

EVENTS RUN BY MANY CENTRES AND ORGANISATIONS ACROSS THE UK

April - June 2016

Compiled by *LivingSpirituality*
www.livingspirit.org.uk/events

If you wish to let others know about these events,
please give them a link to our website: www.livingspirit.org.uk/events.

For events that are put on regularly, see
www.livingspirit.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/regularevents.pdf.

Easter event not in our previous listing

24-27 March – A Cosmic Easter with Mary Jo Radcliffe. Emmaus Centre, Kent.
You are invited to join us in spending holy week together, exploring the meaning of the gospel story and how we understand it today in the context of the Universe story, and in the light of the visions of Teilhard de Chardin, Thomas Berry and Brian Swimme. We endeavour to celebrate each day in ritual, music and words, in a creative group experience in which all contributions are welcome.

Email: maryjoradcliffe@icloud.com or phone 0207 223 2917.

April 2016

1-3 April – The Rebirthing of God with John Philip Newell. Near Perth.
[www.bieldatblackruthven.org.uk/ewExternalFiles/The Rebirthing of God.pdf](http://www.bieldatblackruthven.org.uk/ewExternalFiles/The%20Rebirthing%20of%20God.pdf)

1-3 April – Free to Believe National Conference *Cutting Edge Faith*. Herts.
Tolerance not intolerance / Inclusion not exclusion / Radical not timid /
Critical not fundamentalist/ Prophetic not pietistic. *Last few places left.*
www.freetobelieve.org.uk/conferences.html

1-3 April – Gain confidence in singing for your soul with Janet Swan. County Durham.
www.minsteracres.org

2 April – Adrian Alker: Is a Radical Church Possible? Grimsby. 10 am.

[www.pcnbritain.org.uk/groups/programme/exeter/is a radical church possible](http://www.pcnbritain.org.uk/groups/programme/exeter/is_a_radical_church_possible)

Adrian Alker calls for an honest look at the life of Jesus and the faith of the Church and suggests a radical and more honest reshaping of the churches to enable them to face the challenges of the present day. His new book is called **'Is a Radical Church Possible? Reshaping its life for Jesus'**

Adrian Alker will be giving the same talk in Exeter on **10 April**. Details at the link above.

4-7 April – The Bible: Cultural critique and transformation. Salisbury. How Biblical texts and stories present their own distinctive portrayals of reality, and how they relate to today's culture. www.sarum.ac.uk

4 April–29 May – Soul's Slow Ripening. Celtic Wisdom for Discernment. 8-week online retreat with **Christine and John Valters Paintner**. www.abbeyofthearts.com

8-10 April – Soul Space workshop with **Jeannie Campbell** and **Ros Mansfield**. Sussex. A time to be aware of God's grace, using pilgrimage, spiritual exercises and creativity. www.penhurst.org.uk

11-15 April – A spirituality of enough. Developing a spirituality of living in the moment with simplicity and gratitude. Led by Sr. Germaine O'Neill. Near Bath. www.ammerdown.org

13-15 April – Changing gear. Exploring how to bring about change in your community. Led by **John Bell**. Northumberland. www.shepherdsdene.co.uk

16 April – StillPoint Daylong Workshop with **Matt Rees** and **Ian Adams**. Oxford. What's going on in stillness? How can we access stillness in all our busyness? Why can stillness be awkward, even demanding - and occasionally sublime? Is there a stillness practice that works for you? And how might stillness change the world? In the evening Ian will be giving a reading of his collection of Poems '*Unfurling*'. www.thestillpoint.org.uk

April 16 – Resting in the Wisdom of Jesus with **Jenny Williams**. London EC1. 11am-4pm. This is an opportunity to connect with the original words that Jesus spoke and allow the sound of them to touch us deeply.

Come with those parts of yourself that need rest, those tensions and wounds of body, mind and spirit that keep you back from living your full potential. We will work with the Aramaic word for rest, and use it as a base from which to relax and be refreshed by the first few

lines of the Lord's prayer, feeling the sound, the rhythm, the music, the healing of these words. www.spiritualitycentre.org/index.php/discovering/191-resting-in-the-wisdom-of-jesus

17 April – Contemplative Meditation: Finding Answers and Healing. London NW6. 11am-4pm. Booking essential: phone 0207 328 6718 or email jenny.sandlerq008@firenet.co.uk.

17-22 April – Heartfulness Retreat with Jill Benet. Surrey. An intensive Centering prayer Retreat with reflection on the Heartfulness material drawn from the interviews of Fr Thomas Keating by Betty Sue Flowers. www.christian-retreat.org

18-22 April – At home with God: Spiritual life as taught by Meister Eckhart. Led by **David Cole**. Holy Island, Northumberland. www.aidanandhilda.org.uk

22 April – Introducing Ignation Spirituality. Retreats Association training day. Lincs. www.edenhamregionalhouse.org

23 April – Day Walk in the 'Spirit of Pilgrimage', beginning and ending at Tintern Abbey in the Wye Valley. All are welcome. No charge. www.journeying.co.uk or tel: 01646 279478.

25-28 April – Christian leadership in the public square. What is the impact of faith-based leadership on secular institutions? Salisbury. www.sarum.ac.uk

25-29 April – Creating a life with God. Learning from the ancient traditions that helped people grow closer to God. Led by **Daniel Wolpert**. Holy Island, Northumberland. www.aidanandhilda.org.uk

26-27 April – Let the colours sing. Creation and rogation. With **Joy Green**. Sussex. www.penhurst.org.uk

27 April – Parable and paradox. Poetry reflections on the sayings of Jesus with Malcolm Guite. Suffolk. www.otleyhall.co.uk

29 April-1 May – The spirituality of bread. Gwent. We will make it, bake it, and taste it and maybe know heaven's gate in our own kitchens. The weekend will alternate the mystery of the baking process with linked contemplative reflection. www.llansor.org

30 April-6 May – Singing a Deeper Story. Led by **Alison Adam**. Iona, Scotland.

How could our songs tell of a journey worth joining? Do they represent our beliefs, our yearnings and God's story? We will sing our way into praying more deeply by reflecting the joys and challenges of faith. www.iona.org

May 2016

1-3 May – From conflict to reconciliation. Worcestershire. Explore the Christian response to conflict and how, with God's help, reconciliation can be achieved.

www.cfrbarnesclose.co.uk

3-6 May – In the footsteps of Celtic Holy Women with **Julie Hopkins**. North West Wales. Meditation, music and pilgrimage to holy sites. www.noddfa.org.uk

9 May –Lecture on Mental Health and Spirituality. Guest Speaker: Professor **John Swinton**. 2-4:30 pm. Topic: Naming things properly: Re-imagining "mental illness", "dementia" and other seriously misunderstood experiences. London WC1.

www.spiritualengland.org.uk/events/lecture-mental-health-and-spirituality

11 May – Exploring the interface between Christianity and the perennial philosophy with William Meader. 10.30am-5pm. Oxford. www.christiansawakening.org

14 May – Marcus Borg: Finding God in the World - a Spiritual Revolution. Speaker: **Diana Butler Bass**. Birmingham. *Hosted by Free to Believe, Modern Church, PCN Britain and St Marks CRC.* www.freetobelieve.org.uk/conferences.html

Diana Butler Bass has been described by Marcus Borg as 'one of our foremost commentators on twenty first century Christianity'. Her clearly worded, powerful, and probing book ***Christianity After Religion*** is required reading for anyone with an interest in the future of Christianity.

Faith is no longer a matter of mountaintop experience or institutional practice; instead, people are connecting with God through the environment in which we live. A day not to be missed! A day to honour Marcus Borg, to meet with like-minded searchers and to take forward the transformation in how people understand and experience God, away from the conventions of traditional religion.

14 May – Creativity and prayer: Heart release with **Brian and Clare Watts**. Devon.

www.millhouseretreats.co.uk

15-19 May – Courage and renewal retreat. Birmingham. Journey towards wholeness and transformation. www.woodbrooke.org.uk

16-19 May – Liminal leadership conference. Transforming leaders for a changing world. For clergy and lay people who exercise Christian leadership in church, charity, education and chaplaincy settings. Salisbury. www.sarum.ac.uk

21 May – The Hero’s Journey with Phil Cousineau. Southall. West London. 3-5pm. What is the hero’s journey in our times, and is there a heroine’s journey? Donations are welcome for this event, which will be followed by a meal. To book, email Joan Ishibashi: ipokeiko@aol.com. For more information about Phil Cousineau, go to www.philcousineau.net.

23 May – Praying with creation. Led by Alison Christian. Leicestershire. www.laundeabbey.org.uk

23-26 May – Relaxation and the wild soul’s longing to go deeper with David Mahon and Melanie Wood. County Durham. www.minsteracres.org

23-26 May – Explore recent developments in spirituality, in the light of writing on the “**spiritual revolution**” in theology, sociology, psychology, philosophy and literary criticism. Salisbury. www.sarum.ac.uk

27-30 May – Wellsprings Retreat. Visiting Holy Wells in N. Yorks. www.holyroodhouse.org.uk

28 May – Sacred places in Scripture and in our own experience. County Donegal. www.immanuelchristianretreatcentre.org

28-30 May – Understanding Islam and building bridges of mutual respect. Led by **Dr Chris Hewer**. Near Bath. www.ammerdown.org

30 May-3 June – Discovering the Northern Saints. Led by **David Cole**. Holy Island, Northumberland. www.aidanandhilda.org.uk

June

3-5 and 6-10 June – two workshops with **Margaret Silf** to **reflect on the stories that guide our spiritual journey**. Near Bath. www.ammerdown.org

3-5 June – **Centering Prayer Immersion Weekend** with **Jill Benet**. Surrey. www.christian-retreat.org

6-9 June – **Journey into Healing**. With **Rev Sue Rose & team**. N Yorks. The purpose of the workshop is to provide a safe place to be open to oneself, each other and to God. It is suitable for all who are looking for healing and growth in their personal and spiritual lives. www.scargillmovement.org

6-9 June – **Leadership and the unconscious**. An introduction to unconscious processes with reference to each person's understanding of organisational life and practice. Salisbury. www.sarum.ac.uk

9-10 June – **Rest, Reflect, Flow** with **Melitta and Katy Low**. Near Perth. A creative arts and spiritual exploration workshop. www.bielsatblackruthven.org.uk

10-12 June – **Living Theology**. Summer school in Christian faith. Llandudno. www.loretocentre.org.uk

10-12 June – **Green Christian retreat**. North West Wales. www.noddfa.org.uk

10-12 June – **Celtic Spirituality** with **Andy and Anna Raine** from the Northumbrian Community. Includes prayers and liturgy from the new Celtic Daily Prayer Book. Gwent. www.llansor.org

11 June – **Be a pilgrim for a day** with **Sister Marie-Christine Berg**. SE London. 10am-4pm. www.sisters-of-st-andrew.com

11-18 June – **Walking holiday on the Isle of Skye**, which was an early centre of Celtic Christianity. It has reminders of this, such as the site of the first Cathedral of the Isles. www.journeying.co.uk/isle-of-skye.html

17-19 June – **Walking the way: The spirituality of walking**. Devon. www.milhouseretreats.co.uk

18 June – Mystical theology for today. Symbols of transformation, Teresa of Avila. Led by **Julienne McLean**. Surrey. www.christian-retreat.org

20-24 June – Mindfulness, spiritual practice and the Christian tradition with Professor **Mark Williams & Sr Renate Dúllman OP**. North East Wales. www.beunos.com

20-24 June – Moving deeper into God’s heart. With **Jen Larcombe & Carol Bostock**. South East Wales. www.nicholastonhouse.org

23-29 June – Glimpses into the mystery of the unfolding universe. County Antrim. www.drumalis.co.uk

25 June – Stillness Through Flowers with **Kenneth Boyd Browne**. London NW6. 10.30am-4pm. Flowers have been, and are, an inspiration for many and the Holy Spirit makes itself known in the secret redolence of flowers. Flowers give joy and happiness and are an outer expression of inner emotions, including loss and love.

As the word spirituality stems from the word Spiritus - meaning ‘breath of life’ - we will use the experience of ‘being’ with flowers to enhance what ‘breathes’ life in us. The day will include poetry, storytelling, silence and Flower Meditation to help cultivate the Divine within ourselves.

Kenneth Boyd Browne is a spiritual companion, psychotherapist and workshop leader.

Booking essential. Email: jennysandlerq008@firenet.co.uk or telephone: 020 7328 6718.

25 June – Digging Deeper into Essential Ethics: Gratitude. Near Bristol. From ancient scriptures to the latest science, gratitude is known to be good for us and those around us! <http://www.christiansawakening.org/events>

25 June – Pathways into contemplation: Ignatian spirituality with **Kate Stogdon**. Surrey. www.christian-retreat.org

25 June-1 July – Of Flesh and Bones ... A Guide to Doing Worship Well. Iona, Scotland. Worship is not primarily about the ego, personal taste, inflexible tradition or anaesthesia. It is about God and humanity. To enable worship to be effective, to speak for and to people, requires commitment, imagination and engagement. This is what the week is all about and it is open to all. To apply, please contact the Wild Goose Resource Group in Glasgow – 0141 332 6343 or email wgrg@iona.org.uk.

Advance notice

2-8 July – Changing Our Ways: How do we respond to the ecological crisis in the world?
Iona, Scotland. **Professor Tim Gorringe**, contextual theologian involved in researching the Transition Town Movement, will help us to find ways of treading more lightly and thoughtfully. www.iona.org

4-7 July – Shifting the Shadows of Sexuality. Speakers: **Rev Professor June Boyce-Tillman, Dr David McDonald, Dr Keith Sharpe.** N. Yorks. www.holyroodhouse.org.uk

18-23 July – ‘For God’s Sake Relax’. **Tumble Trust Summer Week with David Mahon.**
Merseyside. A week of summer fun and spiritual renewal. www.tumbletrust.org.uk

29-31 July – Is Heaven For Real? The significant implications of near death experiences.
University of Winchester. 40 years on from the publication of Raymond Moody’s Life after Life and a great deal of research has been undertaken on the near death experience (NDE) and its implications for our understanding of consciousness and life.

This conference brings together some of the world's leading experts to consider the progress that has been made towards a new model of death, dying and religion.

http://store.winchester.ac.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=2&deptid=10&catid=94&prodid=298

15-21 August – GreenSpirit Wild Week in Wales. Connecting with Nature at Cae Mabon, Snowdonia. www.greenspirit.org.uk/html/events.shtml