

‘Inspired to Follow: Art and the Bible Story’ Additional Recommended Resources

Further reading

What Anglicans Believe: An Introduction

by Samuel Wells (Canterbury Press, 2011)

Sam Wells is the vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields. In this book he offers an introduction to the historic beliefs that unite Anglicans, and the forms that these convictions take in different parts of the Anglican Communion. Born at a time of intense religious controversy, Anglicanism was marked from the start by an ability to hold opposing Catholic and Protestant tendencies together in a wise and generous spirit. Rooted in the earliest formularies of faith, it was able to withstand many passing theological disputes. As disagreements threaten once again to separate one Christian from another, here is a succinct and timely reminder of the core beliefs and values that unite all Anglicans, and which many other Christians can also affirm.

Tokens of Trust: An Introduction to Christian Belief

by Rowan Williams (Canterbury Press, 2007)

In this well-crafted book, Rowan Williams, a former Archbishop of Canterbury, looks at the implications of saying ‘I believe’ to some of the great claims of the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed, foundational statements of the Christian faith. These include these claims: that God is almighty; that God is the creator of heaven and earth; that Jesus is the Son of God; that Jesus rose from the dead; that there is one Church; and that there is life beyond death. Rowan Williams writes vividly, lucidly and succinctly.

The Art of Worship: Paintings, Prayers, and Readings for Meditation

by Nicholas Holtam (National Gallery Company, 2011) – available [here](#).

Nick Holtam was the vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields and thus the National Gallery’s parish priest from 1995 to 2011. He is now Bishop of Salisbury. *The Art of Worship* is a collaboration between the National Gallery and St Martin-in-the-Fields. In this beautifully illustrated book, Nick Holtam presents his favourite paintings from the National Gallery, alongside religious commentary, Bible quotations, prayers and poetry.

Painting the Word: Christian Pictures and Their Meanings

by John Drury (Yale University Press, 2002) – available [here](#).

In this beautifully written book, John Drury, an Anglican priest and theologian, looks at religious paintings through the ages and presents them to us in a fresh way – as works filled with passion, stories, and meaning. They become the poetry of such eternal human concerns as birth, death, sacrifice, love, moral goodness and failure. Drury views each picture – its composition, colour, drawing, figures, and even architecture – and shows how it creates a religious image that addresses the spectator as a spiritual human being.

A Closer Look: Saints

by **Erika Langmuir** (National Gallery Company, 2009) – available [here](#).

Through the National Gallery's comprehensive collection of religious images this book explains the significance of saints and their role in the history of European painting. Erika Langmuir describes how saints became part of the institutions of the Christian church, the different types of saints, and the increasing importance of saintly relics in the Middle Ages.

National Gallery Art and Religion Resources

The National Gallery's website has information, interactive webpages, and films about Art and Religion at: <http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/research/art-and-religion/>

Saint John the Baptist, from Birth to Beheading

10 short films about John the Baptist as portrayed in art, presented by Prof. Ben Quash (ASK) and Dr Jennifer Sliwka (National Gallery).

<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/channel/saint-john-the-baptist/>

Anatomy of an Altarpiece

An interactive tool to explore different elements of an Italian Renaissance altarpiece.

<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/anatomy-of-an-altarpiece>

<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/learn-about-art/guide-to-altarpieces/>

Devotion by Design exhibition

<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/whats-on/exhibitions/devotion-by-design>

Sacred Made Real exhibition

<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/whats-on/exhibitions/the-sacred-made-real>

Identifying Saints

<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/learn-about-art/saints>

Arts and the Sacred at King's College London (ASK)

The research centre for Arts and the Sacred at King's College London (ASK) runs an MA in Christianity and the Arts in partnership with the National Gallery. It organises conferences and events, runs a seminar series with the Courtauld Institute of Art, called the Sacred Traditions and the Arts Seminar, and produces a weekly e-bulletin sharing information about lectures, exhibitions and publications. ASK has recently launched The Visual Commentary on Scripture, a major new project bringing together art and theological reflection in a visual commentary on the Bible. See: <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/depts/trs/research/ask/index.aspx>

Art and Christianity Enquiry (ACE)

Events, conferences, a journal, information about contemporary commissions, awards for church art and architecture and books about religion and art. This website has many further links:

<http://acetrust.org/>

St Stephen Walbrook

St Stephen Walbrook (see [here](#)) is a church in the City of London which works in partnership with St Martin-in-the-Fields. The building is a masterpiece designed by Sir Christopher Wren, and incorporates a modern altar table by the sculptor Henry Moore. Art and faith presentations from the St Stephen Walbrook Art Group can be found here:

<http://londoninternetchurch.org.uk/teaching/art-and-faith-lectures/>

Note: all website addresses correct at July 2017.