

Catholic Spirituality Network Conference Report 2017

The CSN weekend conference in March 2017 welcomed two speakers at the Hayes Conference Centre, where the focus was on *'The Word in the World: Reading the Scriptures in Hard Times'*. Pádraig Ó Tuama's charismatic blend of personal story, poetry and biblical exegesis helped us to focus in lively new ways on the person of Jesus and to discover fresh meaning in well-known gospel texts. Later Professor Susan Docherty led us in reflections on biblical and contemporary issues of migration, exile, 'otherness' and hospitality and then drew our attention to the value of *'the upside-down Bible'* – ways in which people outside the church interpret gospel parables. Both speakers were well received. Their equally rich but different approaches meant that there was something for everyone and Sister Regula's liturgies were, as always, simple and beautiful.

David Lonsdale
Chair, CSN