



University of the Third Age

U3A Dunedin Charitable Trust

A LEARNING OPTION FOR THE RETIRED

Series 1 2014

SAINTLY LIVES

Dates: Wednesday 5 March – 9 April

Time: 10am – 12noon

Venue: Leith Bowling Club, 2 Duke Street, North Dunedin

Enrolments for this course will be limited to 110

Course Fee: \$40.00

Tea and Coffee provided

Course Organiser: Jane Higham (476 1848)

Course Assistant: Jill Milne (455 5413)

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You may apply to enrol in more than one course. If you wish to do so, you must indicate your choice preferences on the application form, and include payment of the appropriate fee(s).

All applications must be received by noon on Wednesday, 12 February, A response to your application will be mailed out on 19 February.

Any questions about this course after 20 February should be referred to Marjan Lousberg, U3A Dunedin, telephone 473 8224 or on email at marjan.lousberg@gmail.com

Please keep this brochure as a reminder of venue, dates, and times for the courses for which you apply.

SAINTLY LIVES

5 March Who wants to be a saint, anyway?

Philosopher Susan Wolf has suggested that saintliness is an unattractive ideal, which would lead to an impoverished form of life. Someone who devotes her life to caring for others will be unable to, for instance, learn the oboe or study Victorian novels. But is Wolf right? What would saintliness entail?

**Presenter: Assoc. Professor Gregory Dawes, University of Otago,
Philosophy and Religion**

12 March The Impact of a Sainly Life

The session will consider the life and heritage of Catherine McAuley, an Irish woman who wanted to do the ordinary things extraordinarily well, and the work Sisters of Mercy do today, particularly in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Presenter: Dr. Susan France, rsm. Sister of Mercy and psychotherapist

19 March St. Nicholas and His World

St. Nicholas of Myra, the inspiration behind Father Christmas: who was he, and how did he become the saint who comes down the chimney?

Presenter: Richard Higham, lecturer, University of Otago

26 March Rabi'a and al-Hasan al-Basri: early Sainly Women and Men in Islam

What went into making an early Muslim saint, what made one a 'friend of God'? Dr. Kukkonen compares the stories surrounding al-Hasan al-Basri and Rabi'a, two famous early Muslim saints.

**Presenter: Dr. Taneli Kukkonen, Senior Lecturer, Islamic Studies,
University of Otago**

2 April John Calvin: A Sainly Life in the Service of the Reformation of Church and Society

John Calvin's legacy can be measured not only in regards to his influence on Church reformation, but also in regards to the impact of his thought on social and economic matters. In this seminar we will consider aspects of that legacy and reflect on the motivation and character of the man behind it.

**Presenter: The Very Rev. Dr. Graham Redding, Principal of Knox Centre
for Ministry and Leadership**

9 April A Journey Into the Celtic Way of Life

Our Celtic brothers and sisters, these saints were ordinary men and women of their day. We will explore their way of seeing the world and creation and glimpse a little of that primal vision within all of us. "You can come in: You can come a long way: But you won't be inside." RS Thomas.

Presenter: Sister Noreen McGrath, Presentation Sister