Flesh & Blood: Embodiment & Practical Theology

Call for Papers

This year's conference theme invites engagement from a wide variety of perspectives and in a wide variety of styles and genres. The following list is intended to be indicative of possible topics and approaches, rather than prescriptive. Feel free to offer other topics and titles!

- What insights have we gained from the COVID-19 pandemic into our embodied existence? How might we view our bodies differently as a result of this crisis? Responses to sickness and suffering?
- How has moving many of our interactions with others online impacted our view of ourselves as embodied creatures? What does it mean to be a disembodied presence in a digital world?
- How can practical theologians interact with the physical sciences to enhance its own conversations around embodiment?
- What insights from scriptures and/or traditions may be helpful in informing our understanding of human physicality? How might more problematic traditions be critiqued?
- What does an embodied spirituality look like?
- What lessons can be learned by pastoral practitioners from the renewed interest in the role of the body in western psychotherapy?
- How do views of the body held by differing cultures and traditions inform each other?
- What do theologies of exercise, health and food have to say to our spiritual practices?
- What does practical theology have to say to the othering of the bodies of some? How can BIAPT respond to misogyny and/or racism?

We welcome 200 – 300 word abstracts for 20 minute papers, from a range of disciplines and religious and spiritual traditions and emerging themes in non-religion.

The conference is committed to ensuring an inclusive environment for discussion and the dissemination of work.

Please submit your abstract as a word document and include your name, affiliation, geographical location (so we know your time-zone)**, title of paper, and email address, and send to papers@biapt.org**

Deadline for submissions: 1 May 2022 by 5pm BST. Notifications by 1 June.

We will ask accepted presenters to provide a back-up to mitigate against wi-fi/internet failure, ideally in a form close to the actual delivery of the paper. For example, if you plan to speak to slides, please provide slides with a voice-over or separate recorded audio; if you intend simply to read your paper, with or without copies of the paper for participants, then record it as an audio or video file and provide the text as a Word or pdf document. If for any reason, technical or otherwise, it is not possible for you to record your paper, please provide a summary text which can be shared in the group in the eventuality of technical failure.