

GODDARD TALK

THE GODDARD CHAPEL NEWSLETTER
Tufts University

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From The Chaplain

Greetings and Happy New Year! The saying "never discuss religion or politics" is dead. One only has to look at the headlines in newspapers to see issues of morality being debated as political questions. Most all of the major spiritual and religious bodies have instructions to their believers concerning issues of public policy.

The American discussion of religion and politics always begins with "the separation of church and state." This is a great place to begin but not to end. The separation clause means religious institutions should neither expect favoritism nor accept discrimination. Its

CRACKING "THE DA VINCI CODE"

Rev. David O'Leary

Ever since Dan Brown's book, "The Da Vinci Code," appeared in 2003, people like to bring it up in conversation. Now that it will soon be a movie directed by Ron Howard and starring Tom Hanks, more talk will ensue.

First, it is a fun beach novel. But we should not get our church history from a novel; i.e., a book of fiction. There are

purpose is not to silence the religious voice or deny a public role for it. The separation clause guarantees the freedom for the religious institutions to earn their way into the public policy debate by demonstrating the WISDOM of their teachings.

Yes, there are and have been religious extremists. But let us remember there are and have been secular authoritarians also. As University Chaplain I try to remind everyone of the need for civility in society and in dialogue. I believe the key to reconstructing civility is for all of us to learn anew the virtue of acting with love toward one another.

A revival of civility in the public policy debate will also require a revival of all that is best in spiritual and religious institu-

many incorrect statements in the book:

- "In his own lifetime, Jesus inspired millions to better lives." (p. 231)
- "There were more than eight gospels." (p. 231)
- "The earliest Christian records were found among the Dead Sea Scrolls." (pp. 234, 245)
- "The Nag Hammadi texts speak of Christ's ministry in human terms." (p. 234)
- "The marriage of Mary Magdalene and Jesus is a matter of his-

tions as a force in the world.

Please know of my willingness to be of service to you or your organization in regard to these issues of religion and politics.

Pax et Lux,

Rev. David M. O'Leary
S.T.L., D.Phil
University Chaplain & Adjunct
Professor in Comparative Religions & Medical Ethics

♥

torical record." (p. 244) and used the church as a means of solidifying his power.

Any scholarly reading of the Christian texts, The New Testament, will refute all of the above. All of the New Testament material being written between 60-95, long before the Council of Nicea in 325. Besides, the New Testament,

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Special points of interest:

- *Encyclopedia of Religious and Spiritual Development*
See Page 3
- *Renewal of Marriage Vows*
See Page 6

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Upcoming Chapel Events

GODDARD CHAPEL FORUM ON RELIGION AND MEDICINE

All lectures take place at 6:00 p.m.

January 18—

Phil Davis, Christian Science Practitioner and Teacher, Committee on Publication for The First Church of Christ, Scientist
“Christian Science and Medicine”

February 15—

Dana Moore, MAR, OSB, Oblate, Yoga Instructor

“Yoga and Self-Care: The Cultivation of Will Power”

March 15—

Reverend Gloria White-Hammond, M. D.
Bethel AME Church, Roxbury

2006 Russell Lecturer

“Religion and Medicine: Local and International”

REFLECTIONS

12:00 — 1:00 P. M.

February 1, The Reverend David M. O’Leary, S.T.L., D.Phil., University Chaplain
“Shadows & Beginnings”

February 22, Ms. Ann Penick
Associate Catholic Chaplain
“Ecology Theology”

March 29, Imam Nouredine Hawat
Associate Muslim Chaplain
“A Brief Taste of Islam”

April 26, Rev. Patricia Kepler,
United Presbyterian Church
“Basics of Interfaith Dialogue”

CHAPLAIN’S TABLE—RELIGION, ECOLOGY & THE ENVIRONMENT

5 — 7 P. M., MacPhie Conference Room

February 2, The Reverend David M. O’Leary, S.T.L., D.Phil., University Chaplain
“Religion, Stewardship, and Ecology”

February 9, Adina Allen, A’05, “Organic Farming, Jewish Learning, Sustainable Living”

February 16, Asst. Professor Paul Waldau, Environment & Population Health, School of Veterinary Medicine
“Teaching Ethics, Teaching Religion, Teaching Animals”

February 23, Professor John Hart, Christian Ethics, B. U. School of Theology
“Caring for the Commons and the Common Good”

March 2, Nisha Jain, E’06, Hindu Student Association, “Why There Is Such an Emphasis on Respect Towards the Environment In Hinduism and the Origins Behind It”

March 9, Negin Toosi, G’10 and Karina Purushotma, Researcher, Feinstein International Famine Center, “Humanity’s Divine Trust”

March 30, Anya Kollmuss, Outreach Coordinator, Tufts Climate Initiative, “Climate Change: Caring About Our Children”

April 6, To Be Announced

April 20, Olena Rabotyagova, G’09, “An Orthodox Christian Perspective on Ecology/Environment”

April 27, Professor Vincent Manno, Department of Mechanical Engineering, “Alternative Energy: Earth, Wind and Sea: An Engineer’s View”

NOONTIME CONCERTS AT GODDARD CHAPEL

For more information, call chapel office (617) 627-3427.

February 2, Beth Canterbury, Soprano
Steven Morris, Piano

March 2, Eric Berlin, Brass Quintet

April 6, Jeffrey Goldberg, Piano

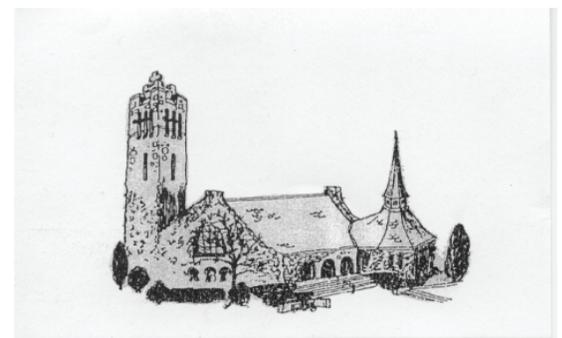
May 4, Sarah Takagi, Piano

SERVICES

Protestant Worship
Sundays, 7:30 p.m.

Catholic Mass
Sundays, 10:00 p.m.

*The Reverend Gloria White-Hammond, M. D., Bethel AME Church, Roxbury, 2006 Russell Lecturer, —
Wednesday, March 15*



ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Despite the world becoming a global village, religion and spirituality still elicit negative stereotypes and foster fear, hatred, and even war. And yet, religion and spirituality also foster peace and unity. Today, then, perhaps more than ever, it is especially important that we understand one another by understanding one another's faith traditions and equally critical that we understand positive, healthy, religious and spiritual development.

This encyclopedia covers the topic of spiritual development as it occurs and is experienced within the first two decades of life. Spiritual development is an important part of human development that has links to identity development, moral development, and civic engagement. Entries refer to links between spiritual and religious development and the contributions they make to positive personal and social development in youth. It includes religious traditions and exemplars, spiritual texts, places and concepts, and organizations with missions having to do with spirituality.

The **Encyclopedia of Religious and Spiritual Development** offers its readers insight into the characteristics of people and their contexts that interact to influence religious and spiritual development over time. The characteristics involved in the development of religiosity and spirituality both between and within individuals and groups over time vary greatly and are innumerable. As such, this encyclopedia does not presume to have captured every unique or shared characteristic. However, in the selections of entries made, the editors provide readers with glimpses into the religious and spiritual development trajectories of people from all over the world, from many different religious and spiritual backgrounds. It also contributes to a growing body of research and scholarship aimed at better understanding this broad topic.

Features and Benefits:

- Contains short entries written by leading theorists and specialists from a wide range of disciplines and professions, both within the U. S. and internationally, to provide a broad, multidisciplinary scope.
- Includes coverage of community-based programs that focus on enhancing spiritual development.
- Reveals the links between spiritual development and positive personal and social development in youth.
- Features reference lists for each entry enabling

readers to gain further information related to the topic.

About the Editors

Elizabeth M. Dowling is the Director of Research for The ImagineNations Group. As Director of Research, Elizabeth is in charge of developing a global survey of young people focused on what they believe needs to happen in their respective countries and the world for the Millennium Development Goals to be met by the target year 2015. Elizabeth works closely with local, national, regional, and international research partners to design and implement effective and sustainable research practices for ImagineNations and oversees information transfer to all members of the ImagineNations staff. Elizabeth graduated from Haverford College in 1991 with a B. A. in psychology and received a M.Ed. From Lesley University in 1994 in early childhood education. She received her Ph.D. in Child Development from Tufts University. She has extensive experience as both an educator and researcher.

W. George Scarlett is an assistant professor and deputy chair of the Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Development at Tufts University. Professor Scarlett received a B. A. from Yale University, an M.Div. from the Episcopal Divinity School, and a Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from Clark University. He has published extensively in the areas of religious and spiritual development, children's play, and approaches to children's problem behavior. In addition to his writing, teaching, and administrative work, he has been a long-time consultant for Head Start and the director of a residential camp for emotionally disturbed children.

University Chaplain David O'Leary also wrote twelve articles for this Encyclopedia. He has entries on "Altars," "Aquinas," "Catholicism," "Churches," "Environmental Ethics," "Heaven," "Hell," "Jesus," "Judaism, Reformed," "Mysticism," "Sacraments," and "Worship."

CRACKING "THE DA VINCI CODE"

Continued from Page 1

- "Constantine invented the divinity of Jesus and excluded all gospels but the four canonical ones." (p. 232)
- "Constantine made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire." (p. 232)
- "There are monks in Opus Dei." (throughout the book).

Now many people question why "The Da Vinci Code" was not commented on by religious scholars. Most scholars of religion do not comment on or refute works of fiction. It is the same with the very popular "Left Behind" series of books. Again, these are works of fiction that have a wide readership but not of high theological scholarship.

The motion picture will be very popular as was the book. But I would again assert that we should not get our church history or theology from a work of fiction.

Brown treats the topic of "paganism" in his book as though it were a unified phenomenon, which it is not. The religions of the Mediterranean world were multiple and very diverse. They cannot all be boiled down to "sun worshippers." Nor did all "pagans" frequently, eagerly, and with mystical intent participate in "hieros gamos" (ritual sex acts). "The Church" is The Holy Roman Catholic Church, which he thinks has tremendous power always and everywhere, but church history is a lot messier than that.

Some of the most audacious and blatantly incorrect statements in "The Da Vinci Code" have to do with early church history and the person of Jesus. In the course of Sophie and Langdon's lengthy conversation with Teabing at the English historian's home, a dialogue takes place in which the following claims are made:

- The divinity of Jesus and his establishment as the "Son of God" were created, proposed, and voted into existence by a "relatively close vote" at the Council of Nicea in 325.
- Prior to this event, nobody, including Jesus' followers, believed that he was anything more than "a moral prophet."

- The Emperor Constantine established the divinity of Jesus for political reasons

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THE GIVING CAMP: ON AND OFF THE HILL

By: Akira Gutierrez, LA'06

As The Giving Camp at Tufts kicks into gear for its eighth consecutive semester, a fresh group of student leaders prepare for an exciting semester filled with activities to connect members of the Tufts community to local residents with special needs. And as the organization expands beyond the Hill, the spirit of Tufts students that jump-started the effort inspires new volunteers and sponsors to carry on this special mission.

In the fall of 2002, four Omidyar Scholars sat down with Diane Ricciardelli, founder and Executive Director of The Giving Camp, Inc. to discuss how they would make her vision a reality. Under the guidance of Reverend Dave O'Leary and a Tufts steering committee, Zachariah Baker ('05), Corey Probst ('04), Christina Zahara ('03), and Lesley Wang ('04) planned an event that offered local residents with mental and physical challenges the chance to attend a day camp full of fun events with student volunteers. With generous support from the Cummings Foundation, Storer Trust, and the University College for Citizenship and Public Service, the team hosted the first Giving Camp ever in Cousen's Gym on Columbus Day weekend.

After the success of the pilot camp, more funding came in from Tufts and its various departments, the Somerville Rotary, and the Kiwanis Club of Medford, and many individuals and businesses. As the team prepared for a larger event in April 2003, then Child Development graduate students Cristina Mendoza ('04) and Rosa Ares ('04) joined the team and extended invitations to children from the local community.

Since then The Giving Camp at Tufts has hosted a total of 15 camps on campus—including three August FOCUS groups—and helped to build friendships between several hundred guests and over 300 student-trained volunteers, representing over 4,000 volunteer hours. As the original team members graduated, fresh new leaders have coordinated numerous camps with the help of Linda Karpowich on behalf of the Chaplain's office. Over the last year Akira Gutierrez ('06) has organized and run the organization on campus with the help of an

enthusiastic team of volunteers. Recent camps have expanded to welcome siblings with and without disabilities and included trips on the Boston Duck Tours, lunch on the Boston Common, rides on the swan boats, and dinner and a movie in Davis Square.

As a new calendar year begins, junior Anna Drapkin steps into the role of student leader working with other past FOCUS volunteers to connect Tufts students to even more members of the community. Coming this April 2006, funded in part by a Youth Venture grant, Tufts students will also welcome local high school students from the Somerville Youth Council to volunteer at the camp. In addition, the students will host a forum about issues faced by people with disabilities.

The growth of the Giving Camp

with the help of students willing to dedicate their time and efforts to this organization, hope grows that one day The Giving Camp will help to build friendships in communities everywhere.

To read more information or to make a donation, please visit www.thegivingcamp.org.

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there is the full body of work from the likes of Ignatius of Antioch (35-107), Justin Martyr (100-165), Clement of Alexandria (150-215), Trutullian (160-225), Origen (185-254), and



has also gone beyond the Hill. The Interact Club, a group of junior Rotarians at Woburn High School, has also hosted several of their own camps. Two recent Woburn High School graduates will be launching new camps at Boston College and Hobart and William Smith College this year, and Marlborough High School began hosting camps in spring of 2005. Tufts alumna Ares has returned to her native Dominican Republic and is planning another Giving Camp there.

As more camps are hosted at Tufts, in nearby neighborhoods, on other campuses, and even in nearby countries, more lives are touched and more awareness is created about learning to accept a population that has so often been denied the gift of friendship. But

Hippolytus (170-236) all asserting Jesus' divinity. Some even died for making that statement. There is no doubt that Jesus' early followers in the early church saw Jesus as Divine.

Another great error that Dan Brown commits is his portrayal of Opus Dei. Throughout "The Da Vinci Code" Opus Dei members are presented as monks (or, rather, caricatures of monks). The fact is there are no monks in Opus Dei. Opus Dei is a Catholic institution for lay people and diocesan priests. It is not a monastic order. Members grow closer to God in and through their ordinary secular activities in the world.

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FRIENDS OF GODDARD CHAPEL SOCIETY WISH LIST

1. Endow the University Chaplain's Position "The Name" Professor of Religion & Society. The University Chaplain was established in 1979 by vote of the Trustees, but the position has its roots at the founding of Tufts College in 1852. The University Chaplain reports directly to the President of the University. Responsibilities include the spiritual, moral, and ethical leadership for the University, programming and outreach to all spiritual and faith traditions. Officiate at all Memorial Services and University-wide events, pastoral, engaged and marriage counseling, administration of historic Goddard Chapel and promote relations with all the surrounding religious communities. Other duties are teaching in the Comparative Religion Department and guest lecturing in Medical Ethics at the Boston and Grafton campuses. The Chaplain is very active in the field of Medical Ethics, chairing the Institutional Review Board for human subject testing on the Medford campus and a committee member for the T-NEMC. "The Name" Professor of Religion & Society would get much attention due to the Chaplain's wide range of public meetings, author of five books (more to come), and numerous country-wide presentations.
2. Gift of climate control/air conditioning/de-humidifiers for Goddard Chapel The "Name" Plaque for Environmental Generosity would be on permanent display in the lounge of Goddard Chapel. This gift would protect the historic Hook & Hastings organ and the priceless Steinway piano. It would also make the worship area of the Chapel comfortable for all religious services, weddings, memorials and concerts year round.
3. Gift of renovating the basement

into useable meeting/gathering space & office

There is a huge need for other religious/spiritual groups to have space for events; the Buddhist, Hindu, and Orthodox Christian groups all need space. The Associate Protestant Chaplain needs an office area that is not above the Brown & Brew dining space. The entire lower level of the Chapel could be "Named."

4. Endowing a lecture series or an entire program The "Name" Fall and Spring Lecture at Goddard Chapel or the "Name" Goddard Chapel Forum on Both events are highly attended events and speak to the Office of University Chaplain's outreach to all faith traditions and spiritual paths.
5. "Name" Grant for all activities of the Giving Camp at Tufts Six to eight times a year the Office of University Chaplain sponsors the Giving Camp at Tufts for physically and mentally challenged children and adults. Tufts students and "guests" do activities in the community that foster inclusion instead of exclusion.

Please call Goddard Chapel (617) 627-3427 to discuss the above giving opportunities.

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CODE"

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In addition to being incorrect regarding monks in Opus Dei, the book is also incorrect concerning Opus Dei and crime, corporal mortification, regarding the Vatican Bank, and the canonization of its founder, St. Josemaria Escriva.

I enjoyed this book as a work of fiction. I am undecided if I will see the movie. But I know as a scholar of religion that the first page of the book under the bold print headline "FACT.....All descriptions of.....documents and secret rituals in this novel are accurate," is a blatantly false statement. If it is a novel, if it is listed as fiction by the libraries of the world, then so it is.

Cracking "The Da Vinci Code" begins with knowing one is reading a fiction and not a book of theology. An excellent book on this topic is Amy Welborn's "Decoding Da Vinci." I will let the art historians take on Brown's falsehoods concerning major art works and museums.

Check out our new web site at www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy. We are very pleased to be one of the first sites to use the new University image, settings, and designs. Many thanks to Teresa Loftin for all her help and work.

CRACKING "THE DA VINCI

FRIENDS OF GODDARD CHAPEL SOCIETY DONATION

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VOWS!**

**EVERY 1ST SATURDAY OF THE
MONTH 9 A. M.— 12 NOON**

**(EXCEPT MAY, WHICH WILL
BE MAY 20TH)**

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MAKE ARRANGEMENTS** ♡

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We're on the Web!
www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy

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