

Wise Words from Seventeenth-Century England!

Saturdays, May 29-June 26; 9:00 - 10:30 AM, via zoom

Facilitator: Steven Geitgey

Steve has a post-graduate teaching certification in formative spirituality as well as a PhD from Duquesne University focused on late-medieval and early-modern mystical writings. Steve is an adjunct faculty member at Epiphany Academy, and teaches and leads faith formation groups in a variety of institutional and ecclesial settings.



This five-session series will consider the wisdom of several interesting English spiritual writings and movements of the seventeenth century, focusing on their meanings and values for our modern-day spiritual formation. Each session will include an introduction as well as group discussion of a few particularly insightful or applicable quotes that will be emailed prior to the meeting.

We will look at the Ferrar family's "monastic" life at Little Gidding, while reading poems by frequent Little Gidding visitor Richard Crashaw and Ferrar family friend George Herbert; meet a few of the Catholic Benedictine nuns in "exile" and learn of their struggle to maintain medieval English spiritual traditions; listen to the wisdom of the Cambridge Platonist John Smith; and even hear from a group of Scottish mystics. We will also consider some wise guidance from the early Quakers. Most importantly, we'll discuss together what these words and actions have to say in relation to our daily twenty-first century lives.

SCHEDULE

May 29: The fascinating story of the Ferrar family and Little Gidding (with poetry from family friends George Herbert and Richard Crashaw).

June 5: English Benedictines in exile: Gertrude More, Margaret Gascoigne, and the affirmation of the mystical way.

June 12: John Smith: Cambridge Platonist and spiritual guide.

June 19: Meanwhile, up in Scotland: Henry Scougal, the Scottish mystics, and the French influence.

June 26: Wisdom from the early Friends.

****Please call Epiphany Association at 412-341-7494 to register****

The cost is \$30 for the entire course; individual sessions are \$10 each.

All must preregister and supply an email address to receive class materials before each session