

SPEAKERS

Stephen Anderson is a practising Sole Legal Practitioner and a long standing parishioner of St Matthews in the City and member of vestry and Synods representative for the Parish. He has been a member of the Anglican Roman Catholic Commission (ARCCANZ) since 1984 and is hopeful of seeing renewed and fruitful developments in the relationship of these churches.

Manuel Beazley has iwi affiliations to Ngai Tupoto, Te Rarawa, Ngapuhi and Ngati Whatua. Manuel has previously been the Director for Youth Ministry in the Catholic Diocese of Auckland, and is now Pastoral Assistant at St John the Evangelist Parish, Otara. He is an experienced facilitator for retreats for school Boards of Trustees, School teaching staff, secondary school students and youth groups.

Ananya Chaitanya is a student of and teacher in Vedic Literature, Sanskrit and Yoga for the Foundation for Self-Knowledge Inc NZ which she manages. She has authored Vedic books and compiled the syllabus for the Vedic Heritage Study for The London Academy of Fine Arts and shares her knowledge through classes, camps and short-term courses. Ananya is a Science graduate (Botany Hons) and a PG in Education. She takes seminars on "Death, Dying and Spirituality" from a Hindu perspective for the BA Nursing programme at MIT and Unitec and speaks at conferences on Hinduism and meditation.

Tayyaba Khan is one of the founders and former Presidents of Young Muslim Women's Association (YMWA). She was born in Pakistan, spent approximately five years in Japan, and then moved to NZ with her family at the age of 10. Currently Tayyaba writes for the YMWA website and is doing her postgraduate diploma in Development Studies at Massey University. Her working background includes mental health support work, management in the disability sector, and most recently as an Advisor at the Office of Ethnic Affairs, Department of Internal Affairs. Tayyaba was also a part of the NZ delegation for the Asia Pacific Interfaith Dialogue in Perth in 2009.

Dame Lesley Max, MBE, MA (Hons), is Chief Executive of Great Potentials Foundation, designed to help children, young people and families to flourish. Author of "*Children: Endangered Species?*"(1990), and formerly a secondary school teacher and journalist, Lesley is a mother and grandmother and a member of Auckland's Jewish community and the Council of Christians and Jews; a member of the National Advisory Council for Family Services; Chairman of the Parenting Council and an advisory committee member of

the Brainwave Trust. She is described as a social entrepreneur for her introduction of numerous schemes to assist youth and families, such as HIPPPY – Home Interaction Programme for Parents and Youngsters.

Beverley McDonald is married with an adult family. She ministers as a spiritual director which connects her with people from a diverse range within the Christian community. She has a Bachelor of Theology from Auckland University and is on the Anglican Roman Catholic Commission (ARCCANZ) and the Catholic Bishops Committee for Ecumenism (CBCE).

Susan Smith rndm is a member of the Congregation of Our Lady of the Missions and she lives in Whangarei. She has a Ph.D., M.Theol., B.A., taught in the University of Auckland's School of Theology from 1994 to 2006. Prior to that, and more recently she has been involved in working with her Congregation in Ethiopia, Papua New Guinea, Bangladesh and the different Asian countries. She has experienced the multi-cultural faith reality of our contemporary world. Susan is the author of *Women in Mission: From the New Testament to Today*, Orbis Books, 2007 and is now involved in writing a history of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions.



Te Ngakau Waiora

MERCY SPIRITUALITY CENTRE

104 The Drive, Epsom,
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Email: programmesmercycentre@xtra.co.nz

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MERCY SPIRITUALITY CENTRE



INTERFAITH SERIES



**Thursday evenings
24 June**

**1, 8 & 29 July
5 & 12 August 2010**

INTERFAITH SERIES

Mercy Spirituality Centre is holding a series of six talks on Thursday evenings during June, July and August with a view to exploring interfaith dialogue and getting to know our neighbours in an increasingly multi-ethnic and multi-cultural society.

Speakers from some major world faiths will share their faith, beliefs and practices, and what this means for them living here in New Zealand.

FEES

There is a charge of \$12 per evening, OR \$60 for the whole series.

REGISTRATION

Registration is *essential* as places are limited. Contact details are on the back of this brochure.

HINDUISM

ANANYA CHAITANYA

Thursday 24 June 2010 7.30-9.00pm

Ananya, who teaches in Vedic Literature, Sanskrit and Yoga, will share with us her Hinduism religion and what it means to her. What is it like being a Hindu in New Zealand? How has it formed and shaped her life? What do we have in common with our Hindu neighbours?



JUDAISM

DAME LESLEY MAX

Thursday 1 July 2010 7.30-9.00pm

Lesley Max, who has worked extensively for young people here in New Zealand, will share her personal faith with us. In what ways does she practice this ancient religion? What is it like being Jewish in Auckland? What impact does this religion have on her daily life? What do we have in common with this religion in which both Christianity and Islam have common foundations?



CHURCH AS COMMUNION:

Catholics and Anglicans Exploring Together

BEVERLEY MCDONALD & STEPHEN ANDERSON

Thursday 8 July 2010 7.30-9.00pm

This evenings' discussion will be a reflection by representatives of the Catholic and Anglican tradition on recent developments in the ongoing dialogue taking



place between these two churches.



MAORI & PACIFIC SPIRITUALITY

MANUEL BEAZLEY

Thursday 29 July 2010 7.30-9.00pm

Nga Ritenga o te Ao Tawhito—

Spirituality of the ancient world



We will explore the tribal religions of the Pacific, especially of pre-European Maori. This talk will focus on the development of a Maori Theology, its rituals and spirituality. What impact does this spirituality have on Maori today? How does it affect their practice of religion.

ISLAM

TAYYABA KHAN

Thursday 5 August 2010 7.30-9.00pm

The Aotearoa Muslim population has increased by 50% since 2001 (Statistics New Zealand Census, 2006). This significant growth of one of the world's prolific religions arouses curiosities of many kinds. This talk will address issues pertaining to the Muslim identity and its formation in Aotearoa. In what ways does she practice her religion daily... and how is it managed in a secular society? Furthermore the challenges of this hybrid-identity of being a Muslim in the West will be explored.



TOGETHER UNDER ONE SKY

SUSAN SMITH rndm

Thursday 12 August 2010 7.30-9.00pm

Sr Susan Smith will explore what it is like to live in a multi-cultural, multi-religious society and help us to come to terms with difference. How do we communicate with our neighbours who are so different than ourselves? How can we find common ground? What is it like to live one's faith among so much diversity?

