You are invited...

Religion, Violence, and a Vision for Twenty-first Century Civilization

How might our world and the societies within it be healthily plural?

Guest speaker Professor David F. Ford
Religion-related violence is a growing global problem for which none of the responses at present being given are adequate. Why is religion so dangerous now? How have responses been inadequate? What might be a better response in the interests of a more healthily plural world?

Thursday 9 March
Kim Beazley Lecture Theatre
6.30-8.00pm
(refreshments to follow)

What resources do religions have for contributing to twenty-first century civilization in ways that are both true to themselves and also serve the common good of a healthily plural world? What might the contribution of universities be to this? How might they help our societies to be places of wiser faith and wiser understanding of faith?

Thursday 16 March
Kim Beazley Lecture Theatre
6.30-8.00pm
(refreshments to follow)

What might the key elements be in a vision for twenty-first century civilization? Inspired partly by The Five Quintets, the forthcoming magnum opus of the poet Micheal O’Siadhail, a vision will be proposed, culminating in a manifesto addressed to universities, the religions, and society as a whole.

Thursday 23 March
Kim Beazley Lecture Theatre
6.30-8.00pm
(refreshments to follow)
David F. Ford OBE is Regius Professor of Divinity Emeritus in the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of Selwyn College. His many publications include: The Future of Christian Theology (Wiley-Blackwell, 2011); Shaping Theology: Engagements in a Religious and Secular World (Blackwell, 2007); The Shape of Living (2nd edition, Baker Books, Grand Rapids 2000); Self and Salvation: Being Transformed (Cambridge University Press 1999). He serves on numerous UK and international bodies, including Theological Reference Group, a Church of England initiative launched in 2016; the Foundation for Educational Leadership; and Global Covenant Partners, which serves the Global Covenant of Religions, an international initiative in response to religion-related violence. Professor Ford was founding Director of the Cambridge Inter-faith Programme, and a co-founder of the inter-faith practice of Scriptural Reasoning.