

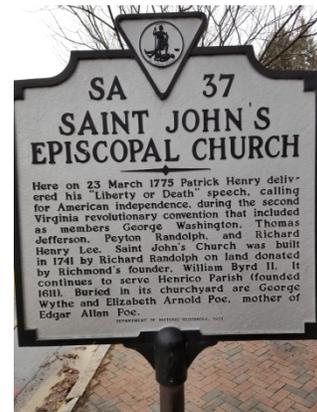
Society of Ordained Scientists
Gathering in Richmond, VA
January 8-11, 2018

The Society of Ordained Scientists (SOSc) was formed in 1987 in the United Kingdom in order to express a commitment to the academic dialogue between faith and science within a spiritual framework. Retreats for the North American Province (NAP) are scheduled every two years. Retreats and Gatherings are held in the United Kingdom (U.K.), annually, with the next being scheduled for June 26-28 at the Sneaton Castle, Whitby, U.K.

A retreat was held in Richmond, VA, January 8-11, 2018, for the NAP. The Rt. Rev. Nicholas Knisely, Bishop of the Diocese of Rhode Island, shared his life and experiences of being a physicist, parish priest and now a Diocesan Bishop. Dual lifestyles and concerns can be problematic since perceived conflicts between science and religion can be present. Are we only scientists when giving papers or lectures on science, and only theologians when presenting a sermon or counseling a parishioner? One of our challenges is to remain who we are in both situations and not just be one or the other. Biblical interpretation, new scientific findings, priorities in society can each be a challenge for us to understand, explain, and share with the larger community. Is there a “right” answer to each of the questions asked? How can we interpret and be true to each of our vocations and true to where God is leading us while walking within these two separate disciplines? Yes, this is a challenge for each of us and that is why, within the Society of Ordained Scientists, we pray for each other daily. We pray for the aims of the Society, its Members and Associates. We remember, when appropriate, to include the Society, its Members and Associates at public worship. We endeavor to attend Annual Gatherings and Retreats in the U.K. and in North America to support and share our lives and work with each other. The fellowship, understanding and direction for each of us are found in ways that are unique to this group.



Originally there were 17 Members and 6 Associates. There are now 50 Members and 17 Associates in the NAP that includes 5 new Members and 2 new Associates that were admitted at this Retreat. Rt. Rev. David Walker, Bishop of Manchester PA (U.K.), and Warden Stig Graham, (U.K.) were present to officiate during the Admission Eucharist held at Historic St. John's Church in Richmond, VA. Rev. Pan Conrad, planetary biologist and geologist from Maryland; Rev. Michael Greene, physicist from Wisconsin; Dcn. Bob Larson, geologist from Colorado; Rev. Matthew Seddon, archeologist from Texas; and Dcn. Jared Talbot, biologist from Ohio were all admitted as Members. CJ Coppersmith, computer systems engr. from Massachusetts; and Rev. Harold Munn, science and faith practitioner from British Columbia were accepted as Associates.



Additional information regarding SOSc can be found at <https://ordainedscientists.wordpress.com> or by contacting Rev. Lucas Mix, Warden NAP at lucas@flirble.org.