

St Benedict's CENTRE

St Benedict's Centre Newsletter

July-August 2023



One of last month's highlights at the Centre was the joyful arrival of these Roffen Riders, who cycled the Gundulf Way from Rochester – and back! - on 8th June. We also continued to revel in the abundance of wild flowers in the grounds.

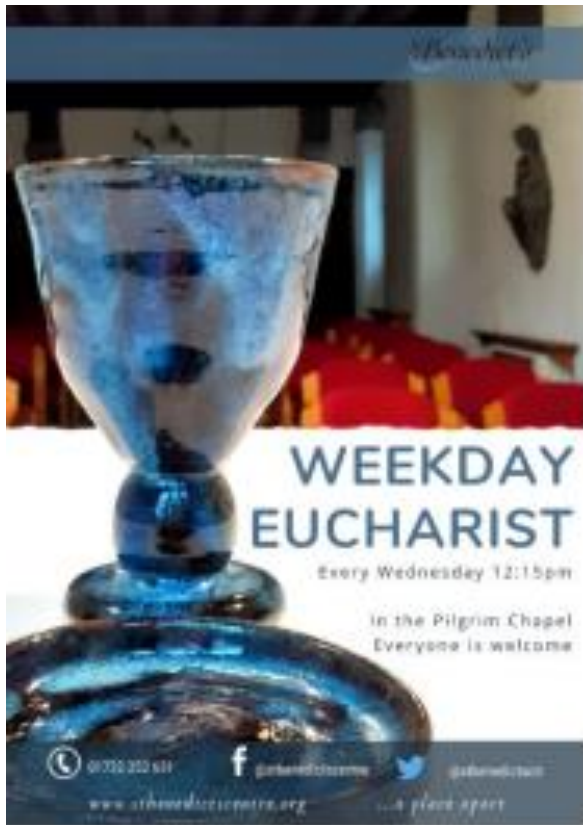
In July the academic year comes to an end for St Augustine's College and the Rochester Lay formation students. While for many of us our attention turns to holidays, we will continue to welcome individual day guests throughout the summer. We also have some stimulating events in July and August and are delighted to have two new event leaders who offer a wealth of experience in leading day retreats. Both have connections with Rochester cathedral. Read on to find out more...

Forthcoming events at the Centre

Weekly Wednesday Eucharist

All are welcome to join us in the Pilgrim Chapel for a Eucharist every Wednesday 12.15 – 12.45pm.

No need to book.



At home and out and about Tuesday 4th July, 9.30 for 10am till 3pm

St Benedict's

AT HOME AND OUT AND ABOUT

Gordon Giles

AT HOME
and Out & About

52 biblical contemplations on faith, hope and love for a re-emerging world

A quiet day led by
Rev'd Canon Gordon Giles

St Benedict's Centre
Tuesday 4th July 2023
9.30 for 10am ending by 3pm

Includes group discussion/questions

Cost £25
Please bring lunch with you, drinks and biscuits will be provided

To book please contact:
bookings@stbenedictscentre.org
52 Swan Street, West Malling, ME19 6JX

01782 252 651

www.stbenedictscentre.org

@stbenedictscentre

@stbenedictscr

...a place apart

A quiet day led by Rev'd Canon Gordon Giles, Canon Chancellor of Rochester Cathedral, using material from his latest book, 'At Home and Out and About' published by the Bible Reading Fellowship.

With the Covid Pandemic officially over and lockdowns receding into memory, this day provides an opportunity to reflect on the spiritual

impact of the last few years, personally and corporately.

From masks to Zoom, social distancing to hymn singing, PPE to haircuts, there are connections to make, and a great deal to recollect in faith, hope and love. Spend a day in the quiet beauty of St Benedict's, enjoying the present moment, looking back at the journey travelled and looking forward to the future.

Cost £25.00 (pay on the day) which includes hot drinks, please bring your own lunch.

To book: bookings@stbenedictscentre.org

Benedictine Wisdom: Prayer **Tuesday 11th July, 9.30 for 10am till 3pm**

St Benedict's

BENEDICTINE WISDOM: PRAYER

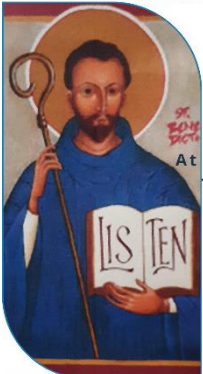
Celebrate St Benedict's Day
exploring prayer

With Mother Anne OSB

At **St Benedict's Centre**
Tuesday 11th July 2023
Coffee from 9.30am
starting at 10 ending at 3pm

Please bring lunch with you
hot drinks and biscuits will be provided
Cost: £25

To book please contact:
bookings@stbenedictscentre.org
52 Swan Street, West Malling, ME19 6JX



01732 252 651 [@stbenedictscentre](https://www.facebook.com/stbenedictscentre) [@stbenedictscr](https://twitter.com/stbenedictscr)

www.stbenedictscentre.org ...a place apart

A chance to celebrate St Benedict's Day by exploring prayer.

St Benedict teaches that prayer is the heart of our relationship with God.

While he seems to say little beyond encouraging simplicity and brevity in prayer, the act of praying lies at the heart of Benedict's rule.

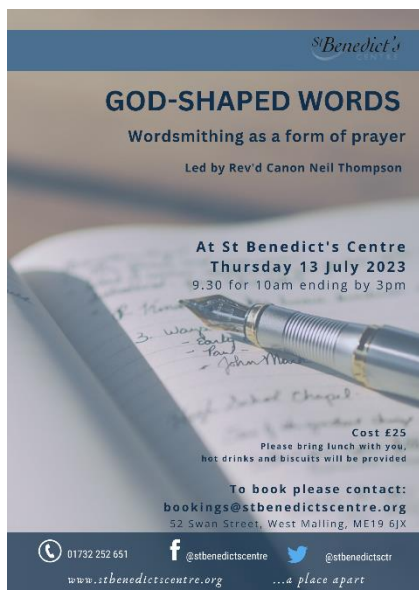
Mother Anne will share with us the wisdom from Benedict and help us to understand how this is lived in community. We will also consider what impact Benedict's teaching has for our own praying.

Cost £25.00 (pay on the day) which includes hot drinks, please bring your own lunch.

To book: bookings@stbenedictscentre.org

God-shaped words

Thursday 13th July, 9.30 for 10am till 3pm



Rev'd Canon Neil Thompson, a previous precentor at Rochester Cathedral, will guide our creativity in the use of wordsmithing as a form of prayer.

Poetry may seem beyond our natural form of expression, but God fills and shapes the words of our experience - and this is prayer.

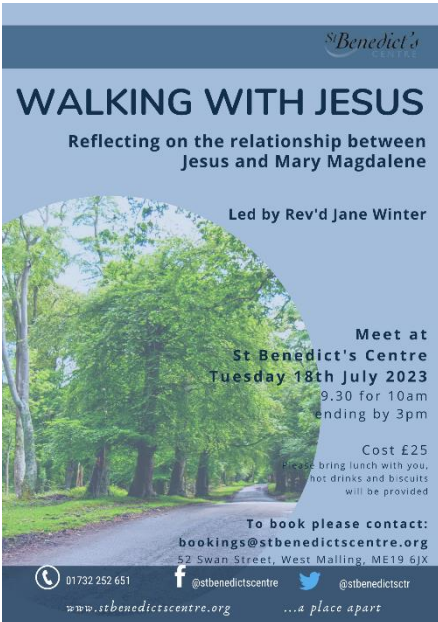
In the beautiful setting of the Abbey come and draw some words from the deep well of our hearts and lives. Paper and pens provided. Bring a favourite poem if you would like to.

Cost £25.00 (pay on the day) which includes hot drinks, please bring your own lunch.

To book: bookings@stbenedictscentre.org

Walking with Jesus

Tuesday 18th July, 9.30 for 10am till 3pm



St Benedict's

WALKING WITH JESUS

Reflecting on the relationship between
Jesus and Mary Magdalene

Led by Rev'd Jane Winter

Meet at
St Benedict's Centre
Tuesday 18th July 2023
9.30 for 10am
ending by 3pm

Cost £25
Please bring lunch with you,
hot drinks and biscuits
will be provided

To book please contact:
bookings@stbenedictscentre.org
52 Swan Street, West Malling, ME19 6JX

01732 252 651 @stbenedictscentre @stbenedictscr
www.stbenedictscentre.org ...a place apart

We consider Jesus' relationship with Mary Magdalene, whose feast day falls on 22nd.

Mary was one of several women who accompanied Jesus and his disciples.

There are controversies about Mary Magdalene, which can blur our understanding of the relationship she had with Jesus and the faith that sustained her through

his death, resurrection and into a future ministry.

Cost £25.00 (pay on the day) which includes hot drinks, please bring your own lunch.

To book: bookings@stbenedictscentre.org

Art Exhibition – Lesley Machin

Friday 4th – Sunday 6th August, 10.30am-4.30pm



We are delighted to be able to host another art exhibition. As well as being an artist working with various media, Lesley is an Oblate of Malling Abbey. She will exhibit some of her work, focusing on pieces for contemplation including sculptures, drawings, paintings and ceramics. We do encourage you to come and enjoy her work in the beautiful environment of the

Guest House. Some pieces of art will be for sale.

No booking required. Admission: £5 admission for adults. Hot drinks available.

September dates for your diary

5th Holy Land at Home - with Rev Hugh Grear

7th Walking with Jesus – led by Rev Jane Winter

14th Thanksgiving using the Book of Common Prayer - led by Rev Harriet Johnson

19th Benedictine Wisdom: Humility – Sr Mary John

26th The Art of Icons - led by Rev Jane Winter

Day Guests



Our 10 quiet study rooms offer the space to rest and reflect in solitude at the Centre.

You can book one of these rooms for £15.

This includes hot drinks, the use of the beautiful grounds and the opportunity for private prayer in the pilgrim chapel, and of joining the Sisters in their offices.

Your booking can be changed or cancelled at short notice if need be, at no cost.

Did you know we offer gift vouchers for individual quiet days – the perfect gift for someone in ministry.

To book your day of rest and retreat, or to purchase a voucher contact:
bookings@stbenedictscentre.org