



St Benedict's Centre Newsletter

December 2022/January 2023

Our preparation for Christmas began in November: a quiet day led by the Very Rev'd Andrew Nunn drew on the resources from his new Advent book: *Bethlehem* bound; on another day Sr Mary John guided us through Benedict's teaching about worship.

As we enter December, we need to prepare properly to welcome the Christ Child; celebrate Emmanuel God with us - and not be too overwhelmed by Christmas preparations.

We hope you will be able to join us for one of our preparation events in December and one of our New Year events in January.



As we shall be resting at the Centre from 23rd December – 3rd January, this newsletter covers events for both months.

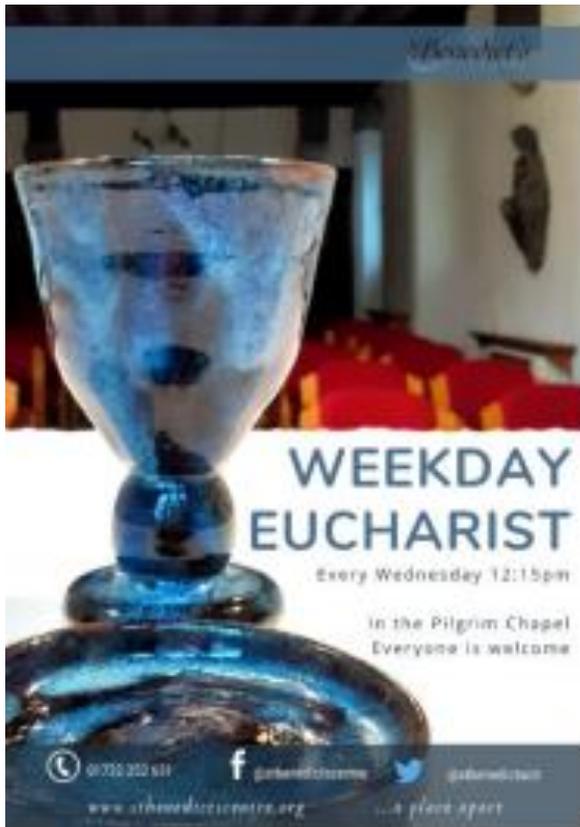
We wish you all a very blessed Advent and Christmas, and a peace-filled New Year, and look forward to seeing you soon!

Forthcoming events at the Centre

Weekly Wednesday Eucharist

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

No need to book.



Advent Gifts

Wednesday 14th December, 9.30 for 10am till 3pm



St Benedict's CENTRE

ADVENT GIFTS

What are the true gifts of Advent?
A Quiet Day to take time out to consider how the Advent season can enrich us.

Led by Rev'd Harriet Johnson

St Benedict's Centre
Wednesday 14th December
9.30 for 10am ending by 3pm
coffee from 9.30am
Cost £20
Please bring lunch with you, hot drinks and biscuits will be provided

To book please contact:
bookings@stbenedictcentre.org
52 Swan Street, West Malling, ME19 1JX

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Modern Advent calendars shower us with gifts of chocolate, gin or cosmetics behind every window from the first day in December onwards.

But what are the true gifts of Advent?

On this Quiet Day Rev'd Harriet Johnson will lead us as we take time out from the busyness of our preparations for

Christmas and consider how the Advent season can enrich us in its own right.

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

Walking with Jesus

Wednesday 21st December, 9.30 for 10am till 3pm

St Benedict's
CENTRE

WALKING WITH JESUS

On this last walk of the year we join the company of travellers making their way to Bethlehem and listen to Mary and Joseph as they seek a place for the birth of the Christ Child.

Led by Rev'd Jane Winter

St Benedict's Centre
Wednesday 21st December
9.30 for 10am ending by 3pm

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

To book please contact:
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'Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea: to the city of David called Bethlehem.'

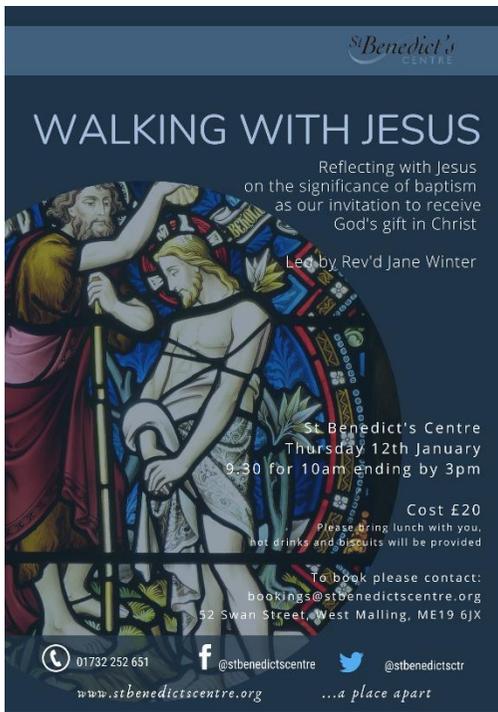
On this last walk of the year we join the company of travellers making their way to Bethlehem, and listen to Mary and Joseph as they seek a place for the birth of the Christ child.

Our day will include mince pies as well as hot drinks.

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

Walking with Jesus

Thursday 12th January, 9.30 for 10am till 3pm



St Benedict's CENTRE

WALKING WITH JESUS

Reflecting with Jesus on the significance of baptism as our invitation to receive God's gift in Christ

Led by Rev'd Jane Winter

St Benedict's Centre
Thursday 12th January
9.30 for 10am ending by 3pm

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

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'You are my Son, the Beloved: with you I am well pleased.'

In this Epiphany season we reflect with Jesus on his baptism and the significance of baptism as our invitation to receive God's gift in Christ.

As we receive God's affirmation so we are offered the opportunity to respond in the footsteps of Jesus.

Bring boots and wrap up warmly!

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

St Benedict and Hospitality

Tuesday 31st January, 9.30 for 10am till 3pm

St Benedict's

ST BENEDICT DAY

St Benedict and Hospitality



"All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ..."

How do we offer the hospitality of Christ in our communities?

Led by Rev'd Jane Winter

Tuesday 31st January

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:
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'All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ, for he himself will say: I was a stranger and you welcomed me (Matt 25:35)' - Benedict's rule chapter 53.

Hospitality is one of Benedict's key practices of faith.

We will explore how we are hospitable with one another as

well as to the stranger, so we can offer the hospitality of Christ in our communities.

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

Looking ahead: 2023

Our latest events calendar for January-April 2023 is now available. Please pick up your print copy from the Centre when you visit us, or [download it from our website](#) to find out more about events until Easter.

You can also find all information contained in this newsletter online on our [programme page](#).



We wish you all every blessing, peace and joy this Christmas and in the year ahead.

Please remember the Centre will be closed from 23rd December until 3rd January.

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