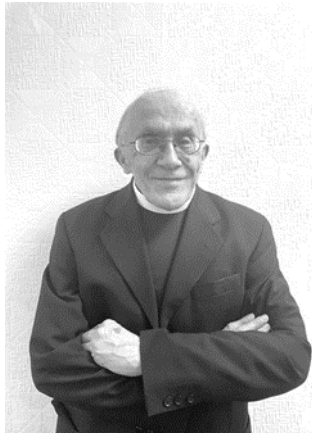


Fr Richard Price



Fr Richard Price is a retired priest in the Archdiocese of Westminster and a former lecturer at Heythrop College, London.

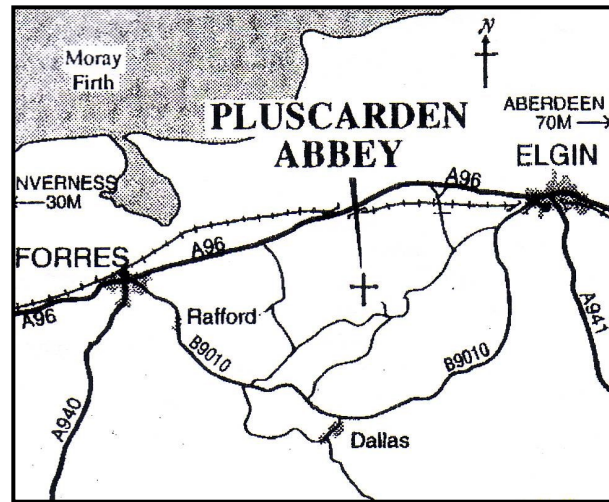
He received an MA and DPhil from the University of Oxford and his BD and MTh from London University.

From 1981-2018 he was a Lecturer at Heythrop College, and from 2010 was Professor of the History of Christianity at the college. He is also an Honorary Research Fellow at Royal Holloway, University of London. A long term specialist in Patristic Theology and Church Councils, he has been described as “an extremely gifted scholar and functions as a walking encyclopaedia of Church History”.

He has contributed a vast number of articles to various journals and books, on the Ecumenical Councils and other topics; and in 2021 published *The Council of Ephesus of 431: Documents and Proceedings* (Liverpool University Press).

Since his retirement, Fr Richard has been much in demand as a lecturer and panellist and his talks can be found on YouTube.

www.pluscardenabbey.org



Travel

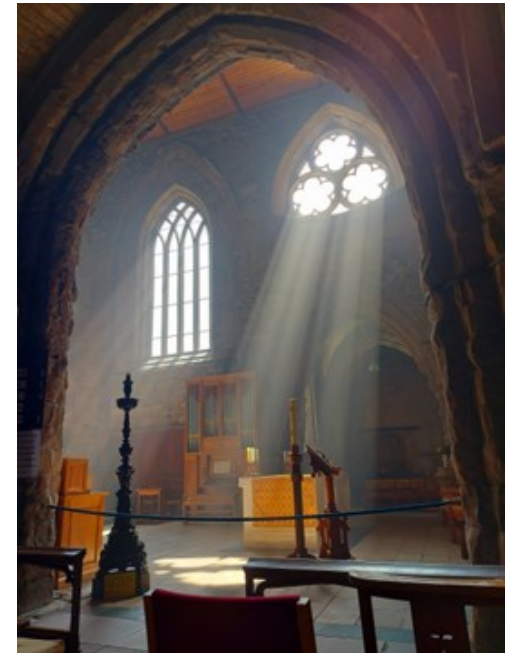
Six miles west of Elgin, Pluscarden Abbey lies forty miles east of Inverness and seventy miles west of Aberdeen. Both cities have airports. There are bus and rail links to Elgin. A taxi to the Abbey is the most reliable way of completing the journey from Elgin.

From the South by road, follow the A9 to Carrbridge, then the B9007 and A940 to Forres. From there take the B9010 through Rafford to the turn-off for Pluscarden Abbey. If you leave the A9 at Aviemore and follow the A95 to Granton-on-Spey, you can take the A939 and then the A940 to Forres, or continue on the A95 and the A941 to Elgin and from there drive to the Abbey.

Alternatively and more scenically, you can follow the A93 until past Crathie then take the Lecht road to Tomintoul and from there the B9008 till it joins the A95. You can then come to the Abbey via Marypark, Knockando and Dallas.

Living the Faith in the World of Today

FR RICHARD PRICE



THE 2023 PLUSCARDEN PENTECOST LECTURES

A series of four public lectures at
Pluscarden Abbey

Elgin

IV30 8UA

From 30th May to 1st June 2023

THE 2023 PLUSCARDEN PENTECOST LECTURES

30TH MAY TO 1ST JUNE 2023 AT PLUSCARDEN ABBEY

Living the Faith in the World of Today

FR RICHARD PRICE

What new challenges does the modern world present to Christian believers? What are they, and how can they be coped with?

This series of talks addresses a broad range of problems – from that of living in an increasingly godless society to that posed by doubts as to how to read Scripture.

It speaks of the need to cultivate one's own spiritual perception of the world, and uses an autobiography by a nineteenth-century Italian to illustrate how to maintain Christian patience and charity in a context where we have to depend on our inner resources rather than on a supportive environment, for that is the situation of a Christian today.

All Welcome

There will be no charge for these lectures and all are welcome to attend, either for the whole series or for individual lectures. We can offer hospitality at the Abbey for a limited number of both men and women. Early booking is advised.

There are also many places to stay in the Elgin area: contact the local tourist office: 01343 542666.

The lectures will take place in St Scholastica's Retreat, the white single storey building a short distance outside the main gate.

Contact: To make further enquires or book accommodation, please write to:

Pentecost Lectures

Pluscarden Abbey

Elgin, IV30 8UA (enclosing a SAE);

or fax 01343 890258

e-mail: monks@pluscardenabbey.org

Programme

Tuesday 30th May at 3.00 pm

Faith in a Society without Faith

The statistics of churchgoing, of religious commitment and of belief in God in the western world generally all show a precipitate decline since the early sixties, one without parallel in the history of Christianity. And those of us who are still believing and practising cannot but be influenced by people around us as to how we react to the challenges and trials of life, at a level more instinctive than what we claim to 'believe'. We believe in God, we go to church, but how important is this as regards our anxieties in the present and our hopes for the future? We need to be honest with ourselves, to discover where our faith is still alive and kicking, and to build upwards and outwards from that.

Wednesday 31st May at 10.30 am

Reading the Bible Today

Fundamental to Christian faith is a reception of the message of the Bible, but how do we understand the 'Word of God'? Does the 'inspiration' of the Bible mean that God is the true author and the human writers secretaries who wrote down what the Holy Spirit dictated? If in contrast, as modern biblical scholarship does, we turn the biblical authors into writers dependent on their own understanding and beliefs, with great variation between them, where does that leave us? I shall argue that both options, the traditional and the modern scholarly one, are open to us still.

Wednesday 31st May at 3.00 pm

Silvio Pellico as Model Christian for Today

As a model Catholic for today, I have chosen Silvio Pellico, an Italian layman who was imprisoned throughout the 1820s by the Austrians and wrote of the harsh treatment he endured in a book, *Le mie Prigioni* ('My prisons'), which had an enormous impact in his day. His memoir is an expression of extraordinary patience, resignation and even generosity to his captors. It is still worth reading today as an expression of a truly Catholic reaction to tribulation. To read his memoir is to recover a sense of what it truly is to be a Christian, just as much in the difficult circumstances of today as in Pellico's own time.

Thursday 1st June at 10.30 am

Religion and Experience

Traditional Catholicism was highly sceptical towards any claims, especially by lay people, of having a 'hot line' to God, Jesus, Mary or a saint. But as Catholic culture around us disintegrates, personal religious experience needs to be reassessed; for how without a vivid experience, a sense of a call from God, can our faith maintain its hold on us and be a real inspiration when we live in a secularized society? I shall outline what I believe to be a Christian perception of the world and above all of our fellow human beings and of the revelation of God through them, as something that can give body to our faith without being fanciful or presumptuous.