

## **“Talking Philosophy”: Reading List & Further Information**

The books listed below should **all** be available, either new and/or second-hand, from various booksellers, via Amazon UK.

**See, also, separate “Talking Theology Reading List”.**

If you are **new** to Philosophy, the following are recommended, **some** of which we are/shall be using with our **new, Thursday afternoon, Zoom Group** (see Further Information, below Reading List):-

1. “Sophie’s World” (20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition) by Jostein Gaarder  
(An easy read, from cover to cover, it “punches above its weight”, providing a surprisingly comprehensive and insightful “history of ideas”, with detailed index section at the back, for quick reference. This is an international best-seller, with over 40 million copies sold, and translated into 60 languages!)
2. “The Dead Philosopher’s Café” by Vittorio Hösle  
(A great introductory, and exploratory, exercise in the art of philosophical dialogue)
3. “The Philosopher’s Daughters: Two young people’s big questions answered by leading philosophers, scientists, educators and religious thinkers from around the world” by Peter Vardy  
(Another “compendium” of “big” questions, with responses written and collated by a leading philosopher, theologian and teacher, for all ages!)
4. “History of Western Philosophy” by Bertrand Russell  
(Slightly “dated”, in parts, but remains a best-selling, accessible, and, sometimes, witty and amusing, reference work)
5. “An Introduction to Philosophy” by Daniel J. Sullivan, published 14<sup>th</sup> June, 1992  
(Gives a solid outline of the “foundations” of Philosophy, including a Catholic perspective)
6. “The Platonic Tradition” by Peter Kreeft, pub 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2018  
(Traces the “genealogy” of Platonic thought down through the ages, by a well-published Catholic “convert” and apologist)
7. “Why Believe?” by John Cottingham  
(Provides a refreshing, contextual, literary, and “user friendly”, introduction to Philosophy of Religion, by a well-known Catholic philosopher and author)

***[NB Any Kindle/E-book versions of the books we use together should be avoided, as these have proven, from long experience, to be quite impractical for Group work, reference and research purposes, and hinder proper, mutual, participation in our Zoom meetings, where we need to be “singing from the same hymn sheet”! The cost of using “real” books is more than compensated for by the fact that just the one, annual, £10 subscription covers everything else!]***

For the **Wednesday evening** “Talking Philosophy: a Carmelite Perspective - Reading and Discussion Zoom Group” sessions, we are, currently, using the following **two** books, together, “in parallel”, which complement and support one another:-

The **Wednesday evening** “Talking Philosophy” sessions are on **1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays of each month**, and the “Talking Theology” sessions are on **3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month**, with **both** these **two** meeting **monthly, in mutual support**, as **one, unified, Philosophy & Theology Group** (NB For “Talking Theology”,

there will be **no** meetings in **August**, and a **break** for **Christmas** (ie Christmas Eve till Epiphany, inclusively) and for **Easter** (ie Holy Week

Our **Wednesday evening** Zoom sessions are from **7.45 pm, logging on, for an 8.00 pm prompt start (with latecomers logging on when they can) and finishing promptly at 10.00pm.**

since this is **not** a “formal course”, as such, and both Philosophy and Theology are about **everything**, with each area having reference, whether directly or indirectly, to **every other** area, at **some** point, or other, therefore **new members are always welcome, at any time**, regardless of “where we are” in our reading and discussion, or “which” particular books we are using.

**Wednesday evening “Talking Theology”** Zoom sessions, meeting on **3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday evenings of each month**, at **7.45 pm for 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm**, working **in tandem** with our **1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday evening “Talking Philosophy”** Zoom sessions. For “Talking Theology, we are currently reading and discussing selections from **both** the **Towey and McIntosh** books together (Please see separate “Talking Theology” Reading List), “backed up” by a **Theology** Worksheet.

We should, also, welcome enquirers from USA/Canada, India and Australia/New Zealand, as well as Africa, etc, etc, to any of the Groups, above, and/or with a view to setting-up **more Zoom Groups**, to accommodate their respective time-zones, and any time zones in between, if there were sufficient demand. Again, please do let us know if you, or anyone else, might be interested.

**To join any of the above, please email us!**

**NB For those who are able/wish to attend our Zoom Group(s) Reading and Discussion meetings, to cover costs, such as the annual Zoom licence, paper, printing, technical support, etc, our one, single, £10 per person, annual subscription, covering both Philosophy and Theology, Wednesday and Thursday sessions (with some members opting to attend all sessions, on both days, for the one, £10, fee!), is now due, in**

**March, this year (2023) with cheques/postal orders to the sum of £10, per Zoom participant, made payable to “James S. Hunter”, and sent to my address at:-  
52, Thomas Gibson Drive,  
HORNCASTLE,  
Lincolnshire, LN9 6RX (U.K.)**

**Yours, “in the Lord’s Vineyard” and “in Carmel”, Deacon James Hunter OCDS**