

## Story Theology - Narrative Theology Training Feb 27-March 1 2017

### *When is it? Where is it? How much?*

The training will happen from Monday 27 Feb 2017 to Wednesday 1st March at the Corrymeela Centre. The training will run from 6.30pm on Monday to 2pm on Wednesday. The address is: The Corrymeela Community, 5 Drumaroan Road, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim BT54 6QU. The weekend costs £99 for a shared room and £139 for (limited availability) single occupancy rooms.

### *How can I get there?*

You can drive - we have plenty of parking. In the week leading up to the training we will check if folks have spaces in their car to offer lifts from where they are traveling. Please make plans to arrive at Corrymeela no earlier than 5pm on the first day. We can pick you up from the village after 5.30pm.

### *What is narrative theology?*

Narrative Theology is a broad name given to a theological approach that explores the "Storyworld" of a biblical text. In this retreat we will particularly share tools for exploring the narrative styles and works of the four gospels. We will ask questions about setting, characterisation, plot, locale, syntax and poetics, developing a toolkit for academic, personal or congregational use that helps individuals and groups explore biblical stories with new richness.

### *Is it very academic?*

This training does not require you to have previous theological studies to participate. However it will be very useful for those who bring theological interest. It will be important for all participants to have some knowledge of the four gospels.

### *Who is it for?*

This training session is for anyone interested in narrative theology - those who bring academic interest in this practice, those who are in Christian ministry, those who wish to learn more about Christianity so they can apply this in their own religious practice, those who are interested in the overlap between literary criticism and biblical studies, and those who want to know more about reading the stories of the gospels.

### ***Who will run it?***

The training will be run by Pádraig Ó Tuama, poet, theologian and leader of the Corrymeela Community. He has worked in dialogue and retreat work for the last decade, and uses narrative his work extensively. Pádraig's postgrad is in Narrative Theology, his MTh thesis was "Jesus and the Marginalised: a narrative analysis of some human encounters in the gospel of Mark."

### ***What is the schedule for the training?***

#### **Monday evening**

Arrival from 5pm, meal at  
6.30pm 8pm-9.30 Session 1

#### **Tuesday**

9.30-1 Sessions 2 & 3

Lunch

4pm

Session 4

Dinner

7.30 Session 5

#### **Wednesday**

9.30-12.30 Session 6 and feedback followed by Lunch.

This training will be developmental and is not suitable for partial attendance.

### ***What is the Corrymeela Community?***

The Corrymeela community was founded in 1965 as a response to the growing community tensions in Northern Ireland. Now it encompasses a residential centre, an urban office, staff and volunteers working across multiple projects - education, community, faith and youthwork. The Corrymeela Community also exists as a community of faith, with a membership of 150 who commit to "embracing difference, healing division and enabling reconciliation" in their daily lives - through prayer, work at Corrymeela events, and support of initiatives that help make a world of difference.

To book or ask further questions, please email [belfast@corrymeela.org](mailto:belfast@corrymeela.org)