

The Morning Star

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“Ninian of Scotland”

The Rev. Dr. Ephraim Radner, Professor of Historical Theology



St. Ninian perhaps died around 432, and is traditionally remembered on September 16. Ninian’s story is less that about a single individual than it is one about the difficult and perseverant process of Christian mission itself, in this case, in the northern reaches of Great

Britain, what today we call Scotland.

No historian seriously doubts the existence of Ninian, but in fact little is known about him. The first few scraps of information come only 300 years after his death, in a few sentences of the early theologian Bede’s now famous *History of the English Church*. He appears to have been a native of Britain who had gone to Rome and been sent back as a missionary to his native island. Building a church in the north, he worked tirelessly among the peoples living in lower Scotland, then moving northward. He preached, he trained others, and he left behind him the beginnings of a church with leaders in place. That is all we know.

The people among whom Ninian worked were known as the Picts, the original inhabitants of Scotland who did not so much disappear, as, over time, meld in with the evolving population of the area. The Picts of Ninian’s time lived in small, tightly-knit family communities, raised cattle, and were known for their skills in waging war. The Romans had tried to conquer the Picts, and in the year 83 seemed to have gained a

resounding victory over a gathered force of Pictish clans, only to find that their opponents had not so much surrendered as simply dispersed to carry on an ongoing “guerrilla”-style war. Pictish resistance lasted for several centuries and effectively kept the Romans out of Scotland. Imperial strategists considered it an unredeemable land of savage, vicious and violent “barbarians”, neither worth nor open to “civilizing.” They gave up.

When Ninian began his mission among the Picts somewhere in the late 4th century, he did so in a context deemed dangerous and impenetrable. Yet, as one historian has written, “Where the Roman Empire failed to conquer the Picts, the Christian Church succeeded.” This success was long in coming. Numerous missionaries, like Columba, followed and gave their lives to this witness. 250 years after Ninian, Scotland was still only partially Christian, requiring ongoing itinerant preaching and monastic establishment.

But it is true that, mostly without any force of arms, the Picts as a whole eventually became Christian, and Scotland one of the great centers of Christian life and learning into the 20th century. Family to family, clan to clan, individual witness over years and years. This is the story of the Christian Church’s flourishing through slow personal contacts and teaching, more than through any grand or massive cultural conversion. It is also a story about not giving up. In our era, it is an example worth remembering, because it probably points to the missionary shape of our future, as much as it does of our past.



Toronto School of Theology

Fall Agapé

An ecumenical worship gathering of the TST Community

WITH A VOICE OF THANKSGIVING

Wednesday, October 3, 2018 at 1:30PM

Leonard Hall, Wycliffe College

5 Hoskin Ave, Toronto



The Rt. Rev. Victoria Matthews will be our guest preacher. She is the first woman bishop in the Anglican Church of Canada and the former bishop of Christchurch, New Zealand.

Refreshments will be served after the service

wycliffecollege.ca/agape2018

LIBRARY DROP-IN SESSIONS

Tue, Sep 25

12:00-12:30, Finding the books you need

12:30-1:00, Finding articles in theology

Wed, Sep 26

12:00-12:30, Finding the books you need

12:30-1:00, Finding articles in theology

Thu, Sep 27

12:00-12:30, Biblical Studies Resources

12:30-1:00, Compiling bibliographies

Location:

Graham Library Classroom

No Sign-Up Necessary!

Just Drop-In!



INSIGHTS WITH SEITZ

The Symphony of Scripture

Celebrating Women in Theology

A Lunch with Dr. Sarah Coakley

Faculty Club, Oct. 2nd, 2018

1:00-2:30

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON EVENTBRITE



From the Registrar's Office:

- Please pay attention to [important dates](#) and check out the [Refund Schedule](#) to avoid paying tuition for dropped classes.
- SSHRC application deadline is 4:30 PM (EST), October 12, 2018. Click [here](#) for application and eligibility information, and check out the [TST Scholarship and Bursaries page](#) for more information. An application guide is also available [here](#).
- U of T has launched Quercus, the replacement to Portal (Blackboard). The log-in link has changed to q.utoronto.ca. If you have any questions please contact Jeffrey Hocking (jhocking@wycliffe.utoronto.ca) or visit the following page: qstudents.utoronto.ca.



Dr. Sarah Coakley

PUBLIC LECTURE "SIN AND DESIRE"

Oct 2nd, 2018. 3:30 - 5:00 pm

Leonard Hall,
Wycliffe College



Henderson
BREWING COMPANY

THEOLOGY PUB NIGHT

This Month's Guest:
Jonathan Pageau

Fri, Sep 28, 7:00pm, Leonard Hall

FAITH AND ART

A Prelude to Nuit Blanche

#wycliffesermons

#thursdaymorningprayer

THE VISIBLE SHAPE OF
CHRIST'S LIFE IN US

Sep 27: Mari Leesment
"Love" (Gal 5:22-26)

Oct 4: Glen Taylor
"Joy" (Gal 5:22-26)

Oct 11: Marion Taylor
"Peace" (Gal 5:22-26)

Oct 18: Joseph Mangina
"Patience" (Gal 5:22-26)

Nov 1: Andy Witt
"Kindness" (Gal 5:22-26)

Nov 8: Thomas Power
"Generosity" (Gal 5:22-26)

Nov 15: Ephraim Radner
"Faithfulness" (Gal 5:22-26)

Nov 22: Judy Paulsen
"Gentleness" (Gal 5:22-26)

Nov 29: Peter Robinson
"Self-Control" (Gal 5:22-26)

Dec 6: David Kupp
"Good and Evil" (Matt 7:17-19)



This Wednesday

3:00 The Rt. Rev. Jenny Andison (Suffragan Bishop of York-Credit Valley, Diocese of Toronto)

Bishop Jenny will be speaking on discipleship and how we can be disciples of Jesus in today's world.

4:45 EUCHARIST (homilist: Bishop Jenny)

6:00 COMMUNITY DINNER (Refectory)



Mark Your Calendar!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
23	24	25 Morning Prayer: Ruth Bartlett	26 3:00 Wed. Event: Bishop Jenny Anderson 4:45 Eucharist 6:00 Community Dinner	27 Morning Prayer: Mari Leesment Evening Prayer: Glen Taylor	28 Board Meeting <i>Theology in the Pub: Jonathan Pageau 7:00-10:00pm</i>	29 <i>Donor Appreciation Event (7:00-8:30p)</i> <i>Nuit Blanche: Faith & Arts Night (8-11pm)</i>
30	Oct 1	2 Morning Prayer: Max Dionosio <i>Sarah Coakley Lunch (1:00-2:30) and Public Lecture (3:30-5:00)</i>	3 TST Agape @ Wycliffe (see inside flyer)	4 Morning Prayer: Glen Taylor Evening Prayer: David Butorac	5	6
7	8 THANKSGIVING DAY COLLEGE CLOSED (No Classes)	9 Morning Prayer: Jordan Duerrstein	10 3:00 Wed. Event: Faculty Book Launch 4:45 Eucharist: Harold Percy 6:00 Community Dinner	11 Morning Prayer: Marion Taylor Evening Prayer: Glen Taylor	12	13
14	15	16 Morning Prayer: Alex Fung	17 3:00 Wed. Event: Founders' Day Lecture 4:45 Eucharist: Joanna LaFleur 6:00 Community Dinner	18 Morning Prayer: Joseph Mangina Evening Prayer: Craig Love	19 <i>Scripture and Theology Colloquium (9a-5p)</i>	20 <i>CATA Conference</i>

Chapel Service Schedule

	Service	Sacristan	Officiant / Homilist	Readers, Servers, etc.	Greeters
Mon	MP	S. Lawley	E. Radner	B. Jenkins; B. Tshin	N. Drenth
	Taize	Z. Bartkus	A. Brownlee		
Tue	MP	L. Hurst	P. Robinson; R. Bartlett	B. Tshin; Z. Bartkus	S. Caron
	Evensong	S. Lawley	E.-R. Teel	R. Bartlett; J. Mangina	A. Tremblett
Wed	MP	B. Poole	+SGWA	Z. Bartkus; R. Henderson	N. Drenth
	Eucharist	B. Poole	Officiant: J. Paulsen Homilist. +J. Anderson	C. Curtis; B. Tshin	G. Hynds; C. Curtis
Thu	MP	J. Loewen-Sam.	T. Power; M. Leesment	Z. Bartkus	G. Hynds
	P&P	Z. Bartkus	R. Bartlett; G. Taylor		S. Caron
Fri	MP	J. Loewen-Sam.	A. Brownlee	M. Taylor	A. Tremblett
	Inform. EP	L. Hurst	Z. Bartkus	R. Bartlett	R. Bartlett

CHAPEL SERVICE TIMES

Morning Prayer
Mon-Fri, 8:30a

Wine Before Breakfast
Tue, 7:22a

Taize Evening Prayer
Mon, 5:30p

Sung Evensong
Tue, 5:30p

Community Eucharist
Wed, 4:45p

Prayer & Praise
Thu, 5:00p

Informal Evening Prayer
Fri, 5:30



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