

“Psychiatry and Faith in the Modern World”

Saturday 6th - Sunday 7th December

Carmelite Priory Mdina - Dr Mark Agius

Mental Health Problems remain one of the most important causes of stigma and social isolation in the modern world. This is because those who are Mentally Ill can be seen as a ‘Sign of Contradiction’; they cause embarrassment because they are different, and can often be thought to be ‘bad’ rather than unwell. This is especially concerning because one in four persons can be expected to experience a mental illness at some time of their lives.

This seminar will describe the experience of persons who suffer from the main mental illnesses – Depression, Mania, Psychosis, anxiety states and illnesses which are the result of Trauma. The seminar will describe how these conditions are real illnesses, which now can be described as involving real changes in the structure and function of the brain. The seminar will discuss the consequences of the marginalization that persons with mental illnesses suffer, and what we as ‘church community’ can do about this. Finally the seminar will discuss how living good lives is also conducive to mental health and wellbeing, while abuse and ‘man’s inhumanity to man’, is not only wrong, but also a cause of Mental Illness.

Programme

Saturday 6th December 2014

10:00 am	Introduction Stigma Why this matters to the Church?
11:00 am	Depression (Film)
12:00 pm	Neurobiology of Depression Can we Prevent Depression?
1:00 pm	Lunch Break
2:00 pm	Schizophrenia (Film) Neurobiology of Schizophrenia
3:00 pm	Bipolar Disorder (Film)
4:00 pm	Proving that a Patient has Bipolar Disorder and Preventing Suicide
5:00 pm	End First Day

Sunday 7th December 2014

10:00 am	Introduction; Border-A compassionate documentary on Borderline Personality Disorder (Film)
11:00 am	The Medical Consultation and the Human Person Sexual Abuse and Mental Illness
12:00 pm	Lunch Break
1:00 pm	Understanding Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (Film) Social Anxiety - A week inside my Mind (Film) PTSD (Film)
2:00 pm	Achieving Recovery from Serious Mental Illness How the Church can help with recovery from Mental Illness.
3:00 pm	General Discussion
4:00 pm	End of Seminar

