

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted from the academic year 2011-12 & thereafter)

SUBJECT CODE: 11EL/PC/BT44

M. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2015
BRANCH VII – ENGLISH
FOURTH SEMESTER

COURSE : CORE

PAPER : THE BHAKTI TRADITION

TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

I Analyse the following poem bringing out the essential tenets of Christian mysticism with reference to Christian beliefs, practices and goals. (1x25=25)

Late Have I Loved You (By St. Augustine)

Late have I loved You
O beauty every ancient, ever new!
Late have I loved You
And behold,
You were within; and I without,
and without I sought You.
And deformed I ran after these forms
of beauty You have made.
You were with me
And I was not with You.
Those things held me back from You,
things whose only being
was to be in You.
You called; You cried;
and You broke through my deafness.
You flashed; You shone;
and you chased away my blindness.
You became fragrant;
and I inhaled and sighed for You.
I tasted
and now hunger and thirst
for You.
You touched me;
and I burned for Your embrace.

II Answer any THREE of the following questions in about 1000 words each.

(3x25=75)

1. From your reading of the Gita (chapter 9: 13-34) what do you understand of the attributes of Lord Krishna as the Supreme and the mahatmanas worship of their Lord?
2. Expound on the devotion of Andal and Mirabai to Lord Krishna.
3. Write an essay on the manner in which the sufferings of mortal life and hope in God are expressed in Psalm 42 and Stanzas of the Soul that Suffers With Longing to See God.
4. Comment on the adoration of the divine in The Magnificat and its significance in Church Liturgy.
5. How does Hopkins articulate 'the dark night of the soul' in "Spelt From Sibyl's Leaves" and "No Worst, There is None"?
6. What does Sufi poetry say about Transcendence and the transient nature of life? Explain with reference to the poems prescribed.
