

Welcome!



Pilgrims

What do we mean by Pilgrimage?

Has anyone been on a pilgrimage somewhere?

Journey - where are we going?

What brings you to  
Saint Thomas Church?

We come from all kinds of places, backgrounds, cultures, and experiences. We are so diverse, and yet something draws us up to this place.

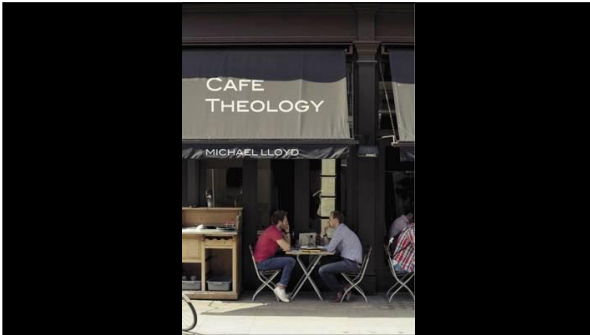


Saint Thomas Church is an 'oasis of prayer' in Midtown Manhattan; open 265 days a year. It connects with the world through our livestream ministry, and social media. Its mission is **to worship,**

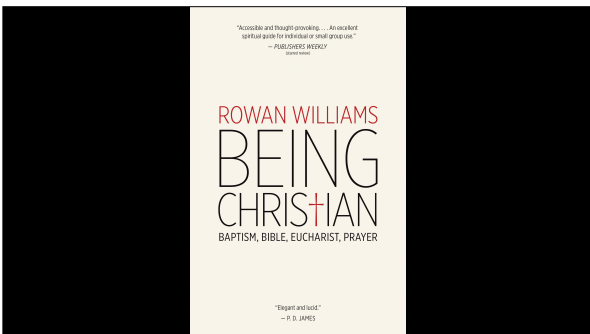
love, and serve our Lord Jesus Christ through the Anglican Tradition and our unique choral heritage.

There is no such thing  
as a stupid question.

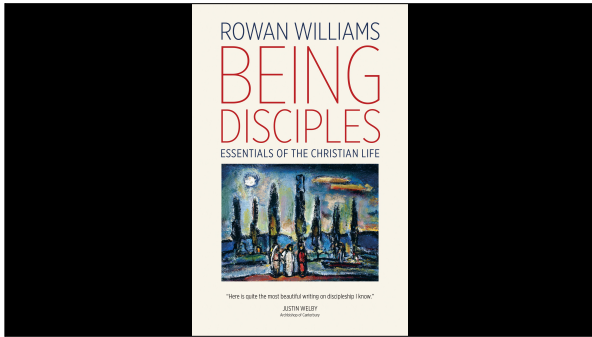
there is no such thing as a stupid question!  
NEXT SOME RESOURCES...bookstore



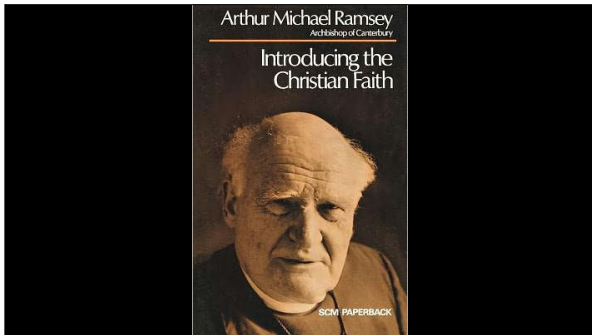
Cafe Theology - Michael Lloyd



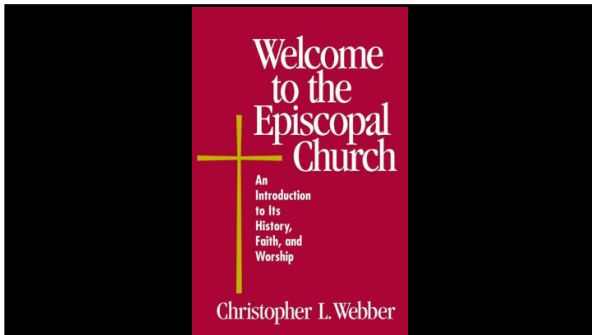
Being Christian - Rowan Williams



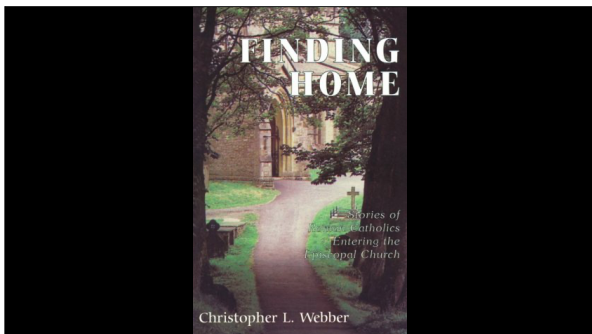
## Being Disciples - Rowan Williams



## Introducing the Christian Faith - Michael Ramsey



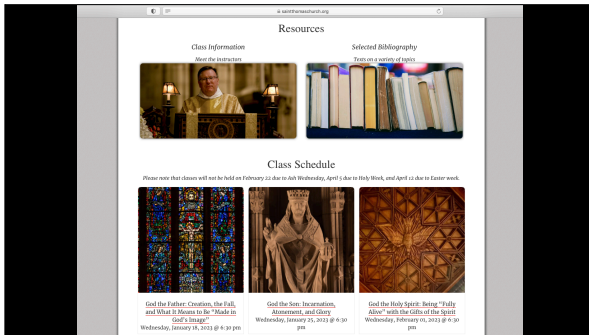
## Welcome to the Episcopal Church by Christopher Webber



## Finding Home - Stories of Roman Catholics entering the Episcopal Church - edited by Christopher Webber



The website is where you can find all kinds of information



In particular, you can find a select bibliography. Fr. Gioia will add to the bibliography as the course continues.

## Email

[pilgrims@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:pilgrims@saintthomaschurch.org)

Session One

## God the Father: Creation & the Fall

What it means to be 'made in God's image'

Session One: TITLE

God as Creator - what it means to be made in God's image.

HANDOUT: **read Genesis quote**



## God as Creator



**Peter Kreeft (Professor of Philosophy Boston College)**

"Someone once said that if you sat a million monkeys at a million typewriters for a million years, one of them would eventually type out all of Hamlet by chance. But when we find the text of Hamlet, we don't wonder whether it came from chance and monkeys. Why then does the atheist use that incredibly improbable explanation for the universe? Clearly, because it is his only chance of remaining an atheist. At this point we need a psychological explanation of the atheist rather than a logical explanation of the universe."

If God were small enough to be understood, He would not be big enough to be worshiped.

*Evelyn Underhill*

A man can no more diminish God's glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scribbling the word, 'darkness' on the walls of his cell.

*C.S. Lewis*

Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing had happened.

*Winston Churchill*

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For when we cease to worship God, we do not worship nothing, we worship anything.

*G. K. Chesterton*

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The theory that thought is merely a movement in the brain is, in my opinion, nonsense; for if so, that theory itself would be merely a movement, an event among atoms, which may have speed and direction but of which it would be meaningless to use the words 'true' or 'false'.

*C.S. Lewis*

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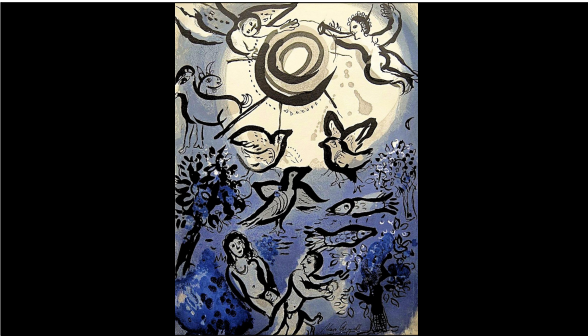
Something can be thought of as existing, which cannot be thought of as not existing, and this is greater than that which can be thought of as not existing. Thus, if that than which a greater cannot be thought can be thought of as not existing, this very thing which a greater cannot be thought is not that than which a greater cannot be thought. But this is contradictory. So, then, there is truly a being than which a greater cannot be thought-so truly that it cannot even be thought of as not existing.

*St Anselm (from Proslogion)*

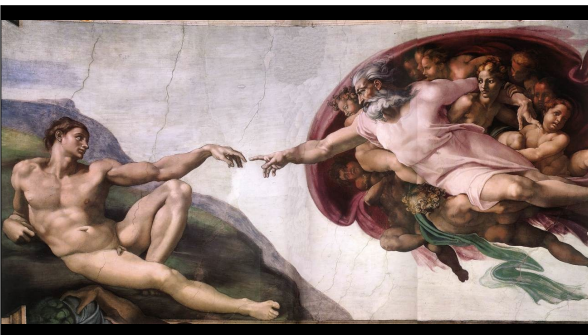
I've read the last page of the Bible.  
It's all going to turn out all right.  
*Billy Graham*

What does it mean to be  
*'made in the  
image of God'*

[Group discussion] -



Mark Chagal



Michelangelo



## Psalm 139

O Lord, thou hast searched me out, and known me : thou knowest my down-sitting, and mine up-rising; thou understandest my thoughts long before.

2 Thou art about my path, and about my bed : and spiest out all my ways.

3 For lo, there is not a word in my tongue : but thou, O Lord, knowest it altogether.

4 Thou hast fashioned me behind and before : and laid thine hand upon me.

I am fearfully and wonderfully made

Psalm 139:13



N.T. Wright: Humans are created in the Divine Image  
- not just an accident.

What does it mean to be  
*'made in the  
image of God'*

The image is an angled mirror in which the worship  
of creation is reflected up to God...



...and the stewardship and love and purposes of God are reflected out into the world

## Natural Order in Creation

Michael Ramsey - order in creation

*"We exist in order that we may become like God, have intercourse with God, 'give glory' to God. This is something called 'worship' – but see how deep and wide it goes. It means loving God above all else for the perfection that is his; but, because he is perfect love, our love for him is reflected in our love and our practical service of our fellows and our community. But, because it is all his gift, and we are utterly dependent on him, our love of our fellows brings us back again to 'give glory' to God – the source of all good, the essence of all good." He expresses this as...*

God  
Man  
Things

Michael Ramsey - order in creation

Man  
Things  
God

The fall means that we became estranged from God...

Things  
Man  
God

Read from page 28 - 'Introducing the Christian Faith'  
1960's: the cold war...weapons...race...poverty...

When things go  
wrong...

The Fall

**QUESTION: What is SIN?**



Fr Angelico - There is a detail from the Annunciation that is easy to miss.



Adam and Eve expelled from the Garden of Eden.  
Eve = Mother of all the living. The Angel's greeting takes Eve's name 'EVA' and reverses it - 'AVE' Mary the mother of Jesus the Second Adam. 1

Corinthians 15:21-22 *For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.*

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God  
Man  
Things

How the order should be.

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VIDEO - Who rules?

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God as Father

All language about God, of course, is a kind of metaphor. If God is 'that than which nothing greater can be thought', so every human word that describes God is lacking in some sense. God reveals

himself as a creator and a loving parent. Next week, we will hear how God fully revealed himself when *the Word* became flesh and dwelt among us.

### Moses and the Burning Bush

“I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” (Burning Bush)



YHWH

**I am...**the root of our being...but in  
RELATIONSHIP...

When God makes a covenant with David, he speaks about Solomon...

“I will be a father to him,  
and he shall be a son to me.”  
**2 Samuel 7:14**

God’s Covenant with David:



## Psalm 103

“As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him. For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust.”

*Psalm 103:13-14*

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## Isaiah's prophecy

“For you are our father, though Abraham does not know us and Israel does not acknowledge us; you, O LORD, are our father; our Redeemer from of old is your name.”

*Isaiah 63:16*

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## Jesus speaks of God as his Father over 100 times in John's Gospel

“The Father loves the Son and has placed all things in his hands.”

*John 3:35*

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## Jesus prays to his Heavenly Father

“After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,”

*John 17:1*

“Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.”

**Mark 14:36**

He prays intimately...in the Garden of Gethsemane  
Abba - Aramaic word...“daddy”

“Our Father ...”

**Matthew 6:9**

Jesus teaches his Disciples to pray...

“because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

**Galatians 4:6**

Paul reminds us that we are God’s children



DAVID ATTENBOROUGH

O heavenly Father,  
who hast filled the world with beauty:  
Open our eyes to behold  
thy gracious hand in all thy works;  
that, rejoicing in thy whole creation,  
we may learn to serve thee with gladness;  
for the sake of him through whom  
all things were made,  
thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray.

**Next week:**

*Send Images of Jesus to*  
**[pilgrims@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:pilgrims@saintthomaschurch.org)**

*(less than 25MB)*

Please e-mail us images of Jesus