

MEDIA ADVISORY

- TO:** Assignment Editors/Feature Editors
- WHAT:** One of the leading iconographers in the United Kingdom, and contributor to the Saint John's Bible speaks at St. Mary's University College.
- PHOTO OPP:** The Saint John's Bible, Western Canada's only copy of the first Bible to be entirely handwritten since medieval times, will be on display. Contributor to the Saint John's Bible, Aidan Hart, will speak on "The Renewal of Sacred Art: Timeless Principles and Contemporary Challenges."
- WHERE:** St. Mary's University College
14500 Bannister Road SE, Calgary, AB, T2X 1Z4
Fr. Michael J. McGivney Hall
- WHEN:** Thursday, May 30, 2013, 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm
- WHY:** Aidan Hart, one of the leading iconographers in the United Kingdom, and contributor to the Saint John's Bible, is speaking at St. Mary's University College on Thursday, May 30 at 7:30 pm as part of The Saint John's Bible free public lecture series.

Aidan Hart has emerged as one of the leading iconographers working in the United Kingdom today and has been a full-time iconographer for over 25 years. In 2009, he founded "The Diploma in Icon and Wall Painting," which he teaches for The Prince's School of Traditional Arts in London founded by Prince Charles. His book, *Techniques of Icon and Wall Painting*, published in 2011, has been widely reviewed as the most comprehensive work on the subject. Hart is also trained as a theologian and frequently lectures and writes on the subjects of iconography, ecology, and Orthodox spirituality. Hart has over 700 commissioned works in church and private collections, including the Royal Family's.

In his lecture, Aidan Hart will outline some of the fundamental and timeless principles of sacred art. He is also teaching a sold-out course on iconography as part of St. Mary's *Certificate in Sacred Arts: Foundations*. The course introduces students to the essentials of egg tempera painting as it is used in the tradition of Orthodox sacred icons.

St. Mary's recently acquired Western Canada's only copy of the seven volumes of The Saint John's Bible, which was created entirely by hand using medieval methods. In a series of lectures and special events in 2013, St. Mary's is sharing the Bible with the public.

About St. Mary's University College

St. Mary's University College is a Catholic post-secondary, liberal arts and sciences teaching and research institution open to students of all faiths and traditions. St. Mary's offers Bachelor of Arts degrees, a Bachelor of Education (Elementary) degree and university courses in 34 academic disciplines. For more information, visit www.stmu.ca.

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