



# LECTURES 2018-19

Tuesdays @ 7.00pm  
Wheeler Hall

*Admission free; retiring collection*

**Tuesday 2nd October**

***Mr Ian Wilson***

Ian Wilson is a retired freelance author specializing in researching historical mysteries, particularly ones with a religious slant. He graduated in History from Magdalen College, Oxford University. After converting to the Catholic Church in 1972, he then wrote a book on the Turin Shroud. The book became a best-seller both in the UK and USA, was translated into nine languages, and spawned a TV documentary, *Silent Witness*, co-scripted by him, that won a BAFTA award. A later book *Jesus: The Evidence* was similarly a bestseller. In 1994 his *Shakespeare: The Evidence*, arguing that Shakespeare was a crypto-Catholic, was also successful. Ian Wilson lives in Brisbane, Australia.

***“The Turin Shroud: New Facts and a New Historical Theory”***

(This lecture will directly challenge the widely accepted 1988 carbon dating “verdict” that the Turin Shroud is a medieval fake. After a brief review of the Shroud image’s still unexplained photographic properties, its anatomical accuracies, its convincingness as a two-thousand-year-old textile, and the unsuitable location from which the carbon dating sample was taken, two hitherto overlooked mid-fourteenth century manuscripts will be presented shedding dramatic new light on the French knight Geoffroi de Charny, allegedly the Shroud’s first European owner)

**Tuesday 6th November**

***Mr Kevin Turley***

K. V. Turley is a film critic and writer who worked in the film industry for a number of years. He writes the Faith on Film column for the *St. Austin Review* published in the United States. He has also written many articles for Catholic publications such as *National Catholic Register*, *Catholic World Report*, *Crisis*, *Catholic Herald* and *The Tablet*

***“St. Thomas More, Bonnie & Clyde and the Birth of New Hollywood”***

(1967 was a pivotal year in Hollywood. Two films were at the centre of this transformation. One depicts a saint, the other tells a sordid tale of bank robbers. The films represent opposing philosophies, not just of filmmaking but also of the culture in which they were made. In their different ways they represent old Hollywood then dying and the New Hollywood about to move into the ascendant)

**Tuesday 11th December**

***Dr Brian Sudlow***

Brian Sudlow is a lecturer in French at Aston University. His doctorate consisted of a comparative study of G. K. Chesterton and the French writer Alphonse Retté. He is the author of *Catholic Literature and Secularisation in France and England: 1880-1914* (2011) and of a forthcoming monograph on criticism of technology in France from 1920 to 1958.

***“Human Life and Sacred Men: Abortion and Exclusion in Paris and London”***

(Abortion has been legal in the U.K. for over fifty years but the medicalisation of this procedure now increasingly erases the ethical discussion of unborn life from public debate. France has walked the same path as the U.K. and stands this year on the brink of passing new bioethical laws that will extend the dispensability of human life from conception to death. The lecture will revisit recent literary, philosophical and theatrical contributions to these debates to examine how treating human life as dispensable is leading us unwittingly towards catastrophe)

**Tuesday 8th January 2019**

***Professor Richard Rex***

Richard Rex is Professor of Reformation History in the University of Cambridge and Polkinghorne Fellow in Theology and Religious Studies, Queens’ College, Cambridge. An expert in the history of the Tudors and of the Reformation, he is the author of several books, including *The Theology of John Fisher* (1991) and *The Tudors* (2006). His most recent book is *The Making of Martin Luther* (2017).

***“The Church and Change: Observations on the Present Crisis in Catholicism”***

(As the ramifications of the sexual abuse crisis threaten to overwhelm national hierarchies and even to touch the curia itself, the Church is facing its deepest crisis in governance since the Great Schism (1378-1417). And as Catholic teaching on marriage is challenged in the name of a “new paradigm”, the Church is facing its deepest crisis in doctrine since the Reformation. Change must come, and change will come. But what must change, and what must not? And how shall we hold onto the faith in the years to come?)

**Please note that this year all talks will take place on a TUESDAY. The first two talks (October and November) will be on the first Tuesday of the month, but the third and fourth talks (December and January) will be on the second Tuesday of the month.**

Any enquiries should be directed to the lecture organizer, John Beaumont (Tel; 07949.223575; e-mail: johnbeaumont315@gmail.com)