Belief in God in an Age of Science:  
The Faith of a Physicist

Didier Seminar, February 25, 26, 27,  
Dr. John Polkinghorne

How have recent developments in science revolutionized the way we view the universe?  
How do science and theology interact? How can the Christian story be viewed in an  
evolutionary cosmos and a religiously pluralistic world? This year’s Didier Seminar  
explores these critical contemporary questions by considering the topic “Belief in God in  
an Age of Science,” led by Dr. John Polkinghorne, a theoretical elementary particle  
physicist and Anglican priest.

After a prestigious career teaching mathematics and chairing the renowned Particle  
Physics group at Cambridge University, Dr. Polkinghorne resigned his professorship in  
1979 to train for the Anglican priesthood. Subsequently, he became the president of  
Queen’s College. In his significant “blended career,” he has won the prestigious  
Templeton Award for outstanding contribution to religious thought, he has been a Gifford  
Lecturer (a symposium which recognizes outstanding advances in natural theology), and  
he has won international recognition as “one of the most creative thinkers seeking to  
relate science to theology.” Engaging, thought-provoking, and inspiring, he will discuss  
his interpretation of Christian faith in the light of science by exploring the following  
topics: “The Friendship of Science and Religion,” “Can a Scientist Pray?”, “A Physicists’s  
Approach to Christian Faith,” and “Can We Believe in a Destiny Beyond Death?”

In preparation for this event, the following dynamic and thought-provoking sessions will be held in February. All are free and open to the public. Reservations are not needed.

February 2 (Wednesday, 7 to 8:30 p.m.): “Theology, Science, and Natural Theology,”  
Professor Terence Nichols, University of St. Thomas
February 8 (Tuesday, 7 to 8:30 p.m.): “Divine Action, Grace, and Miracles,” Professor  
Terence Nichols, University of St. Thomas
February 16 (Wednesday, 7 to 8:30 p.m.): “Cosmic History: Law, Chance, and Design,”  
Professor Ian Barbour, Carleton College Professor Emeritus, Templeton Award winner  
and Gifford Lecturer
February 23 (Wednesday, 7 to 8:30 p.m.) “Afterlife, Resurrection, and Eschatology,”  
Professor Terence Nichols, University of St. Thomas.

Suggested (optional) reading for those interested:
• Serious Talk: Science and Religion in Dialogue, John Polkinghorne  
• Belief in God in an Age of Science, John Polkinghorne  
• Faith of a Physicist, John Polkinghorne  
• The Sacred Cosmos, Terence Nichols
DIDIER SEMINAR SCHEDULE

The events of the seminar are free and open to the public. Reservations are not needed. Great Hall seating is limited.

**Friday, February 25**
7:30 to 9 p.m. “The Friendship of Science and Religion, ”

**Saturday, February 26**
9 to 10:15 a.m. “Can a Scientist Pray?”
10:15 to 10:30 a.m. Break
10:30 to 11:45 a.m. “A Physicist’s Approach to Christian Faith”
11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Lunch at area restaurants
1:15 to 2:30 p.m. “Can We Believe in a Destiny Beyond Death?”

**Sunday, February 27**
9 and 11 a.m. worship Dr. John Polkinghorne, preaching
10 a.m. Enrichment program by Dr. Polkinghorne, Sanctuary