



Networking Cedara

Volume 28, Number 3 27 Feb — 6 Mar 17



In this issue..

THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT CEDARA

THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT CEDARA

- 1
- CLUSTER PUBLICATIONS LAUNCH.....1**
- PRAYERS REQUESTED... 1**
- CHANGE OF EMAIL.....2**
- STUDY AND SAFETY.....2**
- A WORD OF THANKS.....2**
- PAULINE BOOKSALE...2**
- FROM THE LIBRARY.....2**
- CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC.....2**
- METAPHYSICAL CRISES3-4**

EDITORIAL...4

Friday, 24 February: Academic Assembly (10:30)
 Tuesday, 28 February: Institute Liturgy (5 pm, Fr Chris Grzelak, SCJ presiding)
 Wednesday March: Ash Wednesday- Lent begins
 Thursday, 2 March: Cluster Publications Launch (5 pm, Hexagon Theatre lobby, UKZN)
 Tuesday, 7 March: Grace & Truth Committee (12:15, Board Room)
 Institute Liturgy (5 pm, Emmanuel Ndlovu CMM presiding)
 Thursday, 9 March: Cluster Worship (5. 30 pm, SJTI-chapel)

CLUSTER PUBLICATIONS LAUNCH

Date: Thursday, 2 March
Time: 5 pm
Venue: Lobby of the Hexagon Theatre, UKZN

Amongst the four books to be launched is *The Stolen Bible: From Tool of Imperialism to African Icon* by Gerald West.
All Are Invited.

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR MRS LORRAINE KALICHARRAN

Mrs Lorraine Kalicharran is very ill. Although it is not thought that the medical complications are life-threatening, her condition is serious and she is in lots of pain. We ask you to keep her and her family in prayer. Her daughter Michelle and son, Claude, live in Pietermaritzburg and are constantly with her. Visiting her is not encouraged at this time.

For all business pertaining to her office, please con-

tact Br Nhlanhla Mhlanga, email adminfinance@sjti.ac.za.

Regards,
Neil

CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS

Kindly note my yahoo email no longer works. I now use the following address:
mcgrealfrancis@gmail.com

Francis McGreal.

STUDY AND SAFETY AUDIT

Our Health & Safety Audit takes place on Friday 3 March.
Kindly keep the Institute tidy etc.

Regards,
Carol

A WORD OF THANKS

On behalf of the Mncube family I would like to thank all of you for your support during the time our mother was hospitalized until she was called by her Creator. Thank you for being with us till we laid her to rest. *Enikwenze kuthina nikwenze nakwabanye.*

Philisiwe Mncube

PAULINE BOOKSALE

The Pauline's Booksale Will be Held From March 14 to March 16 at SJTI-Cedara

A NOTE FROM THE LIBRARY

There will be a Library Book Sale from Friday the 17th of February 2017 to Thursday the 2nd of March 2017 at Midday. All books will be sold for R5.00. Everyone at the Institute is encouraged to participate.

Mr Mnelisi Phelelani Mchunu is a Cataloguer in the Library. Please do not disturb or distract him he is not here to help students or staff, he is employed purely to catalogue.

Many thanks.

Clare Landon,
Head Librarian.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL CELEBRATES 50 YEARS!

In February 1967, at a weekend retreat for students of Duquesne University in the United States, the Catholic charismatic renewal was born. During a night long prayer service in the retreat centre chapel, each of the students experienced a profound presence of the Holy Spirit which they later named the “Baptism in the Spirit”. Through their contacts with other students at the University of Notre Dame, the Renewal began to spread rapidly in the United States and then around the world, coming to Africa in the 1970s.

The public face of the Renewal is much reduced now. Cardinal Leon-Joseph Suenens of Belgium, a leader at Vatican II and a participant in the Renewal, often said that the task of the Renewal was to renew the Church and then “disappear” as a movement. So we trust that this is what is happening.

Sue Rakoczy IHM

METAPHYSICAL CRISES AND ITS CONSEQUENCES IN THEOLOGY

Felisberto Dumbo SCJ

In my previous article titled, *The need of Metaphysics in Philosophy*, I stated that the conception that metaphysics bore during medieval times had a great meaning and it was understood as the first science because of its method. Nevertheless, in my other article titled, *Ethical Transcendence*, I pointed out that such conception of metaphysics was obtaining a different approach especially during modern times and the champion of change was the philosopher Immanuel Kant. Immanuel Kant, in my opinion, was a disappointment with his idealistic and theoretical understanding of metaphysics. He decided by his philosophical approach to bring about a new view that was not related to any idealistic view because none of us can fully grasp what is beyond our understanding. For Kant, there is no metaphysical knowledge. The crises of metaphysics started when Kant wrote some books that in my understanding are seen as apologetic books which defended and enlightened a new metaphysical dynamic. However, if such an approach brought a new pragmatic insight and many followers at the same time, it also created a theological crisis especially in the matter of spirituality. I believe many issues demand a little theoretical understanding because of the principles that are based in metaphysics. Kant in opposing the medieval fathers argues that there is no need of theoretical metaphysics because no one can perceive an absolute entity. Therefore, human reason cannot affirm a statement of grasping an absolute Being which goes beyond its possibilities or human understanding and nature. Therefore, metaphysical knowledge is out of human structure.

Metaphysics, then, was left to imagination, speculation and rationalization. It obtained a new perspective at surface level that is more related to pragmatism. If there is no absolute reality and entity that the human mind can grasp fully, then, believing in the personhood of Jesus and his historical aspect is put outside the box because it demands us to go beyond a thought which for Kant does not exist at all. Jesus, then, is seen as a mere religious person; going further into his divine dimension is to rely on his absolute entity which is impossible for Kant because we cannot grasp

it fully. We can consider this Christological aspect as one and perhaps the fundamental crisis that Kant brought to theology. In other words, Jesus is seen as a mere person who tried to live a moral life and no more. The following consequence of metaphysical crisis is based on the principle that if Jesus Christ is not God, but someone who just lived on earth because his being was limited into the mere human phenomenon and structure, then what is believed today in the doctrine of the Christian faith is put also into question. The Christian faith is all about the person of Christ. Therefore, if Christ is not the divine Being, God incarnated, the sacraments and the mysteries are also mere illusions as Kant stated clearly in his book on *Religion Within the Boundaries of Mere Reason*. Therefore, what is believed about miracles, mysteries, grace and so on, is no longer true and does not make sense because there are no possibilities of transcendence; hence, our reason is limited to what is known. Yet we can still add the relativism inside of such metaphysical crises. That is, what is good cannot be known, and then the self is the final arbiter. Here rationalism takes over the deposit of faith. Thus, reason decides things in their subjectivity without consulting the deposit of faith in order to seek for truth. If in Kantian's idea reason is incapable of grasping metaphysical knowledge, religion and some moral principles fall into arrogance of relativism which is a plague today. Pragmatism then, becomes the tool of understanding reality even in religious life. Finally, I am not against Kant, rather I appreciate his approach. However, one has to be careful when trying to link his thoughts with what is theological because once he limits our reason from what is beyond, it may be dangerous to connect his thought to theology as many contemporary theologians try to do, and of course, they fail because there is no Christian faith without believing that Jesus Christ is God.

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor: Emmanuel Ndlovu, CMM
Reporter: Sue Rakoczy, IHM
Layout: Isaac Mutelo, OP, Emmanuel Nyerere, SAC,
Justus Oseko, MCCJ & Amorain Wayikpo M.Afr.
Production & Distribution: Emmanuel Randrianirina, SCJ

All articles must be submitted by Wednesday afternoon.

Email: emmcomm@yahoo.es

SJTI Website: <http://www.sjti.ac.za>

Student body Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Josephs-Theological-Institute-Student-Forum/431392193576786>