

EXTRACTS

FROM THE SPODE HOUSE LIST

FIVE COURSES FOR RELIGIOUS SISTERS are to be held at Spode House, the Dominican Conference House attached to Hawkesyard Priory. The first of these—for Superiors—is already prepared. The other four are in active preparation. It is hoped that they will be held regularly each year and will lead to a detailed syllabus to conclude with a diploma. But it is first necessary to discover the exact requirements of each group of Sisters.

The purpose of this leaflet is not only to announce the courses but to ask those who are interested to send in their suggestions as to:

- (i) DATE
- (ii) SUBJECTS
- (iii) SPEAKERS

Courses like these have been running in America, Canada, France, etc., but this is the first attempt in England. It is therefore essential to start with a full understanding of the special requirements of Sisters in the British Isles.

I

A COURSE FOR SUPERIORS

July 18-25, 1955

Fr Ferdinand Valentine:—

‘The Difficulties of the Modern Superiors’:

- The Problem of Work.
- The Modern Attitude to Work.
- The Laysister.
- The Difficult Sister.

‘Discussion Groups in Modern Communities’:

- Methods and Safeguards.

Fr Albert Plé:—

‘The Superior and Psychological Problems.’

Fr John Baptist Reeves:—

‘The Basis of Religious Life.’

Other Speakers:—

‘Parochial Opportunities.’ Fr John Fitzsimons.

‘Interpreting the Constitution and Directory.’ Fr Ambrose Farrell.

‘Training in Scripture.’

A FOUR-DAY RETREAT will follow this course at the request of some of the Superiors; preached by Fr Conrad Pepler.

(Copies of the lectures given at the first course for Superiors (Spode House, August 1954) are at present out of print. Further copies may be produced if there is any further demand.)

II

A COURSE FOR HEADMISTRESSES

Proposed for January 7-13, 1956

The SUBJECTS that have already been suggested are:—

Religious Instruction in Schools

Training and Curriculum.

Integration of the Faith with the Secular Curriculum.

Sex Instruction—by a Doctor and a Priest.

The Relation between Headmistress and Older Girls.

The Art of Teaching.

Religious Life and the School.

Relation between the Religious Mistresses and Secular Staff.

Headmistresses are particularly requested to send in their suggestions for this course.

III

A COURSE FOR NOVICE-MISTRESSES

Proposed for January 16-20, 1956

This will be the second course of its kind at Spode House. At the first (January 1955), when nearly fifty Novice-Mistresses gathered to follow lectures on Theology, Psychology and Canon Law, it was decided that there should be further courses—that the philosophical, theological and scriptural backgrounds for the training of novices should be stressed; that the apostolic work of the religious should be integrated into the spiritual life of the novice from the beginning, etc. Also a panel of Catholic Psychologists is being drawn up and kept at Spode House as a result of this gathering.

The next course will be based on the results of this first experiment.

IV

A COURSE FOR NURSING ORDERS

Proposed for October 17-22, 1955

At the first course held for Nursing Sisters last February it was felt that the time was unsuitable so that not many nursing Orders were

represented. Those who attended were enthusiastic and urged that future courses should be held in October or March, so it has been decided to have a second course THIS OCTOBER. The Sisters asked for lectures on Psychology and Philosophy.

It is hoped to establish a Marian Association of Prayer and Penance for Nurses and Patients and also to prepare for a National Association of Nursing Orders.

(The synopsis of this course will be available later this year.)

V

A COURSE FOR PARISH SISTERS

Proposed for February 6-11, 1956

In view of the increasing possibilities of Social Work in this country it has been suggested that sisters engaged in parish work would profit by a course on the social teaching of the Church and the Parochial Possibilities in England today—especially as Religious Life is one of the strongest answers to Communism. The lecture on this subject during the Superiors' course will pave the way for this course next year, and it is being arranged at the request of some Superiors.

THE CHARGE FOR THESE COURSES will be £1 per day (inclusive of board, lectures, etc.), of which 10s. must be sent in advance as Booking Fee to the Warden.

For further particulars of these courses those interested should write to The Warden, Spode House, Hawkesyard Priory, Rugeley, Staffordshire.



WHAT ABOUT BECOMING A BROTHER?

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For full particulars write to:

**Very Rev. Bro. Provincial, St John of God's Hospital,
Scorton, Richmond, Yorks**