

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Archdeacon (Erzdekan) of Germany, Northern Europe and the Eastern Archdeaconry,

The Venerable Dr Leslie Nathaniel

Dear Friends,

As already communicated to you, we had agreed to hold a Deanery Level Lenten Study for 2025 via Zoom, and I am happy to send you further details of the same.

This year, being the 1700th anniversary of the Creed of Nicaea, the Diocese has suggested that we do a study with the study materials on the Creed that are already available to us.

The Revd Martin George from Berlin, who also holds a PTO in our Diocese, has kindly agreed to lead the Lenten Studies this year. We plan to meet on Zoom every Wednesday of Lent at 8:00 pm for 90 minutes. Based on the Diocesan Study Book, Revd George has suggested the following as the plan for the Deanery Lenten Studies this year.

We will also be sending out this message to the chaplaincies in Northern Europe. However, since the studies are via zoom, we will need to limit the number of persons who can participate. Registration details are given below.

1st session, Wednesday 12 March 2025, 8:00 – 9:30 pm (CET):

Theme: "Blessed are those who have come to believe".

Content: Introduction to the group and to the whole course.

Belief or faith? Critical views on creeds".

The earliest statements of belief in Christ in the New Testament

Types of creeds in the church

The creeds of Nicaea (AD 325) and Constantinople (AD 381)

Bible readings: John 11.25-27. John 20.27-29.

2nd session, Wednesday 19 March 2025, 8:00 – 9:30 pm (CET):

Theme: One God, the Almighty, the Father.

Content: One God in Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.

One God or Only God?"

Creator out of nothing?

Father and Son, creation and procreation.

Bible readings: Deuteronomy 6.4-5. Matthew 22.36-40.

3rd session: Add, Wednesday 26 March 2025, 8:00 – 9:30 pm (CET):

Theme: One Lord Jesus Christ - truly divine.

Content: The Lord.

The Son of God.

"Of one Being with the Father".

Arius, Arianism, Anathema.

Bible readings: Matthew 16.16. John 10.31-38. John 20.28.

4th session, Wednesday 2 April 2025, 8:00 – 9:30 pm (CET):

Theme: One Lord Jesus Christ - truly human.

Content: What makes Jesus a true human being?

Incarnation of Jesus

Baptism of Jesus

Death and resurrection of Jesus

Bible readings: John 1,14. Matthew 3.13-15. Psalm 22. Matthew 26,38. Matthew 27.46-47.

5th session, Wednesday 9 April 2025, 8:00 – 9:30 pm (CET):

Theme: One God, the Holy Spirit

Content: The giver of life.

Spirit of the Father and Spirit of the Son? The debate and schism about the Filioque.

The Holy Spirit's role in Jesus' birth and baptism".

the Holy Spirit's role in our lives.

Bible readings: Matthew 1.18-20. Matthew 3.16-17. John 14.16. John 15.26. John 16.7. Luke 11.11-13.

6th session, Wednesday of Holy Week 16 April 2025, 8:00 – 9:30 pm (CET):

Theme: The One Holy Church

Content: One baptism.

The four marks of the Church.

How can we believe in the oneness and in the holiness of the Church?

The Church of England: Catholic, protestant, and apostolic

Summing up the course: Creed, praise, and prayer.

Bible readings: Matthew 28.19-20. Acts 2.1-4,32-33. 1 Corinthians 12.12-13,27. 1

Timothy 3.14-16.

Registration:

You are requested to register with Revd. Martin George for this study programme. If you are keen to be part of this study kindly send an email indicating your interest to Revd George at martin.george@unibe.ch

You will then be intimated about the Zoom Link and other logistics. The registration will be accepted on the first come first serve basis and it would be helpful if you would be gracious in signing in as early as you can.

Let us look forward for a meaningful Lenten Study on the Nicaean Creed

Leslie Nathaniel

Muthuriel