UC San Diego
Eugene M. Burke CSP Lectureship
on Religion and Society
A Free Public Lecture Series

James Kugel
“From Text to Interpretation: How the Bible Came to Mean some of the Strange Things it Means”

The Lecture
The Hebrew Bible was, from the beginning, the Interpreted Bible. In the third and second centuries B.C.E. – well before the last books of the Bible were written – groups of interpreters were puzzling over the stories of Abraham and Sarah, Jacob and Esau, and other ancient figures. Their interpretations were often fanciful, and sometimes wildly inventive, but their grasp of the very idea of the Bible is still with us and continues to influence today’s readers.

The Lecturer
James Kugel, an eminent scholar of the Hebrew Bible and the Dead Sea Scrolls, was Starr Professor of Hebrew Literature at Harvard before retiring to become Director of the Institute for the History of the Jewish Bible at Bar Ilan University in Israel. Among his eleven books, *The Bible As It Was* won the Grawemeyer Prize in Religion in 2001 and *How to Read the Bible* was awarded the National Jewish Book Award for the best book of 2007.

His most recent book, *In the Valley of the Shadow*, explores the foundations of religious belief.

The Lecture Series
The Burke Lectureship has since 1985 sponsored a permanent, major series of free public lectures by distinguished scholars, authors, and leaders from various religious traditions who speak on the religious dimensions of being human and how religion interacts with society. The speakers visit the campus for one or more days of teaching and exchange with faculty, students, and interested members of the community.

The lectureship is endowed in honor of Eugene M. Burke, a Catholic priest of the Paulist order who served in campus ministry at UC San Diego after retiring from a distinguished career as a professor of theology at Catholic University of America. He was president of the Catholic Theological Society of America and an advisor to the United Nations Commission that drew up the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. He was also a strong supporter and practitioner of respectful, amicable dialogue among people of different religious traditions.

Thursday, May 2, 2013
8:00 p.m.
Revelle College, York Hall 2722

For more information: (858) 822-1534
or visit the Burke website at http://burkelecture.ucsd.edu

Books available for purchase include “*In the Valley of the Shadow*” $15; “*How to Read the Bible*” $25. Payable by CASH/CHECK only.

Co-sponsors: Judaic Studies Program and the Program for the Study of Religion
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Directions and Parking
Exit I-5 at La Jolla Village Drive, and turn west toward the Pacific Ocean. Continue straight ahead on La Jolla Village Drive as it becomes Torrey Pines Drive North.

Turn right at Reveille College Drive and enter the parking area for the Theatre District and Reveille College.

Buy a visitor’s parking pass from a machine (using a credit card or small bills).

Since no performance is scheduled at La Jolla Playhouse or the UCSD Theatre on May 2, there should be ample parking available in the Theatre District. Signs will direct you as you walk to the Burke Lecture in York Hall, which fronts on Reveille Plaza.