

CTF Library Newsletter

October 2024



Woolf Institute Library

Welcome to the October issue of the CTF Library newsletter!

October brings the start of term for our Cambridge and many of our Common Awards students - welcome (back) to all of you, whether you're a new starter or returning for another year of study.

October 7-13 was libraries week in the UK, a chance to celebrate everything libraries do (and an excuse to pick up a good book as the seasons turn, and staying inside to read becomes more tempting). If you're looking for inspiration on what to read next, this month's new acquisitions span a huge range of history, from early church doctrine to 6th century Hebrew Bible fragments, Renaissance religious art, 20th century hippy culture, and much more (p. 2).

For a bit more history, this month we're highlighting an expurgated 16th century Christian poetry collection from the Westminster library. The author and printer's names; passages on saints and marriage; an image of a naked Heracles: all were censored by a careful reader whose work offers a fascinating snapshot of 16th century religious tensions and reading habits - find out more on pp. 3-4.

Finally, if your studies, research, or work has been affected by the Internet Archive service interruptions following their cyberattack, p. 5 gives a quick update on their progress to recovery.

Jane and Grace
The Library Team

In this month's newsletter:

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What's new in CTF libraries?

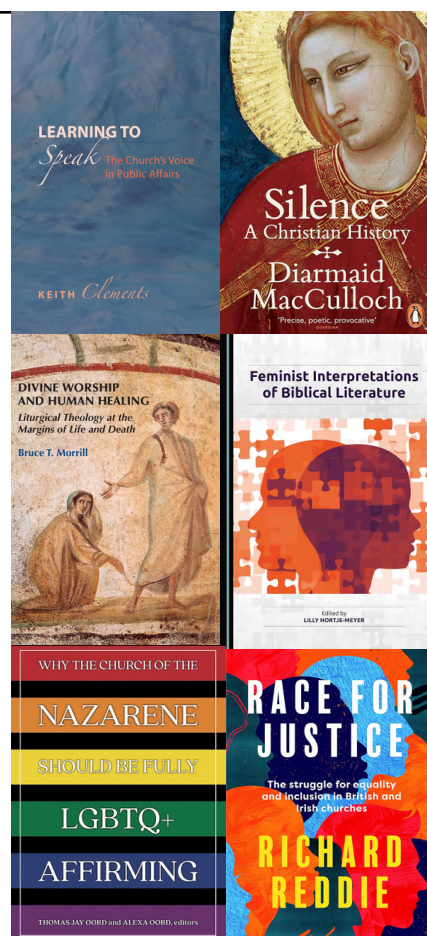
Highlights from collections across the CTF.

- **IOCS:** Penniman, John David, *Raised on Christian Milk : food and the formation of the soul in early Christianity* (2017).
- **Ridley:** Whitman, Andrew, *When Jesus Met Hippies : the story and legacy of the Jesus People Movement in the UK* (2023).
- **Wesley:** Haker, Hille, *The Return of Apocalypticism* (2014).
- **Westcott:** Turner, Victoria, *Young, Woke and Christian : words from a missing generation* (2022).
- **Westfield:** Toso, Lucia, *Angels : dreams, spirits and apparitions in Italian paintings* (2017).
- **Westminster:** Posegay, Nick, *The Illustrated Cairo Genizah* (2024).

What's new in eDiscover?

Explore highlights from this month's new ebook acquisitions & many more on eDiscover.

- Clements, Keith W., *Learning to Speak : the Church's voice in public affairs* (2011).
- MacCulloch, Diarmaid, *Silence : a Christian history* (2014).
- Morrill, Bruce T., *Divine Worship and Human Healing : liturgical theology at the margins of life and death* (2009).
- Nortjé-Meyer, Lilly, *Feminist Interpretations of Biblical Literature* (2022).
- Oord, Thomas Jay, *Why the Church of the Nazarene Should be Fully LGBTQ+ Affirming* (2023).
- Reddie, Richard, *Race for Justice* (2022).



Collection Spotlight: A 16th century expurgated poetry book

Westminster College's *Poetarum veterum ecclesiasticorum opera Christiana* (*Christian works of the ancient church poets*) (C BR6O FAB)

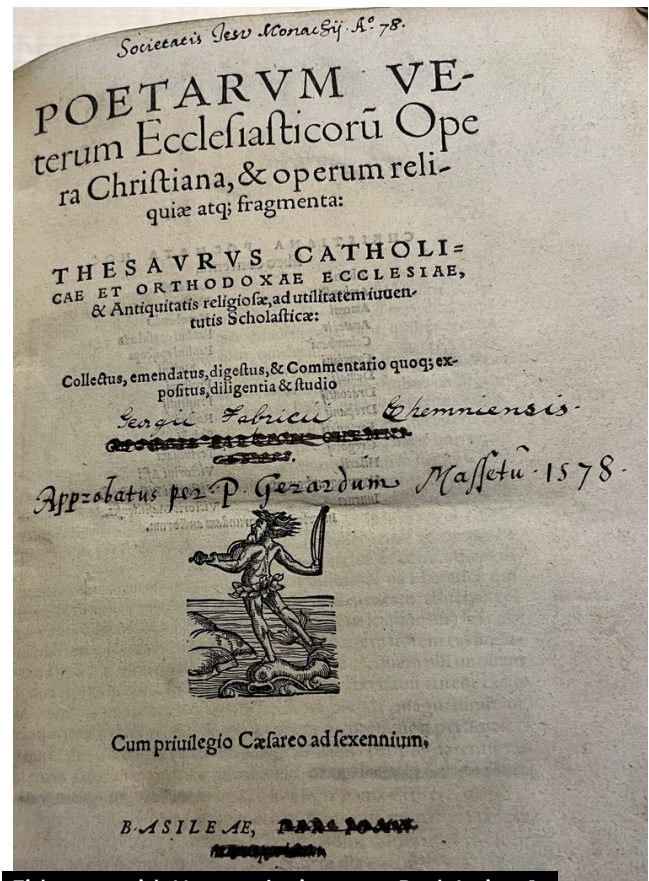
In 1578 the Jesuit Father Gerhard Massetus carefully read through this book of classical and patristic Christian poetry published for young scholars studying Latin.

He thoroughly edited out any mention of the author and publisher's names and covered up entire passages before signing his approval on its title page and placing it back into the Munich Jesuit College library, where it might be useful for the college's extensive teaching programme.

Why was this seemingly unassuming poetry collection expurgated in this way?

16th century religious conflict

This copy of *Poetarum* preserves a snapshot of 16th century religious tensions in Europe, as well as a glimpse into the power of printed books to intervene in these conflicts.



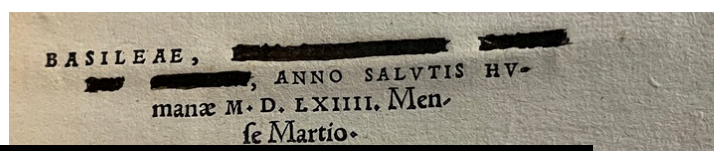
Title page with Massetus's signature, Book I, sig. a1r

In the 15th and 16th centuries the printing press revolutionised the spread of information, and in particular competing religious ideas: the publication and control of print was crucial to both the Reformation and Counter-Reformation [1].

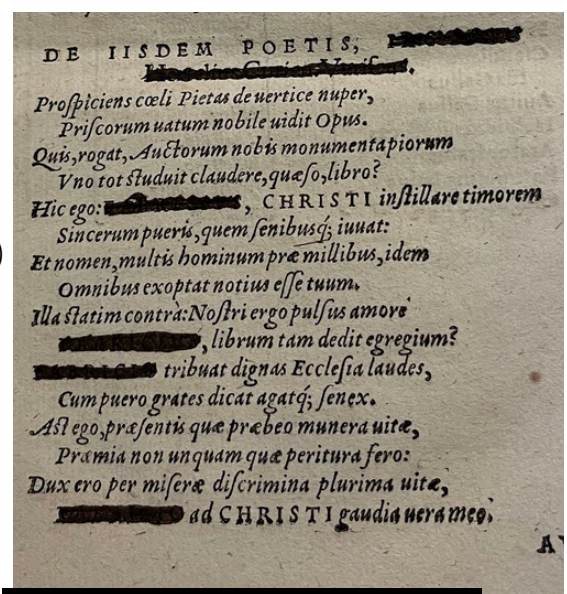
This book was compiled in 1564 by Protestant German classical scholar Georg Fabricius (1516-71), and published by another Protestant, Swiss printer Johannes Oporinus (1507-68).

At the very same time (1559-1564), the Papacy issued the first *Index of Forbidden Books*, which continued to be published until the 1960s. In its early form, the *Index* censored works by many Protestant writers and printers – including Fabricius and Oporinus [2].

Catholic libraries (like the Munich Jesuit College library) were forbidden from owning books by these condemned authors – unless, that is, they were carefully expurgated by a trusted Catholic theologian such as Father Massetus.



Censorship of printer's name, colophon, Book II, sig. Y6r



Censorship of author's name, Book I, sig. b4r

October Library Team Updates



What else we've been up to this month...

- Answering student enquiries in person and over email
- Cataloguing new acquisitions
- Working on updates to our Library Guide
- Reporting on library activities to the academic oversight groups for the ARU and Cambridge courses
- Meeting with our main ebook supplier, EBSCO, to discuss upcoming changes to the user interfaces - watch this space for more news!

Internet Archive cyberattack

The [Internet Archive](#) suffered a cyberattack at the beginning of October that has interrupted many of their services. This includes many ebooks on CTF reading lists. At the time of writing, open source books are starting to come back online, but borrowing is still unavailable.

They expect service to be resumed relatively soon, and are posting [updates on their blog and social media channels](#).

In the meantime, if you urgently need access to a book that is only available on the Internet Archive, please get in touch with the library team library@theofed.cam.ac.uk

Library Schedule

If you would like to drop in to talk to us in person, you can usually find us:

- Monday, 9.30-12.30 - Westminster College
- Wednesday, 13.30-16.30 - Westfield House
- Thursday, 9.30-12.30 - Westcott House
- Thursday, 13.30-16.30 - IOCS

Thank you for reading!

Contact us:	library@theofed.cam.ac.uk
Or browse all library resources:	Library and Digital Resources on Hedwig
