

A little more information about some of the matters  
raised in the course booklet for

# RECEIVING CHRIST

*in five different ways*

## Session One

*Page 1 of the Course booklet*

Eric Milner Milner-White OGS CBE DSO (1884-1963) was a Dean of York in the Church of England, holding this post between 1941 and his death in 1963. Prior to this he was the Dean and a Fellow of King's College, Cambridge and during this time at King's College, Milner-White introduced the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. This was first broadcast in 1928 and has now become a major part of the BBC's Christmas schedule. Its Bidding Prayer features the words: 'Let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light'.

## Session Two

*Track [11] on the CD / p. 7 in the Transcript booklet*

Bishop Nick is referring to the work of the Bradford-based charity Inn Churches, supporting the homeless and vulnerably housed:

<http://www.innchurches.co.uk/>

## Session Three

### *Page 14 of the Course booklet*

*The Imitation of Christ* (Latin: *De Imitatione Christi*) by Thomas à Kempis is a Christian devotional book. It was first composed in Latin ca. 1418–1427 and is a handbook for spiritual life arising from the *Devotio Moderna* movement, of which Kempis was a member.

*The Imitation* is perhaps the most widely read devotional work next to the Bible, and is regarded as a devotional and religious classic. Its popularity was immediate, and it was printed 745 times before 1650. Apart from the Bible, no book has been translated into more languages than the *Imitation of Christ*.

The book places a high level of emphasis on the devotion to the Eucharist as a key element of spiritual life.

## Session Four

### *Page 16 of the Course booklet*

#### *Track [22] on the CD / p. 13 in the Transcript booklet*

*The Light of the World* (1851–3) is an allegorical painting by William Holman Hunt representing the figure of Jesus preparing to knock on an overgrown and long-unopened door, illustrating Revelation 3.20: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me".

According to Hunt: "I painted the picture with what I thought, unworthy though I was, to be by Divine command, and not simply as a good Subject." The door in the painting has no handle, and can therefore be opened only from the inside, representing "the obstinately shut mind". Hunt, 50 years after painting it, felt he had to explain the symbolism.

The original, painted at night in a makeshift hut at Worcester Park Farm in Surrey, is now in a side room off the large chapel at Keble College, Oxford. Toward the end of his life, Hunt painted a life-size version, which was hung in St Paul's Cathedral, London, after a world tour where the picture drew large crowds. Due to Hunt's increasing infirmity, he was assisted in the completion of this version by English painter Edward Robert Hughes. A third, smaller version of the painting is on display at Manchester City Art Gallery, painted by Hunt between 1851 and 1856.