## THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE HERITAGE PROGRAM

The Saint John's Bible Heritage Program is an international initiative for individuals and institutions to explore the artistic and spiritual beauty of The Saint John's Bible. Described as "the American Book of Kells", this seven-volume work is the first complete handwritten Bible commissioned by a Benedictine monastery since the invention of the printing press. This is a living document that has been critically acclaimed as both a work of art and a work of theology.

To celebrate the involvement of Mary Immaculate College with The Saint John's Bible a series of events are being organized by the Irish Institute for Pastoral Studies in March 2020.

- 1. TRAINING FOR AMBASSADORS
- 2. OPEN EVENING, KEYNOTE ADDRESS AND BREAKOUT SESSIONS
- 3. DAY OF IMMERSION, RETREAT AND RECOLLECTION

These events will take place in various locations between March 10 & March 12 2020 Details inside



# THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE HERITAGE PROGRAM

### **TRAINING FOR AMBASSADORS**

This one-hour workshop will be offered to staff and students on each MIC campus. At this workshop participants will be trained to safely handle the volumes and to speak about The Saint John's Bible in such a way to engage the interest of others.

### Title: From Inspiration to Illumination, an Introduction to The Saint John's Bible

Description: Through video, facsimile, and projected images, participants are guided through the story of The Saint John's Bible. This interactive presentation takes guests through the processes, tools, methods and materials for the project. Several artworks in each volume will be explored through guided imagery methods, and discussion techniques for engaging various audience members will be modeled.

#### Facilitator: Tim Ternes

Tim Ternes is the Director of The Saint John's Bible at the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library at Saint John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. As director, Tim worked closely with the artistic team in the creation of the original Bible bifolia and facilitated planning and communication between artists and commissioner. This collaboration has given him extensive behind-the-scenes knowledge and great stories about all aspects of The Saint John's Bible project.

#### Date:

**10 March 2020** in G08 Foundation Building, **MIC Limerick**, 1.00pm to 2.00pm and repeated from 4.00pm to 5.00pm

**12 March 2020** in Mary Immaculate College, **MIC Thurles**, 1.00pm to 2.00pm and repeated from 4.00pm to 5.00pm





## OPEN EVENING, KEYNOTE ADDRESS AND BREAKOUT SESSIONS

This is an event to which members of the public are invited.

### 7.00pm: Keynote Address: Word and Image: The Saint John's Bible

Description: The Saint John's Bible has over 160 artworks that serve to invite the viewer into conversation. This presentation includes a very brief introduction to the Bible project and then focuses on the interactions and discussion between artist and commissioner as they went from Word to image in illuminations. Several artworks are explored, and comparisons are made between the contemporary artworks in The Saint John's Bible and ancient visual interpretations of the same text.

#### **Facilitator: Tim Ternes**

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#### 8.15pm: Break-out Sessions - participants choose between:

#### 1. The Calligraphic Nature of the Bible

Description: This is a practical opportunity to hear from one of the artists about being a scribe and the physical making of the Bible.

Facilitator: Susie Leiper, from Edinburgh, Scotland, is one of the one of the team of artists, coordinated by Donald Jackson in Wales, who worked on the Bible.

#### 2. Bringing Jesus to Life: "Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him" (Lk 24:31)

Description: By engaging with the words and images of key passages (such as Jesus' genealogy, birth, baptism, death, and resurrection), this interactive session will explore who is Jesus according to the Gospels & Acts volume of The Saint John's Bible.

Facilitator: Dr Jonathan Burroughs is a Lecturer in Theology & Religious Studies at Mary Immaculate College.

Date:

10 March 2020 in T116 Tara Building, MIC Limerick 12 March 2020 in MIC Thurles

**Cost:** €20.00



## DAY OF IMMERSION, RETREAT AND RECOLLECTION:

#### Experience the Word Come to Life - a Retreat Day with The Saint John's Bible

This is essentially a day of recollection and prayer, with the focus on an in-depth experience of the volumes of The Saint John's Bible. This day will be confined to a group of 30 people.

10.00am	Arrival, Welcome, Tea/Coffee & Danish
10.30am	View of the Glenstal Abbey's Manuscript Collection (Fr Senan)
11.15am	Tour of Glenstal Abbey's Icon Chapel (Fr Henry)
12.10pm	Sung Community Mass
1.30pm	Lunch
2.15pm - 3.45pm	From Inspiration to Illumination, an Introduction to The Saint John's Bible

Description: Through video, facsimile, and projected images, participants are guided through the story of The Saint John's Bible. This interactive presentation takes guests through the processes, tools, methods and materials for the project. Several artworks from the project are also explored through guided imagery discussions. Participants also get to handle material samples.

#### **Facilitator: Tim Ternes**

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3.45pm - 4.15pm Tea/Coffee and viewing The Saint John's Bible

4.15pm - 5.45pm Seeing the Word: Visio Divina with The Saint John's Bible (Tim Ternes)

Description: This session leads participants through the process used to develop the images in The Saint John's Bible; it is akin to a visual Bible study experience. The session focuses on a reflective examination of the scriptural passages behind a select number of illuminations from The Saint John's Bible. This group visual study allows participants to hear and see the Word in new ways.

Date:

11 March 2020 10.00am - 6.00pm, Glenstal Abbey, Murroe, Co Limerick.

Cost:

€50 (including lunch)

#### Further Information & Booking:

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