

**Monday 3 Being Benedictine**

Cost £25

Bishop Adrian Newman talks to Mother Anne, the Abbess of Malling Abbey, about her life as a nun.

Most people are fascinated and intrigued by nuns, especially those in enclosed orders. This is a rare opportunity to hear the story of Malling Abbey's current Abbess, and to reflect on the patterns of 'being Benedictine' which resonate with all of us who long for a closer walk with God. There will be space for personal reflection, and an opportunity to ask Mother Anne the questions you always wanted to ask a nun!

**Thursday 6 Treasure in Earthen Vessels**

Cost £25

A pottery based quiet day with Gordon Oliver: 9.30 for 10.00am until 3.30pm. Maximum 20 people. Please book by Friday May 24.

We will reflect on how the earthy experience of holding and forming clay into new shapes can help us open up to God's love in Christ for the world we live in. The day will include times of silence, hands-on experience with clay and opening the Bible to learn together. This will build on the experience of previous clay-based quiet days and will be good both for people returning and for people new to this way of seeking God's blessing.

Gordon Oliver is a priest and potter living in Rochester Diocese.

**Thursday 20**

Cost £25

**Quiet Day - Christ with us - in St Benedict and in the Liturgy**

Fr Peter Allan, an Anglican priest and a monk with the Community of the Resurrection, leads a quiet day reflecting on the presence of Christ in our midst. He writes: After the tragedy of the crucifixion, after the miracle of the Resurrection, the astonishing realisation set before us in the New Testament is that Christ is not just risen, but present with us - 'to the end of the age'.

Come and explore this understanding of the Christ who walks with us as we look at themes in the Rule of St Benedict and think about the worship of the church.

**Tuesday 25 Walking with Jesus - Confidence in God**

Cost £25

Led by Jan Foreman the day will provide an opportunity to reflect on facing our storms in life. We will consider the parabolic teaching of Jesus in Mark's Gospel and the narrative of facing the 'giants' in 1 Samuel. The morning will be spent walking and reflecting on the readings. The afternoon will involve writing creatively on what our giants and storms are. We will place them into Christ's care as an act of trust, faith and confidence in God.



*...a place apart*



To book, or for more information, contact [bookings@stbenedictscentre.org](mailto:bookings@stbenedictscentre.org) or call 01732 252651

All our events start at 10am with coffee from 9.30, and finish at 3pm, unless otherwise stated. Tea / coffee and biscuits available but please bring your own lunch.

Individual study/quiet rooms are also available. Cost £15 per day including hot drinks, biscuits and the use of the Pilgrim Chapel and grounds.

**Friday 12 Quiet Day - In green pastures** Cost £25

Time apart to be quiet before God and to seek his face. We will explore Bible passages which talk about God as our good shepherd. A variety of ways to engage with the passages will be suggested and the day will be a mix of short periods of corporate worship and periods of individual quiet prayer. Led by Melanie Bailey, St Benedict's Centre Coordinator and Licenced Lay Minister.

**Saturday 20 Centering Prayer** Cost £25

A day of practice and teaching on Centering Prayer led by Rev Barry Linney. The Centering Prayer method is all about the intention and returning to the intention of being open to the presence and transformative action of the Holy Spirit within us. Different practices will be taught but the ultimate goal in this form of prayer is letting go of everything to be open to the mysterious action of God within.

**Thursday 25 Walking with Jesus - a spring odyssey** Cost £25

A day to think about new life and growth with Margaret Wooding Jones.

**Thursday 25 Praying Together** Suggested donation £10 per evening

Over four Thursday evenings 25th April, 2nd, 9th, 16th May from 7.30 - 9.30pm the St Benedict's Centre is offering a course to encourage individuals to grow together in prayer, led by Margaret Wooding Jones.

Margaret writes: Do you think that other people are better at praying than you? Are you uncertain what to pray? This course will explore some of the confusion we have about prayer and look at some helpful Biblical patterns and practical responses.

**Thursday 2 Praying Together continues at 7.30pm**

**Saturday 4** Suggested donation £15-25

**Easter Quiet Day - Resurrection is about being set free!**

We are not set free from this life on earth, but for this life on earth. Using images, scripture, and a movie, we will explore what this new freedom looks like for us in this Easter season. Revd Joel Love will be your guide as you discover this deeper freedom for yourself. Offered in association with Rochester Spirituality Network.

**Thursday 9 Praying Together continues at 7.30pm**

**Monday 13 (6pm)** FREE

**Prayer Pack book launch with Rochester Diocese Spiritual Network**

Edited by Rev Susanne Carlsson the Prayer Pack helps individuals and groups to explore different ways to pray and grow in relationship with God. The book presents twelve methods of prayer and encourage all to "Pray as you can, not as you can't!"

**Thursday 16 Praying Together continues at 7.30pm**

**Saturday 25** Suggested donation £15-25

**Quiet Day - 'Try Human' - "the glory of God is a human being fully alive!"**

In association with Rochester Diocese Spirituality Network, the St Benedict's Centre presents a day to reflect on what it means to be 'fully alive' through exploring our senses and discovering as 'if for the first time' how we are created in God's own image and likeness. The day will be led by Sister Diane Reynolds, a sister of St. Andrew (An Ignatian Community) who has been living in Belgium for past 6 years. Diane is an experienced Retreat giver and spiritual director. She is especially interested in helping people to discover and discern the place of God in their lives.

APRIL

MAY

