

The lecture series, “*Listening to Other Voices*,” is an attempt by the Benedictine Monks of Glastonbury Abbey to share their spiritual search for God with friends and visitors to the abbey. In doing so, the monks continue to live the fifteen hundred year tradition of Saint Benedict (480-547) and the monastic movement which followed from his inspiration. For centuries, Benedictine monasteries have been shelters for people in stormy times. They have offered education and learning in many areas of life. They have offered a stable place for people yearning for God, for meaning, for community.

Today, the monks of Hingham continue that tradition. Since 1954 this small community of monks has reached out to thousands of people each year who come for retreats, workshops and conferences, and various social events which bring a sense of community to a people searching for meaning and belonging. Most important to the monks is a life of prayer and reflection. Catholic and non-Catholic alike are welcome to join the monks in Common Prayer which takes place in the Church five times daily. To all visitors, the Benedictine tradition proclaims PAX, peace, and invites you to this special place.

www.glastonburyabbey.org

Questions? Please call 781-749-2155 x300

Friends of the Series

Please consider becoming a Friend of the Series this year. Three categories are offered:

Friends: Donations of \$100 to \$250 to support the cost of maintaining the program.

Patrons: Donations of \$251 to \$499 to help defray travel expenses of our speakers.

Sponsors: Donations of \$500 or more to offset the honorarium for a given speaker.

Donors will be acknowledged in our Friends brochure handed out the night of each lecture.

Mail your donation to:
Listening to Other Voices
Glastonbury Abbey
16 Hull St.
Hingham, MA 02043

The Benedictine Monks of Glastonbury Abbey offer this yearly series as part of their ongoing commitment to interreligious dialogue.

Most events are virtual presentations.

Please check our website for the latest update for each lecture at www.glastonburyabbey.org.

We invite you to join us to watch these virtual presentations on the larger screens at the Morcone Center, 16 Hull Street, Hingham, MA.

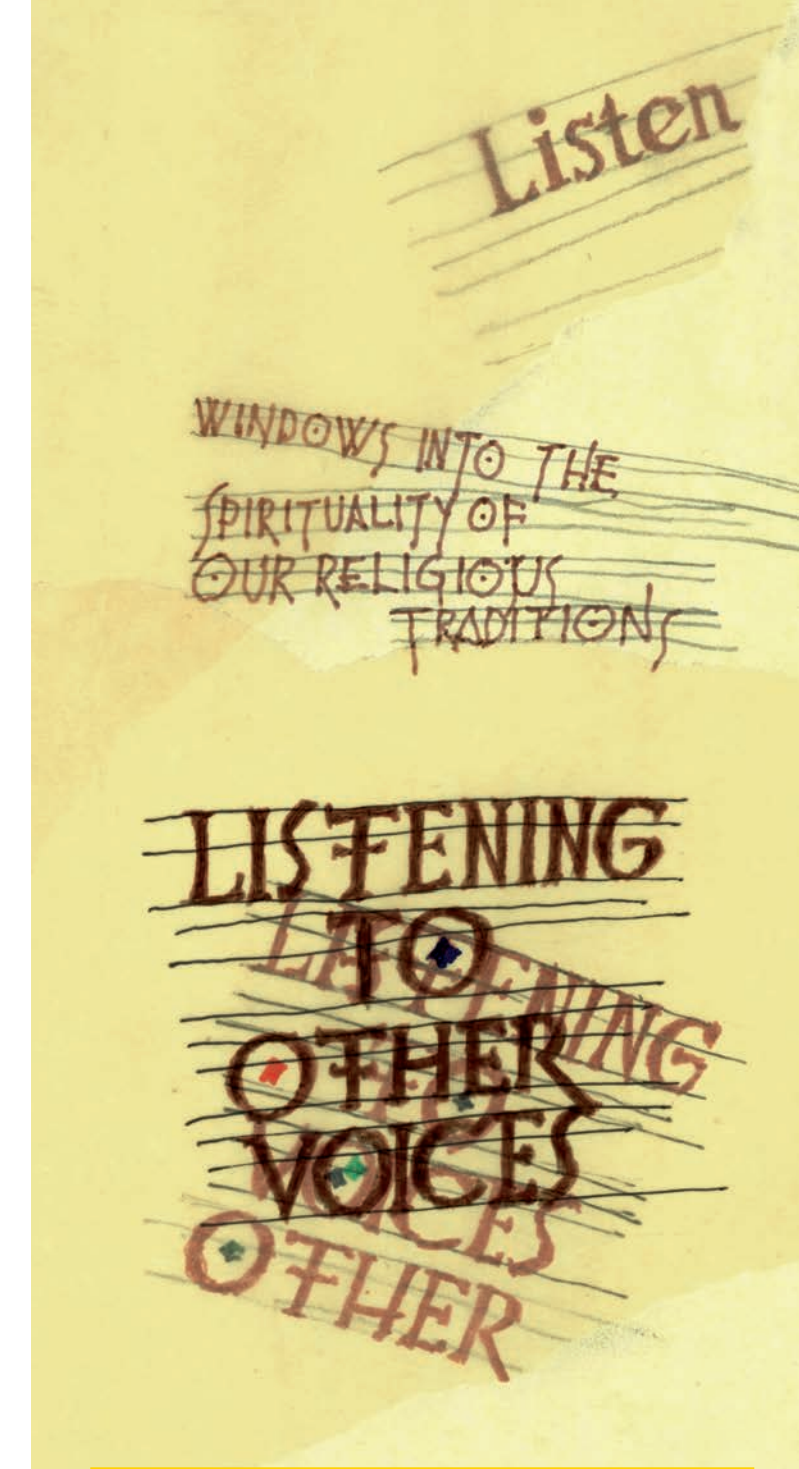
Communal discussion will follow. Of course, as is our custom, refreshments will be served at the Center! The lectures will also be available via Zoom.

Seating is limited. First come, first served.

The lectures are free. Donations are gratefully accepted.

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The Glastonbury Abbey Lecture Series
“*The Journey Continues:
Reclaiming the Heart of Faith*”
2022-2023

LISTENING TO OTHER VOICES: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES: RECLAIMING THE HEART OF FAITH

From Father Timothy Joyce OSB

The world, and our country in particular, seem to be roiled in polarized positions of many contrary, often hard-line, beliefs. There is a pervading sense of being against all institutions. In the past our religious traditions offered a sense of meaning to our lives, as well as a common value system. For many reasons, this is no longer the case.

This year our lecture series looks at the state of Religion in America, where our traditions seem to be now, and where they may be going. Diana Butler Ross will begin the series in October with an overview of Religion in America. Fr. James Martin, Jesuit editor of *America*, follows up, in November, with a look at the Catholic tradition. In January Imam Hirani addresses the Muslim growth and challenges in our country. Then Rabbi Noa Kushner, founder of the Kitchen, an innovative Jewish movement in San Francisco, speaks in February. Brian McLaren, former Evangelical and now a faculty member at The Center for Action and Contemplation, has been writing and speaking on doubt, disappointment and disillusion among Christians. He will bring some perspectives on these questions in March. Finally, in April, we will hear a view from the Black community with speaker Otis Moss from his church in Chicago. These six talks promise a stimulating and challenging look at issues that touch all our faith lives.

Program Notes:

This year, the Committee expects our programs to be virtual, with an occasional presenter with us in person. We invite you to join us to watch the virtual presentations on the larger screens at the Morcone Center. Communal discussion will follow. Any in-person lecture will also be available for at home on-line viewing. Of course, as is our custom refreshments will be served at the Center!

Please Note: Online registration is required for ALL lectures. Please check our website for the latest update for each lecture.

www.glastonburyabbey.org

Oct. 20, 2022 – *Freeing Jesus and Freeing Ourselves*

Diana Butler Bass, Ph.D.

“Christianity did not begin with a confession. It began with an invitation into friendship, into creating a new community, into forming relationships based on love and service.” This quote from Diana Butler Bass invites us to perhaps reconsider the basis of religious practice. Can we see Jesus in a different way and can this free us in our own religious practices?

The award-winning author of *Grateful* goes beyond the culture wars to offer a refreshing take on the comprehensive, multi-faceted nature of Jesus, keeping his teachings relevant and alive in our daily lives. How can you still be a Christian? This is the most common question Diana Butler Bass is asked today.

Diana Butler Bass, Ph.D., is an award-winning author, popular speaker, inspiring preacher, and one of America’s most trusted commentators on religion and contemporary spirituality. Her books include *Christianity After Religion*, *Grounded*, and *Freeing Jesus*. You can read her weekly writings on the sub Stack publication, *The Cottage*. (virtual presentation)

Nov. 17, 2022 – *Where is the Church Going?*

A Conversation with James Martin SJ

Rev. James Martin, SJ

What will the Synod do for the Catholic Church? What will the legacy of Pope Francis be? How can we surmount the division in the church? These are the questions James Martin and indeed, many Catholics ponder. Join us for a unique presentation with Fr. James Martin SJ discussing these questions and more with Fr. Timothy Joyce, OSB. A conversation with these two articulate and thoughtful theologians should prove to be not only enlightening, but highly entertaining!

Rev. James Martin is the editor-at-large of the Jesuit magazine *America*. In 2017, Pope Francis appointed Fr. Martin as a consultant to the Vatican’s Secretariat for Communications. He is a frequent commentator and guest on NPR and is the author of numerous books, including the New York Times bestsellers *Jesus: A Pilgrimage* and *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything*. (virtual presentation)

January 19, 2023 – *Purifying Hearts with the Divine Guidance and the Process of Self Development*

Imam Asif Hirani

Joining us virtually from his sabbatical, in the Middle East, Iman Hirani will discuss the importance of Heart from the spiritual context and how spiritual diseases of Heart are more lethal than physical diseases of the body. Our need to adhere to Divine guidance for purification of heart and soul will be discussed with an emphasis on Imam Ghazali’s Four Steps towards Self-Development approach.

Dr. Asif Hirani completed his Masters in Islamic Studies (Usul-ud-din) from Karachi University and attained his Ph.D from Al-Madina International University. Author of several books, he is currently serving as a Resident Scholar of Worcester Islamic Center in Worcester, MA. (virtual presentation)

February 16, 2023 – *Connecting Heaven and Earth:*

Building Modern Religious Community in San Francisco

Rabbi Noa Kushner

“How do you approach creating religious life in one of the most secular cities in history? We like to think of ourselves as translators, bringing heaven to earth and bringing earth back to heaven again. This requires us to believe in the power of our tradition and, at the same time, in the divinity and possibility of those we serve. In this presentation, we’ll go through the four guiding principles we’ve isolated over the years that help us leap upwards and beyond.”

In 2011, Rabbi Noa Kushner founded “The Kitchen” in San Francisco in response to friends who were looking for an informal, transformative Shabbat experience that they could not find in traditional synagogues. Today the thriving community provides diverse or interfaith Jewish families an inclusive and accessible connection to Judaism.

After graduating with a degree in Religious Studies from Brown University, Kushner was ordained by Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion in 1998. She then served as Hillel Rabbi in both Sarah Lawrence College and Stanford University. Her written work appears in many publications including, *The Torah: A Women’s Commentary*, and the *Prayers of Awe* series. (TBD presentation)

March 23, 2023 – *Staying Christian When the Church is on Fire*

Brian McLaren

“Our message and methodology have changed, do change, and must change if we are faithful to the ongoing and unchanging mission of Jesus Christ” This quote from Brian McLaren embodies the journey this theologian has traveled and invites us to join him as he continues his thoughtful work.

Brian D. McLaren is an author, speaker, activist, and public theologian. A former college English teacher and pastor, he is a passionate advocate for “a new kind of Christianity” – just, generous, and working with people of all faiths for the common good. He is a faculty member of The Living School and podcaster with Learning How to See, which is part of the Center for Action and Contemplation. His latest books include *Faith After Doubt* and *Do I Stay Christian?* (virtual presentation)

April 20, 2023 – *Dancing In the Darkness*

Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III

“Once again, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. first observed in the 1960s, it is midnight in America—a dark time of division and anxiety, with threats of violence looming in the shadows.”

Join Reverend Otis Moss as he recounts the story of discovering his little girl practicing her ballet lessons in her room to overcome her fear of violence that had been threatened at her father’s church.

As Senior Pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, Illinois, Rev Moss brings his unique gift to communicate across generations. Dr. Moss’ creative Bible-based messages have inspired young and old alike. His intergenerational preaching has made Rev. Moss a popular speaker on campuses, at conferences, and churches across the globe. Baylor University’s George Truett Theological Seminary recently recognized Rev. Moss as one of the “12 Most Effective Preachers in the English Speaking World”. (virtual presentation)