

R&T Seminar

Friday 22 September, 11.30 am--12.30 pm AEDT
IRCI Conference Room: Level 4, Room 28

followed by lunch in the IRCI kitchen

James Alison (Madrid)

Sacrifices Transposed: How Secularised Theology Pops Up

Abstract

In this talk James Alison will be flying a kite concerning the possibilities for our doctrines of original sin and atonement (which are, of course, the flip side of each other), to have genuine anthropological heft in how we understand our world. Asking how much 'relative clairvoyance' (to use Jason Blakely's phrase concerning political theories) do they give us for looking at issues which are beyond the strictly "churchly". James will be asking for help in thinking this through both with the problems of current polarization and with the non-theoretical practice of neo-liberal politics.

Biography

James Alison (b. 1959) is a Catholic theologian, priest and author. He has studied, lived and worked in Mexico, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Spain and the United States as well as his native England. James earned his doctorate in theology from the Jesuit Faculty in Belo Horizonte, Brazil in 1994 and is a systematic theologian by training. Much of his work engages with French thinker René Girard. In addition he is known for his firm but patient insistence on truthfulness in matters gay as an ordinary part of basic Christianity, and for his pastoral outreach in the same sphere. Among his many publications are *Knowing Jesus* (1993); *Living in the End Times: The Last Things Re-Imagined* (1997); *The Joy of Being Wrong: Original Sin through Easter Eyes* (1998); *Faith beyond Resentment: Fragments Catholic and Gay* (2001); *On Being Liked* (2003); and *Undergoing God: Dispatches from the Scene of a Break-In* (2006).

To join the seminar online: <https://shorturl.at/advKP>

To join lunch after the seminar, please email julie.carpenter@acu.edu.au
with any dietary requirements by 5 pm Monday 18 September.



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