

# Patanjali Lecture Series



Center for Indic Studies presents

## Francis X. Clooney, S.J.

Parkman Professor of Divinity,  
Professor of Comparative Theology  
Harvard Divinity School

### Deepening the Hindu Contribution to American Religious Life

Hinduism has in various ways been part of American life for a century and more, but it is only now that the growing Hindu population, the increasing number of temples and educational institutions, the greater availability of Hindu wisdom and practice, together predict a larger Hindu influence in the United States. It is all the more important, then, for Hindus in America to draw intelligently and with learning on classic texts, philosophies, devotions, and ways of life, to contribute to the building of American religious identity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

May 1, 2008  
Library Browsing Area  
7:30–9:00 pm



**Francis X. Clooney, S.J.**, a Roman Catholic priest and a member of the Society of Jesus, joined the Divinity School in 2005. He was previously Professor of Comparative Theology at Boston College, where he taught since 1984, after earning his doctorate in South Asian languages and civilizations from the University of Chicago. Dr. Clooney received his MDiv from Weston School of Theology and BA from Fordham University. He has written on the Jesuit missionary tradition,

### Why Read Patanjali? Thoughts on the Yoga Sutras in the 21st Century

Yoga is a very popular practice and way of life in the United States today, and there are innumerable books on yoga available. To bring yoga to full maturity in America, however, it is important to go back to Patanjali's Yoga Sutras and the oldest commentaries, to learn from these ancient masters on how to think through and communicate the meaning of yoga for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

May 2, 2008  
Library Browsing Area  
12:00 - 1:45 pm

particularly in India, and is interested in the dynamics of dialogue in a postcolonial world. He is on numerous editorial boards; He was the first president of the International Society for Hindu-Christian Studies; and, from 1998 to 2004, was coordinator for interreligious dialogue for the Society of Jesus. Dr. Clooney's home page: <http://www.hds.harvard.edu/faculty/clooney.cfm>