The Society of St Catherine of Siena, in collaboration with T&T Clark/Continuum Publishers, is planning to hold a seminar and reception to launch the publication of Margaret Barker’s latest book, *Temple Themes in Christian Worship*, recently published by T & T Clark.

This new book is a sequel to her earlier book, *The Great High Priest: The Temple Roots of Christian Liturgy* (T&T Clark, 2003), and like that one, it is a serious and extensive investigation of the Jerusalem temple tradition, undertaken in a way that challenges many of the more conventional assumptions of New Testament scholars and Christian theologians in particular.

Because her study touches upon a number of different academic disciplines, from architecture to music to liturgy to theology, the event will begin with a scholarly seminar which will give wide-ranging scholarly and ecumenical attention to its main themes and to the questions it poses. To open the discussion, we have called for six brief responses to the book to be given by Bishop Basil of Amphipolis (to whom the book is dedicated), Professor John Welch (Editor of the *Mormon Encyclopedia*), Rabbi Marc Saperstein (Principal of Leo Baeck College), Dr Crispin Fletcher-Louis (Principal of the Westminster Theological Centre), Professor Robert Hayward (University of Durham), and Dr Susan Frank Parsons (Society of St Catherine of Siena). The floor will then be open for debate. Places are limited in order to facilitate this.

The date is set for Wednesday, 5th March 2008. The seminar will meet from 2.00 to 5.00 pm (with a break for tea) at the University of Notre Dame London Campus on Suffolk Street (beside the National Gallery) at the kind invitation of Professor Paul Bradshaw.

This will be followed at 5.30pm by Sung Vespers at Our Lady of Assumption on Warwick Street, a short walk away. The evening will conclude with a drinks reception from 6.30 to 8.00pm p.m. in the Strangers Room of the Reform Club on Pall Mall. These venues are all within easy reach, a 5 minute walk between each of them.

It is our hope that this event will not only serve to launch this particular book, but in addition will enliven further researches in temple studies within the academy and beyond.

If you would like to apply for a place either in the seminar, or for the reception to follow, please write as soon as possible by email or post to the address below.

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