



WORLD RELIGIONS TODAY: CRISIS AND OPPORTUNITY

This three-night series, with parishioner favorite, *Sr. Mary Criscione*, will explore some of the major issues confronting and being confronted by the world's religions today: fundamentalism, religious violence, social ethics, and cries for justice and peace. We will take a historical and cross-cultural approach in examining how religions today have come to resemble and to differ from each other. Suggestions for topics and particular concerns will be encouraged.

THREE TUESDAYS

OCTOBER 20TH, 27TH AND NOVEMBER 3RD
7:00 P.M. IN THE MEDIA CENTER

OCTOBER 20TH—HOW WE GOT HERE

An overview of the history and distinctions of the major world religions. Where does Roman Catholicism fit into the larger religious picture? How has Western modernism affected the religious quest around the world? What challenges do religions face today that differ from previous eras?

OCTOBER 27TH—HOW WE DIFFER

A consideration of the larger distinctive categories within which religions today are set. How do the various religions define themselves and their particular practices? What are the basic “families” of global religions today and how can you tell them apart?

NOVEMBER 3RD—HOW WE AGREE

An opportunity to explore how religions converge today, particularly in ethics and spirituality. How do we find compassion as the basic principle underlying all major religions? How are religious voices around the world today joining together? What are the common enemies and mutual friends among religions today? Where do religions insist that the Holy is to be found?

MARY CRISCIONE, RSM PH.D. completed both her B.A. and M.A. in Theology at the University of San Francisco. She then continued on to doctoral studies at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley where she earned her Ph.D. in Biblical Studies (New Testament) in 1995. She has taught numerous courses on Pauline writings and New Testament for the Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries at Santa Clara University. She has also taught at many other universities and secondary schools.



For more information, contact the parish office at 347-0701.