishops with responsibilities in Great Britain. All the initial talks were vetted by Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia (Timothy Ware) and ongoing revisions and expansions have been scrutinized by him.

Our Lecturers

The twelve presentations are delivered by:



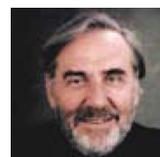
» Metropolitan Kallistos

An internationally recognized Orthodox scholar, he is best known for *The Orthodox Church*, *The Orthodox Way*, and translations of liturgy and the *Philokalia*. He is a former Chairman of the Institute and remains one of its Directors.



» Professor David Frost

Principal of the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies, Cambridge, he is a literary and liturgical scholar and Director of THE WAY.



» Fr. Michael Harper

A key leader of the British charismatic movement of the '60s - '80s, was received in the Orthodox Church in 1995. He was a Director of the Institute from its outset, and Deputy Director of THE WAY.



» Miss Gladys Bland

She was for almost 40 years a history teacher and Headmistress of a major independent school for girls. A founding member of THE WAY committee, and currently Chairman of the IOCS Board of Directors.



» Dr. Christine Mangala Frost

Was born in India and took her doctorate from the University of Cambridge. She lectures and publishes on literature, theology and inter-faith questions, and is a founding Member of THE WAY.



» Fr. Raphael Armour

After a career in the marine industry in London and New York, he became priest of the Russian Orthodox congregation in Cambridge. He is also Associate Chaplain to the Institute and is one of its Board of Directors.



» Fr. Demetrios Bathrellos

Received his doctorate in Systematic Theology from King's College, London and is a long-standing member of The WAY Organizing Committee. He was a priest at the Greek Cathedral of Hagia Sophia in London.



» Mr. John Bazlinton

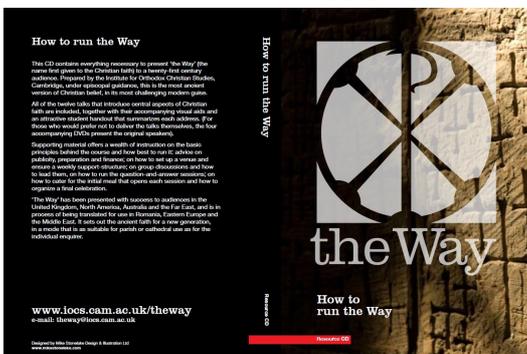
One of the initial inspirers and a chief organizer for THE WAY. He aimed to give the Orthodox Church a new means of communicating the faith.

Who have been its audience?

THE WAY has been presented with great success in London, twice at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral (in 2004 and 2007) and at the Russian Orthodox Cathedral in 2005. Two of the team offered the course overseas in the first part of 2005, at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Resurrection, Singapore, and at the Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral of St George, Sydney, Australia. The course has been offered in Cambridge and in North London by the original team, by local presenters in Manchester, and it has been experimentally tested by parishes as far afield as Boulder, Colorado, USA and Melbourne, Australia.



How can we organize a presentation?



The instructional CD with accompanying DVDs containing the lectures may serve as a model for local presenters and contains all necessary materials, instructions and advice on a range of topics, from

advance publicity and brochures to catering or the handling of the “Q & A” sessions. The text of all talks and student handouts are in pdf files, for convenient printing. Visual aids that accompany the talks are included, both in PowerPoint format for projection and as jpg files for print-outs or for making into slides. Your bishop’s permission for a presentation is essential.

How is it funded?

THE WAY has had no paid workers and is entirely staffed by volunteers. It has received no funding from government, dioceses, or charitable trusts. Unavoidable expenses have been met by generous contributions from private individuals. Publication of the revised course for use world-wide has been sponsored by World Vision.

What about the logo?

The logo comprises the *Chi Rho*, a very early Christian monogram for Christ, as used by Constantine, by the early Roman emperors who were Christian, and by ordinary Christians as a sign on tombs and liturgical vessels. The superimposed Greek letters are the first two in the name “*Christ*”. The Chi Rho symbol has always been in the form of a cross, with the upright Rho standing for the crucified body, and in the version we have adopted (which is taken from a coin of an early Emperor) the arms of the Chi are in fact nails, with their heads pointing to the point of intersection. The Cross is therefore at the centre of THE WAY.



What are the topics?

1. The Search for Faith
2. God the Holy Trinity: “The Lover of Mankind”
3. Being Human: Fully Alive
4. Why Did Jesus Come to Us?
5. Salvation in Christ
6. The Holy Spirit
7. What on Earth is the Church? Isn’t God Enough?
8. Living the Faith: (1) The Divine Liturgy - “A Pearl of Great Price”
9. Living the Faith: (2) The Holy Mysteries
10. Living the Faith: (3) The Bible, Prayer, and Fasting
11. Living the Faith: (4) Christian Behaviour
12. “Heaven on Earth”: Members of the Church and Citizens of Heaven



The WAY Pack

Talks 1-3

Professor David Ford is Principal of the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies, Cambridge, and Director of THE WAY. A Fellow of St John's College, University of Cambridge, and then Professor of English Literature and Chairman of Religious Studies at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, he served as Lecturer in Theological Studies in England and Australia, contributing to *Rarity* in modern English and *Love and Power* in the Russian Church. He has published two novels, a book on Shakespeare and his contemporaries, an edition of Thomas Middleton, and numerous articles on literary, religious and liturgical topics. He was crowned Orthodox in 1997.

Father Demetrios Bakirtsev was born in Athens in 1988, studied classics and theology at the University of Athens, and then went to England for his doctorate in Systematic Theology from King's College, London. He was a priest at the Greek Cathedral of Hagia Sophia in London and is now serving in Athens. He has published for Oxford University Press *The Byzantine Christ* (2006), and another academic book, and several articles in English and Greek. He married his Nyssian Theophany (Kiko) and they have five children. He has been a member of THE WAY Organising Committee from its early years.

John Baudouin fell asleep in the summer of 2008, having been one of the most generous and chief sponsors for THE WAY. Generously practised as a gifted artist with a fine sense of style and a sharp humour, he aimed to give the Orthodox Church a means of communicating the faith that would be analogous to the Alpha course he had experienced at other Churches. Crowned Orthodox after a long search for a spiritual home, he found in the Liturgy's proclamation of God as 'The Lover of Mankind' the correct expression for his work. His task is presented by Christine Mangala Frost.

Talks 1-3
 1 The Search for Faith
 2 God the Holy Trinity: 'The Lover of Mankind'
 3 Being Human: Philby Alive

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 Designed by Mike Stoddard Design & Illustration Ltd. www.mikestoddard.com

Talks 7-9

Father Michael Harper was born in London in 1931 and fell asleep on the Eve of Theophany, 2010. After reading law and theology at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and then serving at Holy Hall, he was ordained in the Church of England, and had a long and fruitful international ministry, writing a large number of books, and serving the Churches to reconvert the girls of the Holy Spirit. In 1998 he became President of the 'Pilgrims for Orthodoxy', and was received into the Antiochian Orthodox Church in 1999, becoming first Deacon of the Antiochian Orthodox Diocese of Great Britain and Ireland, and in 2005 an Archbishop. He was a Director of the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies from its outset, and a founding father of THE WAY, of which he became Deputy Director.

Father Raphael Armour is priest of the Russian Orthodox congregation in Cambridge and has been a member of the Organising Committee of THE WAY since its inception. He is also Antiochian Chaplain to the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies and is one of its Board of Directors. After a career in the marine industry in London and New York, and after being crowned Orthodox by Father John Meyendorff at St Vladimir's Seminary, he was ordained to serve as deacon in Cambridge in 2000 and was promoted in 2001. Sought after for his pastoral gifts, he is also a member of the sacramental Chantry Team at Cambridge Immigration Reception Centre near Cambridge.

Talks 7-9
 7 What on Earth is the Church? Isn't God Bigger?
 8 Living the Faith: 3. The Divine Liturgy - 'A Feast of Great Praise'
 9 Living the Faith: 2. The Holy Mysteries

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Talks 4-6

Gladye Blizard read History at Queen Mary College, University of London and became a teacher. For almost twenty years, from 1978-98, she was Headteacher of a major independent school for girls. Received into the Orthodox Church (Patriarchate of Antioch) in 1988, she has served as Chairman of the Orthodox community at St John's without Bishopgate and as Secretary of the Fellowship of St John the Baptist. After returning from the Caribbean and the Diploma of the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies, she joined the Board of Directors and is currently Chairman. A founding member of THE WAY Committee, she is also a Director of the Cambridge Theological Federation.

Metropolitan Callistos (Timothy Ward) has international authority as an Orthodox scholar, as recognised by his honorary doctorates and his election by the Ecumenical Patriarch to the title, Metropolitan of Ephesus. An eminent scholar in the Antiochian of Thyatira and Great Britain, he was for thirty-five years Spalding Lecturer in Eastern Orthodox Studies at the University of Oxford. Best known for *The Orthodox Church* and its companion volume *The Orthodox Way*, he has translated three volumes of liturgical texts and four volumes of the *Philokalia*. He is a former Chairman and remains a Director of the Cambridge Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies and has accepted oversight of THE WAY throughout its development.

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Talks 4-6
 4 Why Did Jesus Come to Us?
 5 Salvation: His Christ
 6 The Holy Spirit

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Talks 10-12

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Dr Christine Mangala Frost is a convert to the Christian faith, and comes from a long line of distinguished Hindu. The first woman to win the Heron Memorial Trust Scholarship, she went to the University of Cambridge for a doctorate on 'The Problem of Evil in Indian Theism'. She has written and published on bioethics, theology and inter faith questions. Two novels explore these concerns. The *Resurrection* project funded by the Das Sharma Award and the Commonwealth Best First Book (Poetry) and the *Firewalkers*, and her many other publications. She is a former Director of ICSO and has served on THE WAY Committee since its inception.

Talks 10-12
 10 Living the Faith: 3. The Bible, Prayer, and Fasting
 11 Living the Faith: 4. Christian Bibliography
 12 Heaven on Earth: Members of the Church and Citizens of Heaven

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World Vision has made available funds for the publication of the course as a Boxed Set (ISBN 978-1-872897-10-3), containing a CD entitled 'How to Run THE WAY' and 4 DVDs of the 12 talks given by the original presenters. Translations into various languages will follow.

The Boxed Set is distributed by Gazelle Book Services, which will send copies to anywhere in the world.

The general public may order direct from:
 GAZELLE, White Cross Mills, Hightown
 Lancaster LA1 4XS, United Kingdom
 Email: sales@gazellebooks.co.uk
 Telephone +44 (0) 1524 68765

Gazelle accept all normal credit cards. The recommended retail price in the United Kingdom is £23.50 (which includes VAT). Purchasers may also order online from Amazon UK and we are currently organising to market through Amazon in the Americas and in Australasia.

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