

Cast into the Depths

These courses on Saturday mornings are designed to help you reflect on your faith at a deeper level. Our title is based on the story in the Gospel of John 21:1-14. The disciples have been fishing all night and have caught nothing. Jesus advises them to “cast the net”, and their catch was overwhelming. We are hoping that you will catch enough from our presentations to discover that you can also cast into the depths and find treasures which enrich your life. Lectures are held at:

St. Pius X Parish Hall, cnr Piennar & Main Streets, Waterkloof.

Are you Afraid of the Dark – Within You?

“I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do, Wretched am I!” (Rom 7:19) In these words St. Paul describes how confused he was about his occasional language and behaviour. Just why couldn’t he get it right all the time? He was aware that there was *evil* in him which would burst out from time to time and embarrass him.

Many people deny the reality of badness within themselves and pretend that it is not there. Or else they presume that it will vanish “one of these days”. In one of his books, William Miller asks himself the question: “Why do I break down?” He answers himself thus: “I break down because I am afraid to admit that evil, unacceptable, inappropriate tendencies still exist within me, even though I have committed myself to the way of Christ, and I cannot accept them as being truly a part of me.”

In this short course, using Miller and other authors, we shall look at how harmful it can be to deny the badness within us, but rather use it for the good. We need to own this shadowy side of our personality and use it to help us come closer to wholeness and completeness.

Themes and Dates

- February 8: Where does our “badness” come from?
- March 8: Taking ownership of the dark side of our personality.
- April 12: What does Jesus say about our inner darkness?
- May 10: Why are you afraid of the dark?

Presenter: **Fr. Anselm Prior, OFM**

Franciscan priest Anselm Prior has a certificate in Religious Education from Gaba Pastoral Institute, Uganda, a Masters in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University Chicago, and a Doctorate in Missiology from UNISA, Pretoria. While at Loyola he pursued courses in Jung’s psychology and how his thinking can augment our understanding of the Christian faith. He has lectured in pastoral subjects throughout Africa, Asia, Europe and Australasia, and is Secretary of the Catholic Theological Society of Southern Africa. He works as a Research Fellow at UNISA and lectures in Systematic Theology at St. Augustine College, Johannesburg.

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