

LMS RESIDENTIAL LATIN & GREEK COURSE:

Further information on Greek



The purpose of the Course

For the first time, in 2022, the Latin Mass Society will be offering New Testament Greek teaching alongside the Latin Course. Interest in this form of Greek from devotional and scholarly motives is closely related to interest in liturgical Latin, and in the larger venue of Savio House it makes sense to add this element to the course.

What kind of Greek?

The Greek of the New Testament is called Hellenistic or '*koine*' Greek, and is different in certain ways from the Classical or Ancient Greek usually taught in schools and at university. Roughly speaking, Classical Greek was current from Homer (8th century BC) to the historians, philosophers, and dramatists of the golden age of Greek culture (5th and 4th centuries BC). Koine Greek was the working language of the Hellenistic and Byzantine world from the late 4th century BC to the 4th century AD, and was used by the Fathers of the Church, the Greek translation of the Old Testament (the Septuagint), and non-Christian authors. The New Testament's range of styles and vocabulary is somewhat distinct from other examples of koine Greek due to its subject-matter and the cultural and educational background of the writers.

Thus the Greek of the New Testament looks a little unfamiliar to students of Classical Greek, but it is generally regarded to be easier to learn koine Greek from scratch than Classical Greek.

What kind of course?

The Traditional Mass will be celebrated each day during the course for all participants who wish to attend. A number of students have in the past also said or sung Compline together after the evening meal. Tutors are able to point to connections and insights into Catholic liturgy and theology arising from the course material.

Students from all backgrounds are welcome at the course; all students are asked to respect the course's special ethos.

The course is designed for adults, but we do not impose a strict minimum age.

What level of prior knowledge?

We will have just one tutor for Greek, and he will be focused on **early-stage learners** or those who feel they must return to the basics after some time away from the subject.

Students will be expected to have learnt the Greek alphabet in advance, and some other grammatical basics: elements of the language anyone can master at home with a little application: see below.

Our tutor is also offering an on-line (Zoom based) course which would serve as an ideal starting point for the course. You will find details on the Latin Mass Society website [here](#).

Our tutor

Matthew Spencer read Classics as an undergraduate at Oxford (MA conferred 2007) and later did further graduate study in ancient Indian languages also at Oxford. He holds Master's degrees in the History of Christianity and, most recently, in Philosophy. He has published a book on the monastic life of Mount Athos and is working on a second, as well as occasionally publishing on ancient Indo-European languages.

Matthew says: 'I am passionate about reading and teaching different forms of ancient language and do not believe these languages, or the texts written in them, are dead. They speak to modern concerns, needs and

faith.' Matthew's online courses, sponsored by the Latin Mass Society, have been very successful in introducing Latin and Greek to new audiences, in a friendly but methodical way.

The Venue

Park Place is a Georgian house in Hampshire, which was converted from a family home first into a school, and then into a pastoral centre. It is run by a community of Roman Catholic Franciscan nuns. Southampton Airport Parkway is the nearest mainline station. Fareham and Botley are the nearest local stations (change at Eastleigh). It is also possible to travel by bus from London Victoria to Fareham.

The address is: The address is Wickham, Fareham, Hampshire PO17 5HA;

The venue **telephone number** is: **01329 833043**.

Public transport: Southampton Airport Parkway is the nearest mainline station. Fareham and Botley are the nearest local stations (change at Eastleigh). It is also possible to travel by bus from London Victoria to Fareham.

The LMS representative on site will be Lucy Shaw: 07968 339031. Please let her know if you are running late for registration.

Length of the Course

The course starts with lunch on Monday and ends with lunch on Saturday. ***Registration is from 11.30am to 12.30pm on Monday.***

Fees and Discounts (book on the LMS website: www.lms.org.uk)

For the Greek course, the LMS is not offering special discounts for clergy, and seminarians, but there is still a discount for those in full-time education, which includes seminarians, and those preparing to enter full-time education at university or seminary.

There is also a discount for members of the Latin Mass Society, which is larger than the membership fee, so if you are not a member, be sure to sign up at the same time, even if not based in the UK!

The fee includes accommodation and meals. A reduced fee is available for those who wish to make their own arrangements for accommodation (they will still get lunch and dinner at Park Place).

Please note that the running of the course is dependent on take-up: it will be confirmed by 8th March 2022.

ADVANCE PREP

Please learn these before the course!

Most important of all is students' mastery of the Greek alphabet. We reproduce it below for convenience.

Please learn this as thoroughly as you can!

In addition, it would be very helpful if you read and worked through the Introduction and first two chapters of a textbook, or as much of this as possible. We recommend either of these:

An Introduction to Classical Greek by Fred Pagnell and Kristian Waite (Galore Park, 2012)

The Elements of New Testament Greek by Jeremy Duff (CUP, 2005)

THE GREEK ALPHABET

Capital	Lower	Like	Name	Pronounced as in:
A	α	A	Alpha (ahl-fah)	a f__ther
B	β	B	Beta (bay-tah)	b __all
Γ	γ		Gamma (gahm-ma)	g __one
Δ	δ	D	Delta (dell-tah)	d __og
E	ε	E	Epsilon (ep-sih-lawn)	e m__t
Z	ζ	Z	Zeta (dzay-tah)	z a____e
H	η	A	Eta (ay-tah)	a th__y
Θ	θ		Theta (thay-tah)	th ____rone, ____in
I	ι	I	Iota (ee-oh-tah)	i f__t, mach__ne
K	κ	K	Kappa (cop-ah)	k __ing
Λ	λ	L	Lambda (lahm-dah)	l __ong
M	μ	M	mu (moo)	m __en
N	ν	N	Nu (new)	n __ew
Ξ	ξ		Xi (ksee, or like "sigh")	ks li____, as____
O	ο	O	Omicron (au-mih-crawn)	o l__g
Π	π	P	Pi (pea, pie)	p __ea
P	ρ	R	Rho (hrow)	r he__
Σ	σ ς	S	Sigma (sig-mah)	s __ign
T	τ	T	Tau (rhyme with "how")	t __en
Υ	υ	U	Upsilon (oop-sih-lawn)	u n____ (German 'u')
Φ	φ ϕ		Phi (fee, or phi)	ph ____one
X	χ	X	Chi (key, or chi)	x Ba____ (composer)
Ψ	ψ		Psi (psee, or psi)	ps li____
Ω	ω	O	Omega (oh-may-gah)	o __nly

This information was prepared by Joseph Shaw

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