

THE DEPAUL HUMANITIES CENTER
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH

PRESENTS

The Trials of Job

Thursday, January 22, 2015

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

reception following, 8:30 - 9:00 p.m.

St. Vincent DePaul Parish

1010 West Webster Avenue, Chicago



More than 2,600 years ago the author of *The Book of Job* set out to investigate why bad things happen to good people. More than this, though, Job—as a symbol of unwarranted penalization in the face of an all-powerful punisher—has become synonymous with unjust suffering. Yet when is suffering of any kind ever truly *just*? And is the story of Job’s suffering simply a story about an indifferent authority or, possibly, a story that opens up a space for optimism, resistance, wisdom, and liberation for those who suffer in many different ways?

In the second event in the DePaul Humanities Center’s yearlong series, “CondemNation: Justice, Prison, Punishment, Persecution,” we examine these and other questions. Live chorale performances will begin our evening as we listen to the ways in which Brahms, Byrd, and Boyce were inspired by Job to create beautiful music. We next turn to look at the sense in which Job may point toward a non-anthropocentric view of the universe that could be key to understanding true justice for all of creation. Next, we examine the paintings and engravings of William Blake as the poet attempts to illustrate, and interpret, the biblical story. Finally, we ask about the relation between liberation theology and Job’s suffering, considering the possibility that Job is truly a source of politically radical freedom and hope.

featuring

The Saint Vincent de Paul Chamber Chorale
Robert Beatty, Organist and Director of Music
Saint Vincent de Paul Parish

Robert Maldonado
Professor of Biblical Hermeneutics
California State University, Fresno

Richard Squibbs
Assistant Professor of English
DePaul University

Christopher Tirres
Associate Professor of Religious Studies
DePaul University