

**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

Date of Registration .....

Receipt / Registration No .....

Cash / Cheque / Bank Draft information .....

.....

Date of payment .....

Prepared by .....

**ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS**

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Organised by



Archdiocesan Council  
for Inter-Religious and  
Ecumenical Dialogue

The mission of The Archdiocesan Council for Inter-Religious and Ecumenical Dialogue (IRED) is to promote, organise and coordinate activities and dialogue among brothers and sisters of different faiths. It also contributes to the formation of Catholics in the area of understanding and appreciation of other religions.



**meditatio**  
Outreach of  
The World Community for Christian Meditation

Meditatio is the outreach of The World Community for Christian Meditation. It shares the fruits of meditation and engages in dialogue with the secular approach to the problems of our time.

Formed in 1991, the World Community develops the vision of John Main by working to renew the contemplative dimension of Christian life and engaging in dialogue between faiths from the common ground opened by meditation.

In its three-year program, Meditatio will host seminars and workshops on Education, Mental Health, Business and Finance, the Environment, Inter-religious friendship, and Citizenship.

[www.wccmmeditatio.org](http://www.wccmmeditatio.org) [www.wccm.org](http://www.wccm.org)

Supported by



Inter-Religious Organisation,  
Singapore

# common ground



## A Seminar on The Contemplative Dimension of Faith

Led by

**Laurence Freeman OSB**

Director, The World Community for Christian Meditation

With contributions from

**Venerable Chuan Guan**

**Habib Syed Hassan Al-Attas**

**Mother Mangalam**

**Master Huang Xin Cheng**

**Master Chung Kwang Tong (Wei Yi)**

**DATE:** Sat 7- Sun 8 January 2012

**TIME:** (Sat 7 Jan) 8.30 am – 5.00 pm  
(Sun 8 Jan) 9.00 am – 5.00 pm followed by  
Eucharistic Celebration 5.30 pm

**VENUE:** Catholic Junior College, Whitley Road  
Performing Arts Centre

**CONTRIBUTION:** \$50.00 per participant

**REGISTRATION:** Complete form and return with payment  
Closing date 12 Dec 2011 · First-come-first-served basis.  
An advisory with a Registration Number  
will be sent to confirm registration.

**INQUIRIES:** [commonground2012@gmail.com](mailto:commonground2012@gmail.com) · 84113130/63364815



**LAURENCE FREEMAN OSB** is a Benedictine monk of the Congregation of Monte Oliveto, Italy. He is Director of The World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM) and travels worldwide giving talks and leading seminars on meditation. He actively nurtures inter-faith dialogue through the Way of Peace programme of the WCCM. His many works include *First Sight: An Experience of Faith*, and *Light Within*.



**VEN. CHUAN GUAN** was ordained under Master Miu King (妙境長老) in 2002 and began monastic training at Fa Yun Monastery, New Mexico, where he learned the sutras and meditated in the Mahayana Buddhist tradition while studying the Theravadin Pali Canon. In 2006 he returned to Singapore and continued his training under Ven. Kwang Sheng at Kong Meng San Phor Kark See Monastery. As resident monk at the Buddhist Library since 2009, he gives Dharma and meditation classes and uses all the current media facilities to reach out to the Buddhist community.



**HABIB SYED HASSAN AL-ATTAS** has been Imam and Head of Ba'alwie Mosque, Singapore, for over 30 years and is affectionately known as Habib Hassan. His lineage can be traced to the beloved Prophet Muhammad, 37<sup>th</sup> generation. His great-grandfather was an eminent scholar (Ulama) at the Grand Mosque (Masjid-il-Haram) in the holy city of Mecca. Author of over 40 books, his authority on Islamic law and teachings is sought by the religious fraternity locally and internationally.



**MOTHER MANGALAM** is Life President of Pure Life Society, Malaysia. She met the late Swami Satyananda, founder of Pure Life Society, when she was 10, and he became her spiritual mentor. Though trained as a teacher, she was moved by social concerns to devote her life to the cause of orphans and homeless children. Her service to humanity has been acknowledged through many awards including the national Merdeka Award in 2010. She has written many articles and books on social, religious and cultural issues.



**MASTER HUANG XIN CHENG** started his religious practice at the age of 17 and studied at the China Taoist College 1990-92. He was High Priest of the White Cloud Temple in Beijing 1987-93, and Assistant Team Leader of the Taoist Orchestra. He came to Singapore in 2000 where he is Tutor of Rites for the Lorong Koo Chye Sheng Hong Temple Scripture Chanting Class, Leader of the Singapore Taoist Orchestra, and lecturer at the Taoist College, Singapore.



**MASTER CHUNG KWANG TONG (WEI YI)** is Secretary-General of the Taoist Federation Youth Group, and Council Member of the Inter-Religious Organisation (IRO). He practises the Taoist scriptures and rituals at Singapore Hiang Tong Keng Temple under Hong Kong Taoist Master Leung Tak Wah. He was appointed High Priest in 2009. He is currently undertaking graduate study at the Malay Studies Department at National University of Singapore.

# common ground

## PURPOSE

COMMON GROUND aims to contribute further to inter-religious dialogue by deepening the spirit of friendship and collaboration among all faiths in Singapore and the region. Singapore is an ideal location to develop a model for how dialogue can be prepared for and put into fruitful practice.

## THEME

The seminar will focus on the contemplative practice of religion and how the shared experience of silence in meditation can enhance inter-religious dialogue.

Sitting in the silence of the mystery, that all religions recognise as the essential nature of God or ultimate reality, is a good preparation for effective dialogue.

This silence, gentle, non-judgemental, non-coercive, non-persuasive, does not compromise or merge our important differences which deserve respect. But it has the power to unite, fostering a new level of understanding and a clearer recognition of each other as brothers and sisters of the great originating mystery. This makes an immense difference to the quality, depth and effectiveness of dialogue.

## FORMAT

Fr Laurence will talk on the Christian tradition of meditation and members of different faiths will share their own contemplative traditions.


The schedule for the weekend will incorporate two periods of meditation each day. Each meditation session will conclude with a sharing of the various scriptures especially those pertaining to the silence of the mystery of the common ground we share.

## FOLLOW-UP

We hope that the seminar will create a forum for further spiritual and intellectual discussion on the interiority and contemplative practice of each religion, and how this can be fostered within our own traditions in order to deepen inter-religious friendship.

The seminar will discuss practical ways in which this can be encouraged in a way which respects the diversity of beliefs and practices.





common ground  
**REGISTRATION FORM**

**PARTICIPANT'S PARTICULARS**

FULL NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

POSTAL CODE .....

RELIGION .....

EMAIL ADDRESS .....

**PAYMENT DETAILS**

CASH  CHEQUE  BANK DRAFT Bank .....

Number of Persons ..... @ \$50.00 each  
If you are paying for more than one participant, please write the additional names on the reverse side of this form

**DIET REQUIREMENT**  Vegetarian  Non Vegetarian

## NOTES

- Closing Date: 12 December 2011
- First-come-first-served basis
- You will be notified and assigned a Registration Number when your place is confirmed.

## ENQUIRIES

- 63364815 / 84113130
- commonground2012@gmail.com

## PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

- \$50.00 per participant
- Make cheques payable to **TRCAS - IRED**
- Post with completed form to 55 Waterloo Street #02-00 Singapore 187954
- Cash payments should be delivered by hand to above address