



THE MATHESON TRUST
For the Study of Comparative Religion

Some Puzzles and Conundrums in the Teaching of Religion

A lecture and conversation with Prof. Harry Oldmeadow
Chesterton Community College, Cambridge
Thursday, 4 December 2014 · 5:00–6:30pm



The study and teaching of religion raises many
difficult questions. For example:

Why study religion?

How might we best define “religion”?

What is the place of religion in the contemporary world?

What problems are posed by religious diversity?

How do we account for the resilience of religious faith
in a secular world?

Join us for an evening in Cambridge, to engage in dialogue with a world authority on the traditionalist approach to religion, for a challenging and intellectually satisfying approach to these timely questions.

Traditionalism, or perennialism, is committed “to the preservation and illumination of the traditional forms which give each religious heritage its raison d’être, guarantee its formal integrity and ensure its spiritual efficacy.” (from H. Oldmeadow, Traditionalism: Religion in the Light of the Perennial Philosophy)

The essential message of tradition is timeless and thus ever new, ever fresh, and always germane to both our immediate condition and to our ultimate destiny... A “nostalgia for the past” is, in itself, nothing; all that is meaningful is “a nostalgia for the sacred” which “cannot be situated elsewhere than in the liberating ‘now’ of God.” (from H. Oldmeadow, Frithjof Schuon and the Perennial Philosophy)



The Apex @ Chesterton Community College
Gilbert Rd, Cambridge CB4 3NY
Thursday, 4 December 2014 · 5:00–6:30pm

Admission: THIS IS A FREE EVENT

Refreshments will be provided.

For more information, contact the Matheson Trust:
info@themathesontrust.org / 01223 665 671



Harry Oldmeadow was until recently Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies at La Trobe University (Victoria, Australia). He is a recognised authority on the Traditionalist or Perennialist school of religious thought on which he has published extensively. He has also written on the spiritual meeting of East and West, the philosophy of science, the environmental crisis, and nomadic cultures such as those of the American Plains Indians and the Australian Aborigines.

