



## **St Benedict's Centre Newsletter**

**June 2022**

For the second year we have been able to join the 'No mow May' initiative and keep a large part of the lawn bordering the stream free for the growth of wild flowers. The mix of rain and warmth has resulted in an area vibrant in colour, plant variety and insect life. It is a place to pause and look closely, to be amazed at the wonder of creation in all its minute detail. Guests have delighted in the opportunity to spend time in this richly diverse part of the grounds.



# Forthcoming events at the Centre

## Weekly Wednesday Eucharist

All are welcome to join us in the Pilgrim Chapel for a Eucharist held every Wednesday 12.15 – 12.45pm.  
No need to book.

## St Benedict Day: Conversio

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30 for 10am until 3pm

*St Benedict's*

### ST BENEDICT DAYS

St Benedict's wisdom for daily life in 2022  
A series of days focusing on Benedictine values

#### Conversio

Sr Mary John invites us to respond to St Benedict's call of Conversio, a daily re-turning to Christ

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June  
Coffee from 9.30  
starting at 10 am ending at 3 pm

Please bring lunch with you; hot drinks and biscuits will be provided  
**Cost £20**

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

01732 252 651 | @stbenedictscentre | @stbenedictsc | www.stbenedictscentre.org | ...a place apart

Continuing our series of days exploring Benedictine spirituality we focus with Sr Mary John on Benedict's call to 'conversio'. Benedict's rule invites us to listen to God; as a result of that listening we are called to conversion, re-turning to God as a daily encounter and challenge. The day will follow the pattern of input; quiet space; time for conversation, and

worship. Led by Sr Mary John OSB and Canon Jane Winter

*Cost £20 including hot drinks and biscuits. Please bring your own lunch*

*To book: [bookings@stbenedictscentre.org](mailto:bookings@stbenedictscentre.org)*

## **Pottery Day: I Went Down to the Potter's House** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30am for 10am until 3pm



“I went down to the Potter’s house.”

A clay-based encounter day that includes Bible reflections, demonstration, opportunities for hands-on activity and times for silent reflection, during which we will be opened so as to experience ourselves being held, healed, formed, and re-formed in the loving hands of God.

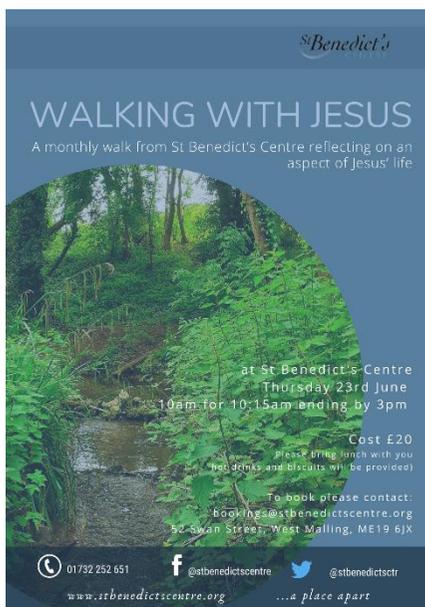
The day will include handling clay, so please wear something you don't mind getting a bit dirty (the clay washes off). Led by Canon Gordon Oliver.

Gordon has served in council estate, industrial and suburban parishes and also as a practical theology lecturer and diocesan training officer. In retirement he offers ministry in spiritual direction, retreats and quiet days. Gordon enjoys family, making pots, fly-fishing and friendship.

*Please bring your own lunch – drinks provided.  
Cost £20 including hot drinks and biscuits. Please bring your own lunch. To book:  
bookings@stbenedictscentre.org*

## Walking with Jesus

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 9.30am for 10am until 3pm



On this walk through the West Malling countryside we will think about Jesus and his relationship with his cousin John the Baptist.

The church remembers John on 24<sup>th</sup> June. We are not given a huge amount of information about John and Jesus, but when we look, we find a rich example of what it is to be a follower of Jesus

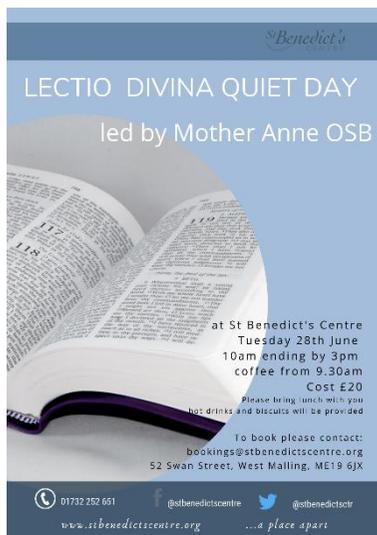
pointing to him as John did. Led by Canon Jane Winter.

*Please wear suitable clothing and footwear, the walk may be muddy in places.*

*Cost £20 including hot drinks and biscuits. Please bring your own lunch. To book:  
bookings@stbenedictscentre.org*

## Quiet Day with Mother Anne OSB

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30 for 10am until 3pm



We are delighted that Mother Anne is joining us to lead a quiet day of Lectio Divina.

Lectio is an ancient way of spending time steeped in scripture. St Benedict encouraged his monks not just to read set passages and then move onto another activity, but also to allow scripture to read them.

Mother Anne will lead us through the principles and practice of lectio.

The day will include plenty of space for us to individually step into scripture and dwell with the word of God, listening for God's indwelling voice to speak.

*Cost £20 including hot drinks and biscuits. Please bring your own lunch.*

*To book: [bookings@stbenedictscentre.org](mailto:bookings@stbenedictscentre.org)*

## **Further ahead...**

### **July**

#### **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> - The heavens declare** 10am -3pm

Exploring the relationships between faith and science, with Rev'd Cathy Knight-Scott

#### **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - St Benedict Pilgrimage day** 10am - 3pm

July 11<sup>th</sup> is an alternative feast day for St Benedict. You are invited to join the celebration and we pilgrimage around the grounds and rooms of the centre, meeting with the saints who are on site.

#### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> - Walking with Jesus** 10am -3pm

In July our focus will be on making time with Jesus our priority, just as he taught his followers to do

#### **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> - The Storyteller: a Quiet Day** 10am - 3pm

Led by Rev David Guest.

*To book for any of these events please contact  
bookings@stbenedictscentre.org*

We very much hope to welcome you at one or several of our events.

Why not come for the whole day: you can explore the peaceful surrounds, walk the labyrinth or simply sit in one of the beautiful spots for quiet reflection. You are also warmly invited to join in prayer with the Sisters for Sext (midday), None (3pm) and vespers (4.45pm).

A private study room will usually be available for you to use when you attend one of our events, but please check availability when booking.

Please pass this newsletter on to anyone who might be interested. They can also request to be added to the mailing list by emailing [bursar@stbenedictscentre.org](mailto:bursar@stbenedictscentre.org).

**The events listed in this newsletter can also be found at**

**<https://stbenedictscentre.org/programme/>**

**Copies of this newsletter can be downloaded from our website: <https://stbenedictscentre.org/blog/>**

## 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 £12.

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](mailto:bookings@stbenedictscentre.org).

Don't forget you can find us on:  
[www.stbenedictscentre.org](http://www.stbenedictscentre.org) twitter: @stBenedictsCtr  
Facebook: @StBenedictsCentre