

Faith and Learning Dinner and Celebration

April 5, 2022

“Why Work?” (1942)
Dorothy Sayers (1893-1957)

Leading questions:

1. Go around the table and introduce yourself to all and share how you are feeling tonight. How have you experienced our community this year?
2. Go around the table again. Share your favorite “leisure” time that you have had this first week of April.
3. Go around the table again and share your initial thoughts about our text, “Why Work?” What does working have to do with the life of the mind and heart: faith and reason.
4. As a table of scholars and mentors...

Choose what you would like to share.... OR... use the prompts below.

- A. Sayers wrote this after World War II. We are reading this as we move (hopefully) into a “post Covid” world.

Reflecting on your experience of your faith and learning over the past three years \ as a member of our community:

1. Will you go back to what you thought was “Normal” and live as we did in the past? OR
2. Will you live differently?

What are the values/virtues that we will live by in a hopefully, “post-covid” environment

How has your Faith grown/been challenged in these past three years?

- B. Sayers writes “work is the thing we live to do, is sacred, and is to serve God and to find that sure path to happiness, not a thing one does to live, but the thing one lives to do”. She suggests that thinking of your life as split between working and time serving God is a false dichotomy. In other words, a sacred vs. secular divide is not a reality.

Do you believe this? If so, share your experience of embracing the sacred vocation of work as faculty and student.

If you do not believe what Sayers writes, share your experience of how you find meaning and purpose in daily life.

- C. Do you know anyone who lives with Sayers attitude of delighting in work as vocation?

D. Sayers states “that to love our neighbor as ourselves, we must first love God. If we focus solely on serving our neighbor, or the "community," rather than God, we run the risk of operating based on the misguided assumption that we are owed something by the community. By serving the work first, as Sayers reminds us to do, we would be serving God first.”

Do you believe this?

Is this attitude a way to avoid REAL LIVING... Is this WORKAHOLISM...and not being FULLY ALIVE?

Share your goals for the rest of the semester and the WORK you will do this summer and/or in the future!

**Come up with a “Gem of Wisdom” for your table
AND...**

**Also come up with a “Gem of Wisdom” for
our SENIORS who will be graduating and
for Faculty Members who have completed their three years of service.**