

Virtual Lenten Book Discussion**Participant Information**

(Registration Required – see below)

The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage**by Richard Rohr, OFM**

Every Other Wednesday

February 25, March 11 & 25, April 8 & 22, 2026

6:30 – 8:00p CT

7:30 – 9:00p ET

5:30 – 7:00 MT

4:30 – 6:00p PT

Via Zoom

*Sponsored by the St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order, Joliet, IL.*Facilitators: Michael Huck, OFS, and Briana GruenewaldContact: mhuck0459@att.netTarget audience: Franciscan-minded people and other Christ-followers.Book Description from the Center for Action and Contemplation (CAC):

*"In his first major work since *The Universal Christ*, Richard Rohr offers a wholehearted and hope-filled model for the world today, grounded in the timeless wisdom of the Hebrew prophets. How do we live compassionately in a time of violence and despair? What can we do with our private disappointments and the anger we feel in such an unjust world? In his most personal book yet, Richard Rohr turns to the writings of the Jewish prophets, revealing how some of the lesser-read books of the Bible offer us a crucial path forward today."*

Objectives

- To understand the messages and experiences of the Hebrew prophets and the current role of prophets.
- To explore how these messages and experiences can inform our choices for action today, especially in the U.S. and the Church.
- To open our hearts in community to prepare for Holy Week.

Register in advance in Zoom for this meeting (required):[Click Here for Required Registration Link](#)

- After registering, you will receive an email from Zoom with your own **personal link** to the sessions.
- Please keep that message handy for joining the sessions each time.
- Your link is unique – please do NOT share with others.
- If you lose your personal link, you can re-register to get a new one. 😊

Suggestions for Purchasing Book***The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage* by Richard Rohr, OFM**

- Publisher : Convergent Books

- Publication date : March 4, 2025
- Language : English
- Print length : 208 pages
- ISBN-10 : 0593735811
- ISBN-13 : 978-0593735817

Source	Notes
<u>The Tears of Things – CAC Bookstore</u>	Richard Rohr's Center for Action and Contemplation (CAC). <i>Recommend purchasing directly from CAC to support its mission.</i> You will also receive a link to a supplemental Reader's Guide.
<u>The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage: Rohr, Richard: 9780593735817: Amazon.com: Books</u>	Amazon. Available in paperback and Kindle edition.
<u>The Tears of Things Audiobook by Richard Rohr</u>	This is an audio book on the Audible app.

Optional Background on Saints Francis and Clare

Because many participants will be professed Franciscans, it might be useful to non-Franciscan participants to have this reference: **Article:** [Secular Franciscan Formation Digests](#). This is written for a Catholic audience of people who might be interested in a Franciscan life, yet it provides basic information on Francis and Clare of Assisi. *See pages 1-4.*

Schedule

Link: [Test Your Zoom Meeting Connection](#). You join a test meeting and can play around using the buttons.

Session	Date	Topics	Notes
		<i>Rohr's books are challenging, making the reader explore thoughts that may be different from what she or he has experienced. Our sessions are spaced to allow ample time to read Rohr's text and to explore the relevant prophets in Scripture.</i>	
1	2/25/26 6:30 - 8:00pCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Introductions. • Introduction: Good Trouble, p. xiii – xxix. • Chapter 1: The Tears of Things. 	Optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Prophets of Israel (thematic timeline), p. 165. • Seven Themes of Alternative Orthodoxy, p. 167-68.
2	3/11/26 6:30 - 8:00pCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 2: Amos: Messenger to the Collective. • Chapter 3: A Critical Mass: The Secret of the Remnant (Micah, Hosea). 	Recommend reading the relevant prophets in Scripture.
3	3/25/26 6:30 - 8:00pCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 4: Welcoming Holy Disorder: How the Prophets Carry Us Through. • A Good Summary: pages 161 – 163. • Chapter 5: Jeremiah: the Patterns that Carry Us Across. 	Recommend reading the relevant prophets in Scripture.
	Easter 4/5/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No session 	
4	4/8/26 6:30 - 8:00pCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 6: Unfinished Prophets: Elijah, Jonah, and John the Baptizer. • Chapter 7: The Alchemy of Tears: How We Learn Universal Sympathy and Grace. 	Recommend reading the relevant prophets in Scripture.
5	4/22/26 6:30 - 8:00pCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 8: The Three Isaiahs: The Heart of Prophecy. • Chapter 9: Ezekial: Redemption and the Grace of God. • Chapter 10: It All Comes Down to Love. 	Recommend reading the relevant prophets in Scripture.

Discussion Questions for All Sessions

1. What emotions did you experience while reading? (There is no wrong answer.)
2. How does the reading differ from or affirm what you already know or believe?
3. What in the reading excites or challenges you?
4. The prophets speak to issues within their respective culture/communities that others cannot see or choose not to acknowledge.
 - a. How does God use the prophets to challenge the people of their time?
 - b. How is God speaking to you through the prophets today?
 - c. How does this relate to what you see in the U.S. or the Church?
5. What prophet-like actions will you take or other gifts of the Spirit will you use to bring awareness to issues within your social circles/communities or to support the marginalized and victims of injustice?
6. Optional: How does the reading relate to the Franciscan approach to living the Gospels?

Pax et bonum! Peace and everything good!

Admonition XXVII of St Francis of Assisi

Source: [The Admonitions: FA:ED, vol. 1, p. 136 \(franciscantradition.org\)](http://franciscantradition.org)

(Note: if you read the full text on the web, keep in mind that Francis of Assisi was a medieval, pre-Reformation, Roman Catholic and more context may be needed to understand what he wrote.)

- 1 Where there is charity and wisdom, there is neither fear nor ignorance.
- 2 Where there is patience and humility, there is neither anger nor disturbance.
- 3 Where there is poverty with joy, there is neither greed nor avarice.
- 4 Where there is rest and meditation, there is neither anxiety nor restlessness.
- 5 Where there is fear of the Lord to guard an entrance, there the enemy cannot have a place to enter.
- 6 Where there is a heart full of mercy and discernment, there is neither excess nor hardness of heart.