

St Benedict's CENTRE

St Benedict's Centre Newsletter

November 2022



The month of November can seem like one of the darkest of the year: nights rapidly draw in; mornings take longer to wake with the dawn. Many people travel to and from work in darkness.

Darkness can be associated with danger and negativity. It is in the darkness that we see the tiniest light shine brightly – just look at a clear sky on a November night. It is in our darker moments when we perhaps discover, like the psalmist, we are held in the shadow of God's Wings (Ps 36.7)

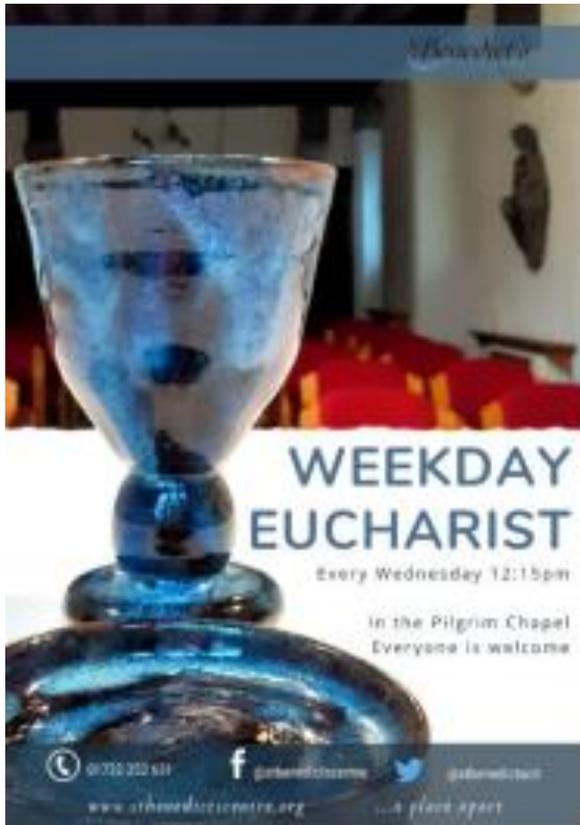
We have some lovely events this November helping us to engage with creation, consider Benedictine spirituality and prepare for Advent. Why not book for one and come and enjoy the presence of God who offers us the warmth and safety of love.

Forthcoming events at the Centre

Weekly Wednesday Eucharist

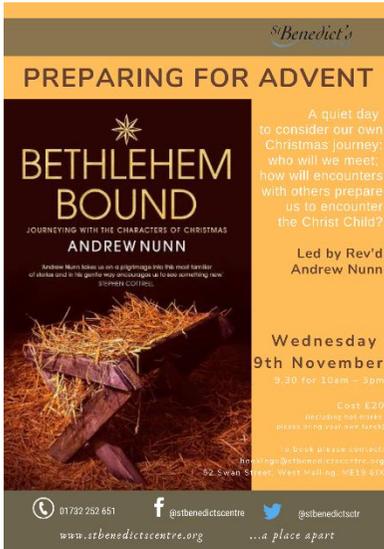
All are welcome to join us in the Pilgrim Chapel for a Eucharist held every Wednesday 12.15 – 12.45pm.

No need to book.



Preparing for Advent

Wednesday 9th November, 9.30 for 10am till 3pm



Led by the very Rev'd Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark Cathedral.

We welcome Andrew back, this time focusing on his new book, 'Bethlehem Bound.'

Lots of people made their way to the manger, to see the child, to greet the King, to bring their gifts.

But what journey will we make? Andrew Nunn's

devotional book for Christmas takes us on the journey and introduces us to the characters we will meet.

On this quiet day we will look at our own Christmas journey: who will we meet, and how will encounters with others prepare us to encounter the Christ Child?"

Cost £20.00 including hot drinks. Please bring your own lunch. To book: bookings@stbenedictscentre.org

St Benedict and Worship

Tuesday 15th November, 9.30 for 10am till 3pm

St Benedict's

ST BENEDICT DAY

St Benedict and Worship

How can we make worship, so central to our faith, a focus of our daily lives, living within the reality of family, work, communities...?



Led by Sr Mary John

Tuesday 15th November
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
22 Swan Street, West Malling, ME19 6JX

01732 252 651



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...a place apart

Another one in our series of Benedictine wisdom days.

“Let nothing get in the way of worship.”

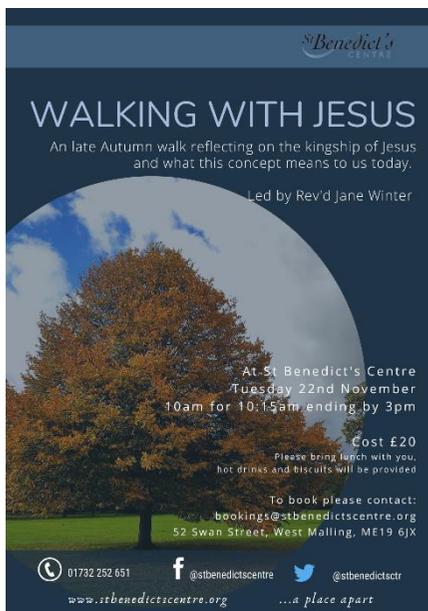
Worship lies at the heart of monastic life, but how do we make worship a focus of our daily lives, living within the reality of family, work, communities...?

Sr Mary John leads our day, helping us to understand the centrality of worship in our relationship with God. She will help us explore what it means to truly worship, especially when faced with all the distractions that can crowd into our day.

Cost £20.00 including hot drinks. Please bring your own lunch. To book: bookings@stbenedictscentre.org

Walking with Jesus

Tuesday 22nd November, 10 for 10.15am till 3pm



A late Autumn walk led by Rev'd Jane Winter.

As the season changes from Autumn to Winter we will reflect on the kingship of Jesus.

We will consider what this would have meant for the first disciples, and what it means for us today in a world where leadership and power so often appear self-centred,

rather than centred on service.

Cost £20.00 including hot drinks. Please bring your own lunch. To book: bookings@stbenedictscentre.org

Quiet day: Great Oaks from Acorns Grow... Thursday 24th November, 9.30 for 10am till 3pm



Benedict's

Great Oaks from Acorns Grow...

How do we perceive God's love breaking through in the challenges faced by global warming? As the earth turns to the rest of winter, we gather to focus on the constant cry of creation for healing, restoration and renewal.

A quiet day led by Rev'd Alan Vousden

Thursday 24th November
9.30 for 10am-3pm
Cost £20
Please bring your own lunch, hot drinks will be provided

To book please contact:
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52 Swan Street, West Malling, ME19 6JX

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Consider an acorn, falling from a great tree. It becomes imbedded in the soil, into nothingness.

God willing it will germinate, produce roots, grow and live for many generations.

How do we perceive God's love breaking through in the challenges faced by Global warming?

As the earth turns to the rest of winter we gather

to focus on the constant cry of creation for healing, restoration and renewal.

A quiet day led by Rev'd Alan Vousden.

Cost £20.00 including hot drinks. Please bring your own lunch. To book: bookings@stbenedictscentre.org

Looking ahead

Events in December

14th: Advent Gifts, a quiet day led by Rev'd Harriet Johnson

21st: Walking with Jesus, led by Rev'd 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 £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

Don't forget you can find us on:

<https://stbenedictscentre.org/> as well as on

twitter: @stBenedictsCtr and

Facebook: @StBenedictsCentre