



**Living Spirituality Connections**  
Resources for the spiritual journey

**EVENTS RUN BY MANY CENTRES AND ORGANISATIONS  
ACROSS THE UK**

**January – March 2019**

Compiled by **Living Spirituality Connections**  
[www.livingspirit.org.uk/events](http://www.livingspirit.org.uk/events)

**January**

**1 January to June 2019 Journey of Hope - a learning journey across the UK and Ireland.**

A six month training programme to inspire and equip Christian leaders to become skilled practitioners of reconciliation in their churches and communities. Reconcilers Together is an ecumenical network of Christian peacebuilding and reconciliation centres across the UK which share a mission to inspire and equip Christian leaders to become skilled practitioners of reconciliation in their churches and communities. Through a six month training programme called Journey of Hope, we aim to equip 20 church leaders with the skills to transform their churches into Reconciliation Hubs. Participants will attend a two day training residential at each of our five centres: St Michael's House, Coventry; Rose Castle, Carlisle; The Blackley Centre, Yorkshire; Corrymeela, Belfast; St Ethelburga's, London.

The training will be of particular interest to those who have:

- A leadership role within their church or faith congregation
- Support from within their own congregation, church leadership or diocese to develop reconciliation work
- A long-term commitment to a ministry of reconciliation within their church and community
- Some basic experience of reconciliation work, dialogue facilitation or mediation
- An ability to lead diverse groups and to inspire others.

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If this sounds like someone you know, who has the potential to effect long-term change in their church, the Journey of Hope team would be grateful if you could encourage them to apply: <https://www.reconcilerstogether.co.uk/leadership-training>

**7 January - 31 March The Soul's Slow Ripening. 12 Celtic practices for seeking the sacred.** On line course with **Christine** and **John Valters Paintner** and **Betsey Beckman**. Run by The Abbey of the Arts.

Everyone wants to understand God's call in their lives. Reflections, stories, guided activities, prayer experiences, and a variety of creative arts are deployed to help you patiently and attentively listen to God's invitation.

Details and booking: <https://abbeyofthearts.com/programs/online-classes/the-souls-slow-ripening-12-celtic-practices-for-seekers-of-the-sacred-a-companion-retreat-to-the-book/>

**11-13 January Christian Mindfulness.** With **David Cole**. Dorset. [www.the-greenhouse.org](http://www.the-greenhouse.org)

**11-13 January Clearing the Way** with **Jennifer Kavanagh** and **Penny Foston**. Birmingham. [www.woodbrooke.org.uk](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk)

A time to reflect on who we are, what we feel called to do, and what gets in the way. We will explore the nature of the clutter that distracts from our life's purpose and consider how to create space in our minds and hearts as well as in our living rooms.

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**Saturday 12 January 2019, 12.30 Living Spirituality Connections** meeting. Birmingham. **Anne Gardner**, our Living Spirituality Connections contact for the Midlands, is organising a second meeting to discuss forming a Midlands group e.g. for Spiritual Journeying / Living Conversation / Spiritual Book Reading. The meeting is at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery Victorian Tea Room from 12.30 for refreshments and conversation.

All welcome. Contact **Anne Gardner** to book a place: [a.gardner@me.com](mailto:a.gardner@me.com)

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**12 January 10-4 Candala of Grace.** Near Bath. [www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org)

Multi-sensory experience based on an interactive Candala of grace, an illuminated art form designed to light up our world.

**12 January 2-4.30 O Lord, hear my cry: Healing in the Bible and the 21st Century.** With **Gillian Straine**. London. [www.stpauls.co.uk/learning-faith/adult-learning](http://www.stpauls.co.uk/learning-faith/adult-learning)

One of the things Jesus does most is heal people. In his ministry on earth he performs numerous miraculous cures, restoring sight, healing leprosy and curing paralysis. He also

charges his followers – us – to do the same. What are we to make of this in the 21st century?

**Gillian Straine** is a scientist and priest. From both perspectives, she says that healing is a subtle, multilayered thing, and in this afternoon we will explore healing in the Bible and contemporary science. We'll also look at the role of prayer, consider the question of divine intervention, and what the nature of healing really is and why it plays such a central role in Jesus' ministry.

**14 January A Sabbath Day.** "On the seventh day God rested." Short input, a time to pause, rest, reflect in silence. London. [www.sisters-of-st-andrew.com](http://www.sisters-of-st-andrew.com)

**14-16 January At the gate of the year** retreat. We reflect on the New Year and on God's promise to walk beside us. With Rev **Jonathan Carmyllie**. Lancs. [www.whalleyabbey.org](http://www.whalleyabbey.org)

**18-20 January Blessed are the brave.** With **Padraig O Tuama**, leader of the Corrymeela Community. County Antrim, Northern Ireland. [www.corrymeela.org](http://www.corrymeela.org)  
Retreat for Christian leaders who are inclusive of LGBT people.

**19 January Transitions of life.** A day to be still and reflect on times of transition in our ordinary lives: new beginnings, joys and sorrows, death and dying. We gather together in the quiet space of Ammerdown to reflect on our lives and our spiritual journey, through readings, prayer, music and meditation. Near Bath. [www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org)

**20-25 January Finding fulfilment: Life is only real when I am.** With **Jill Benet, Antonio Benet and Jacqueline Evans**. Surrey [www.christian-retreat.org](http://www.christian-retreat.org)

**21-24 January The Nature of Contemporary Spirituality.** Salisbury [www.sarum.ac.uk](http://www.sarum.ac.uk)  
An introduction to the nature of Spirituality in the Christian tradition from the nineteenth century to the present day. Students will investigate the proliferation of Christian spiritualities in this period and consider the impact of modernism, postmodernity, feminism and political theology on contemporary conceptions of Christian Spirituality. Students will also investigate the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of academic responses to Christian Spirituality (in relation to literature, psychology, film etc).

**23 January 7-9 Holocaust - Remembering and the Dangers of Forgetting.**  
Led by: **Dame Helen Hyde**. Near Bath. [www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org)

**26 January 10-4 Nevertheless She Persisted: Theology, Faith and Feminism.** With **Ruth Wells**. Salisbury. <http://www.sarum.ac.uk/>

As women increasingly break new ground in the Church, what are the joys and challenges, and what of the future? Weaving together performance poetry, art, story-sharing and

feminist theology, this day offers space for conversation and reflection on contemporary issues in a creative and accessible way.

**26 January Rejoice and be glad.** With **Chris Chapman**. Exploring what it means to be holy in today's world. Kent. [www.thefriars.org.uk](http://www.thefriars.org.uk)

## February

**1 February New Monasticism: boundary-crossing communities.** With **Craig Gardiner**. Salisbury. [www.sarum.ac.uk](http://www.sarum.ac.uk)

This day will explore the recent emergence of New Monasticism – usually small communities, committed to contemplation and action, who live a shared life and calling. It will explore how these communities live historic monastic ideals in radically new ways, that speak prophetically to both church and world.

**1-3 February 'The Freedom of Years - Ageing in Perspective.** A retreat with the authors of this book by **Drs Harriet and Donald Mowat**. N. Yorks. <http://www.holyroodhouse.org.uk/events.html>

**1-3 February Finding Fulfilment: In search of the unknowable.** Working with three practices: The Law of Three enables us to see and appreciate the dynamic flow of creation. With **Jill Benet, Antonio Benet and Jacqueline Evans**. Near Bath. [www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org)

**2 February 10-12 Contemplative awareness. Living the divine presence with Angela Rogerson.** Oxford. [www.carmeliteprioryoxford.com](http://www.carmeliteprioryoxford.com)

**2 February The Body and The Land.** Facilitators: **Audicia Lynne Morley and Suzanne Dance**. Edinburgh <http://eicsp.org>

A creative workshop and ceremony day exploring our grief and rage at what is happening to our home planet. Facing and honouring our deep feelings of fear and our love. Investigating what it is to inspire Active Hope both personally and in our community. Resourcing our understanding of how we co-create our lives and participate in our conscious evolution.

**8-10 February Loving God, neighbour AND self.** Christianity, mindfulness and self-compassion. N. Yorks. [www.scargillmovement.org](http://www.scargillmovement.org)

**9 February Sources of Wisdom** with Fr **Laurence Freeman**. Edinburgh. <http://eicsp.org>  
In a secular age where many feel alienated from religion, and most structures are melting, hope lies in wisdom. But where are the springs of wisdom today? We rediscover them in a new vision of reality born in contemplative silence - and also in art, in working for peace

and justice and in dialogue that heals divisions. With his global knowledge of contemplative community and dialogue with secular society, Fr. Laurence exposes new and old sources of wisdom to show how to live hopefully and reconnect with the traditions on which our future depends.

**Laurence Freeman** OSB is a Benedictine monk and the spiritual guide and Director of The World Community for Christian Meditation, an ecumenical contemplative community. Laurence Freeman also has experience with the United Nations, in banking and in journalism. Fr Freeman has conducted dialogues and peace initiatives such as the historic “Way of Peace” with the Dalai Lama, and is active in inter-religious dialogue.

**13 February 6.30 for 7. Christian responses to domestic abuse.** Talk by Dr **Kristin Aune**, Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University. Location: University of Winchester. To book email Jo Wilson at the Institute for Theological Partnerships: [Joanna.Wilson@winchester.ac.uk](mailto:Joanna.Wilson@winchester.ac.uk)

**15-17 February The flowing river of tradition. How does the church change, grow and renew yet remain faithful to Christ?** With Abbot **Paul Stonham**. Herefordshire. [www.belmontabbey.org.uk](http://www.belmontabbey.org.uk)

**16 February 10-12 A learning hidden deep in the heart** with **Julienne McLean**. Based on the Third Spiritual Alphabet, which has links with St Teresa of Avila’s work. Oxford. [www.carmeliteprioryoxford.com](http://www.carmeliteprioryoxford.com)

**18-22 February Discovering divine intimacy.** Christian mindfulness and contemplation for everyone. With **David Cole**. Lindisfarne, Northumberland. [www.aidanandhilda.org.uk](http://www.aidanandhilda.org.uk)

**20 February 9.30-4. Let all creation sing.** With **Dr Ruth Valerio**. Essex. <https://www.retreathousepleshey.com/>

**22-24 February Saturday’s Silence** “Within listening distance of the silence we call God” Contemplative Fire Retreat led by **Susan Fogarty** and **John McEllhenney**. Worcestershire <https://contemplativefire.org/events/silent-retreat-saturdays-silence/>

Saturday’s Silence, silence kept literally for the whole day and nights either side, allows us to dwell deep in the theme of silence, inspired by the poems of R S Thomas: “But the silence in the mind is when we live best”. You will hear the theme of silence running throughout his poetry; listen to music inspired by his words; look at the art of RS Thomas’s wife, Elsi Eldridge, which ‘speaks to us’ in silence; walk in the natural world, which “looks at us in silence and tells all” with a choice of 7 miles or 2 miles.

**23 February Thomas Merton: master of contemplation.** Led by Professor **Peter Tyler**. Surrey. <http://www.christian-retreat.org>

**27 February 6.30-9. Ways to go beyond, and why they work.** Talk by **Rupert Sheldrake**. London. <http://meditatiocentrelondon.org/>

Dr Sheldrake discusses seven spiritual practices that are personally transformative and have scientifically measurable effects. All provide ways of going beyond our everyday states of mind into experiences such as flow, a sense of a greater conscious presence, bliss, fuller understanding, or deep connectedness. In his new book, a sequel to *Science and Spiritual Practices*, Dr Sheldrake writes as both a scientist and a spiritual explorer, and assesses various types of practices in the light of the latest scientific research. Why do these practices work? Are their effects 'all inside the brain' and essentially illusory? Or can we really make contact with forms of consciousness greater than our own? Dr Sheldrake suggests that we can.

**Rupert Sheldrake** is a biologist and author of more than 85 scientific papers and 12 books, including *The Science Delusion* and *Science and Spiritual Practices*. His new book is **Ways to Go Beyond** (2019).

**28 February – 3 March Nurturing Authentic Spirituality: a rule to live by.** With **Ben Pink Dandelion** and **Alex Wildwood**. Birmingham [www.woodbrooke.org.uk](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk)

How are we to live an authentic spirituality? What spiritual principles do we apply in our daily lives and how can we be accountable to our faith community in our quest for spiritual authenticity? This course will give us a chance to share our spiritual aspirations, histories and practices and to identify those areas where we feel we need help. Building community through worship and creative listening, we will define personal strategies for daily faithfulness and explore how we might challenge and support one another along the way.

## March

**1 March The Next Step on our Human Journey.** With **Sue Brayne**. Near Bath. [www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org)

Our world is changing and many people are feeling confused and out of control because of it. This one-day workshop is an opportunity to explore how these changes are, in fact, guiding us to shift to a new level of consciousness, and to deepen our connection with ourselves and with the world around us. The workshop considers the latest discoveries in neuroscience and human potential, looks at what shifting in consciousness means to us personally, and how to align with it as we continue to evolve as human beings.

Sue Brayne is a psychotherapist and experienced workshop leader specialising in personal and spiritual development, and is known for her down-to-earth approach to life.

**2 March 9.30-4 Living with life-limiting illness.** With Rev **Gill Moore and Barry Morgan.** Essex. <https://www.retreathousepleshey.com/>

**4-7 March Western Christian Mysticism** with **Barnabas Palfrey.** Salisbury. [www.sarum.ac.uk](http://www.sarum.ac.uk)

This module explores the riches of Western Christian mystical tradition. Beginning by looking at the foundations of the tradition and moving on to consider the English Mystics, the Rhineland Mystics and the Spanish Mystics. Students will gain an overview of the historical development of the Western Christian Mystical tradition, and identify and analyse key historical figures and movements within that tradition.

**6 March, 6.30-9 Ash Wednesday.** Led by **Laurence Freeman OSB** London <http://meditatiocentreondon.org/programme/>

Lent in the Christian community is a time of deeper spiritual practice and personal asceticism – learning the benefits of self-control in some ordinary areas of our life in order to sharpen our spiritual awareness. We start the 40 days of Lent today with the ‘giving of the ashes’, a simple ritual reminding us of our earthiness, and a talk by Fr Laurence on how to make the most of Lent. His book *Sensing God* which is a popular handbook for Lent and a way to refresh your meditation discipline will be available.

**7 March 18:30 - 21:00 Generation Y, spirituality and social change.** London. <https://stethelburgas.org>

Young people are doing faith differently! They are redefining the role of spirituality in social change and reinventing community, leadership and ritual for a new era. Join us for a lively interactive conversation with some of the most inspiring next generation leaders - and peak into the future!

**9 March 09:30 - 17:00 Sacred Rebellion: Inner life, activism and our future.** Environmental Peacebuilding, Peace & Conflict, Young Leadership. London <https://stethelburgas.org>

Exploring the role of spirituality in community, activism and ecology asking how our social movements can unite spiritual practice with practical action for deep change in a time of crisis. For more information contact Amrita Bhoji on 0207 496 1610 or [amrita@stethelburgas.org](mailto:amrita@stethelburgas.org)

**10 March 10-3.30 Patterns for living: finding a way of life in our busy modern lives** with **Bridget Macaulay.** York. <http://www.stbedes.org.uk/>

Drawing on ancient rhythms of prayer this day will explore how we might make a

Monastery of the Holy Mundane within the ordinariness of everyday routines and the demands of family life.

**Bridget Macaulay** is a priest and artist working in West Cornwall with the Vessel Trust which explores, with individuals and small groups, the meaning of the Christian faith in the everyday world and through the life stages.

**11 March How can an ecological spirituality motivate us to a more passionate concern for the protection of our world?** With **Sr Henrietta SSJA**. South Wales.

[www.tycroesocentre.co.uk](http://www.tycroesocentre.co.uk)

**11-15 March Journeying into the heart of God.** Silent Lent retreat. Northumberland.

[www.shepherdsdene.co.uk](http://www.shepherdsdene.co.uk)

**13 March 7.30 pm Love Is His Meaning: Understanding The Teaching Of Jesus** with Professor **Keith Ward**. Abingdon, Oxon. Progressive Christianity Network.

Booking: [cliff.marshall@pcnbritain.org.uk](mailto:cliff.marshall@pcnbritain.org.uk)

**16 March Love Bade Me Welcome.** With **Sr Hilda Mary**. Bucks.

<http://sistersofthechurch.org/retreats/programme-quiet-days>

Day reflecting on George Herbert's poem and discovering more about his life and poetry as a way into prayer.

**18-20 March Breathing Space for the body, soul, mind and spirit.** Sussex.

[www.penhurst.org.uk](http://www.penhurst.org.uk) Allowing God to breathe into our breathing space. With **Chris and Sue Monckton-Rickett**.

**22-24 March Stepping stones into silence.** A silent retreat for beginners, with personal accompaniment. London. [www.sisters-of-st-andrew.com](http://www.sisters-of-st-andrew.com)

**22-24 March Some medieval mystics in their context.** Berks. [www.douaiabbey.org.uk](http://www.douaiabbey.org.uk)

**22-24 March Living with a life-changing loss through bereavement.** Aims to better equip us to deal with life-changing loss. With **Abi and John May**. W. Yorks. [www.briery.org.uk](http://www.briery.org.uk)

**22-24 March The Meaning of the Cross: victory, liberation, healing or punishment?**

With **Stuart Masters**. Birmingham. [www.woodbrooke.org.uk](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk)

Many of us struggle with the Bible's sacrificial imagery and are troubled by the idea that God punishes Jesus for our sins. In this course we will explore alternative understandings of the cross drawing on the early Church, peace church traditions, theologies of liberation, and the work of Rene Girard. Can we move beyond violent punishment and embrace a faith

that in the words of James Nayler “outlives all wrath and contention and wearies out all exaltation and cruelty”?

**23 March 11.00am–3.30pm. How can we deepen our meditation practice during the journey through Lent this year?** London. <http://meditatiocentrelondon.org/>

Does Lent give us a good opportunity to examine lovingly our meditation practice? Are there any concerns we have like a sneaking guilt if we miss a day? Are there any joyful experiences we could share? What further support is there?

**23 March, 11 am.** The Future of Faith lecture series - **Alastair McIntosh. ‘Towards Third Millennium Christianity: Activism, Nonviolence and the Mystical Imperative’.** Rawtenstall, Unitarian Church, Lancs, BB4 7QY.

[www.pcnbritain.org.uk/events/detail/future\\_of\\_faith\\_lecture\\_series\\_alastair\\_mcintosh](http://www.pcnbritain.org.uk/events/detail/future_of_faith_lecture_series_alastair_mcintosh)

If Christianity still matters, then why? Alastair McIntosh will argue that Jesus was an activist on a cosmic scale. He understood non-violence as the power of love. Religion of the first and second millennia has, for the most part, compromised that vision. Third Millennium Christianity is a refreshed opening of the way, a way of liberation. It seeks, in co-operation with other faiths, to walk the mystical path and bring fresh hope into the world.

Described by the BBC as “one of the world’s leading environmental campaigners”, Alastair McIntosh is a pioneer of modern land reform in Scotland. His books include: *Soil and Soul: People versus Corporate Power*; *Hell and High Water: Climate Change, Hope and the Human Condition*; and *Poacher’s Pilgrimage: an Island Journey*. He’s an honorary fellow of the School of Divinity at Edinburgh University and an honorary professor at Glasgow University. He is a Quaker by faith.

Event organised by the Unitarians of the Lancashire Collaborative Ministry and Pendle Hill Quakers. Supported by the Progressive Christianity Network.

**26 March 10-4 Eaten Up: Food, God and Us.** With **Alison Webster.** Salisbury.

[www.sarum.ac.uk](http://www.sarum.ac.uk)

Everyone has a ‘food story’. Food is essential to life, yet is contested at just about every level – from our individual relationship with it (do we under-eat, over-eat, obsess about it, not care about it?), to its wider political significances.

This day will be exploratory and participatory. We will look at issues of food and identity: body image, health and wellbeing, links with mental health, food as culture; food and politics: food poverty, gifting food, inequality, starvation as a weapon; self-starvation as a political tool, sustainability; food security; food and spirituality: fasting, eating, mysticism, bread of life, manna from heaven.

**27 March What we can learn from Mystical and Near-Death Experiences? With Marianne Rankin.** Worcestershire. [www.hollandhouse.org](http://www.hollandhouse.org). Check booking details: tel. 01386 860330.

**27 March 6.30 – 8pm. Jesus Christ: The Unanswered Questions.** Lecture by **Dr Rowan Williams**. London. <https://www.stpauls.co.uk/learning-faith/adult-learning>

Who do you say I am? Jesus asked his disciples this question and for 2,000 years Christians have wrestled with this, the defining question of our faith. Jesus led a completely familiar and recognisable life, but also one that was utterly radical and unrecognisable: a unique divine moment in the history of our world. How on earth can we speak about this, the great mystery at the heart of Christianity?

Rowan Williams says that how we understand Jesus Christ is central to how we understand everything: creation, our faith, our world and ourselves. He says that if we grasp the mysterious reality that Christ is the heart of creation itself, not just an extraordinary human life, it will open a deeply affirmative approach to creation, and offer radical, transformative insights into ethics and politics. He says it will do nothing less than make a new place for us to live - in hope, imagination and action.

**Dr Rowan Williams** is the Master of Magdalene College Cambridge and was formerly Archbishop of Canterbury. A poet, theologian and author, his numerous academic and popular books include *Christ: The Heart of Creation* (Bloomsbury 2018) and *God With Us: The Meaning Of The Cross And Resurrection - Then And Now* (SPCK 2017).

The evening will be chaired by **Sarah Mullally**, Bishop of London, and include plenty of time for questions and answers.

**30 March 11-4. Another view on why Jesus died: at-one-ment.** With **David Cherry**. London <https://www.pathwaystogod.org/org/mount-street-jesuit-centre/events>

**30 March 'Arise my love': The invitation of the Song of Songs** Led by Rev **Graeme Watson** and Dr **Stefan Reynolds**. London <http://meditatiocentrelondon.org/programme/>

This day will look at the story behind what was long considered the greatest poem ever written. How a human love story came to carry mystical symbolism when so many commentators had despaired of finding it? Graeme and Stefan have spent years exploring how we can retrieve the Song of Songs as a poem for our time. In this day they will introduce aspects of the Song and look at how, as a poem, it is suitable for Lectio Divina and contemplative prayer.

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## Advance notices

### **Monday 1 – Sunday 7 April 2019 Oxford Three Faiths Week. ‘Relating Across Divides’.**

The training week at St John’s College is designed for students, faith leaders, public sector and non-profit workers wishing to learn more about other faiths and cultures. There are both residential and non-residential places and bursaries are available for students on application.

The week builds on many years of experience of Jewish-Christian-Muslim encounter through the weeks held by JCM in Germany and the similar weeks at the Ammerdown Study Centre in Somerset.

This year the theme will be “Relating Across Divides”, and will explore the various denominations and sects within the three faiths as well as relations between the faiths and mixed faith relationships.

Full details and how to book:

<https://www.theoxfordfoundation.com/oxford-three-faiths-week>

### **Monday 8 – Thursday 11 April 2019. GreenSpirit Spring Walking Retreat.** In Exmoor, where there are heather topped hills and wooded valleys.

Come and blow away the winter with a couple of full days walking, venturing into the mysterious Exmoor Forests, over heather tipped moorland, and maybe catching a glimpse of wild red deer or Exmoor ponies. We hope to enjoy some sweeping sea views from the coastal path. Minehead, where we will stay, is the start point of the South West Coast Path.

Full details and how to book: <https://www.greenspirit.org.uk/spring-walking-retreat-2019/>

### **3-6 May Spring on Gower.** South Wales [www.journeying.co.uk/journeys-2019?id=768419](http://www.journeying.co.uk/journeys-2019?id=768419)

The Gower is a place of wild moors, magnificent coastline and breath-taking views, the Gower peninsula is also a sacred place, a thin place where heaven and earth seem close. It was here that the Celtic saints of old found sanctuary; St Teilo, St Cadoc, St Illtyd, St Cenydd... We will encounter all on our journey and visit the likely place of St Cenydd's sixth century retreat; Bury Holm Island. In medieval times a Chapel was built on this tidal islet, known as 'the Church of the isle'. The remains of the Chapel can be seen today.

This is an inspiring landscape famously known for its lovely bays and beaches; Oxwich Bay, Three Cliffs bay, Rhossili bay...Travel Magazine named Oxwich beach the most beautiful in Britain.

**Wednesday 29 May 6.30. Inside Our Awakening Universe: The New Cosmic Story and the Meaning of Faith.** Lecture by **Professor John F. Haught**. University of Winchester.

Scientists now know that the universe is a story still unfolding. From the perspective of physics the cosmos may look like a process of heat exchanges and energy transformations, but if we look deep inside we see that the universe has also given rise, at least on Earth, to beings eager to understand where they came from, where they are going, and what they should be doing with their lives. From this “inside” perspective, then, the universe is a story of awakening. But how are we to read the story? Is its awakening a mere departure destined for an eternal sleep? This lecture examines three distinct ways of answering these questions, and in doing so it offers a new understanding of the spiritual life.

**John F. Haught** is a Distinguished Research Professor at Georgetown University, author of 16 books in the area of religion science, cosmology, evolution and ecology, and he lectures and works focus on a vision of reality that provides room for both scientific inquiry and a biblical understanding of God. His most recent publication is *The New Cosmic Story: Inside Our Awakening Universe* (2017).

A group will go from London for this lecture, and there will be the option of an afternoon historic tour of Winchester and a visit to the University’s Cosmic Walk.

Email [Joanna.Wilson@winchester.ac.uk](mailto:Joanna.Wilson@winchester.ac.uk) to let her know you want to attend the lecture. Email [petragriffiths@livingspirit.org.uk](mailto:petragriffiths@livingspirit.org.uk) if you are interested in the afternoon historic tour.

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### **Living Spirituality Connections Event:**

**Sunday 2 June, 1.50 – 3.30 pm Christian Faith and Ecology in an Unfinished Universe.**

Lecture by **John F Haught**, author of *The Promise of Nature: Ecology and Cosmic Purpose*. (see above for further details of the speaker).

**Location:** St James’s Church, 197 Piccadilly, London W1J 9LL.

**Booking:** email [petragriffiths@livingspirit.org.uk](mailto:petragriffiths@livingspirit.org.uk)

This event is put on by **Eco Church at St James’s** Piccadilly and **Living Spirituality Connections**. Chair: Rev Lucy Winkett, Rector of St James’s Church.

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### **Living Spirituality Connections Event:**

**Saturday 8 June 2019 10.30 – 4.45 Earth Flourishing and Human Flourishing** – how can humankind and the earth both flourish? What practical actions can we take, and how does this relate to our spiritual traditions, especially Christianity? Brighton (close to the station)

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Keynote speaker: **Nicola Peel**, award-winning environmentalist and solutionist who has worked extensively finding ecological solutions with communities in the Ecuadorian Amazon. “Solutions are all around us. It’s just knowing where to look.”

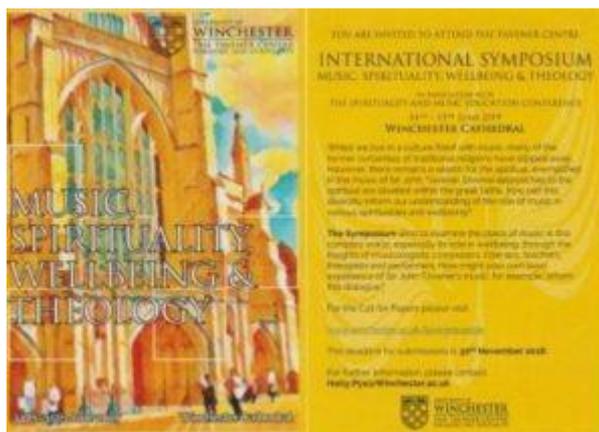
Workshop leaders: **Nicola Peel**, **Rev Alex Mabbs** of Brighthelm’s Earth Church project, **Rev Philip Roderick** founder of Contemplative Fire and the Quiet Gardens movement, and **Sandy Elsworth**, geologist.

This event is put on by **Earth Church at Brighthelm**, Brighton, <https://www.brighthelm.org.uk/earth-church>; **Living Spirituality Connections** <http://www.livingspirit.org.uk>; and **Spirit of Peace** <http://www.spiritofpeace.co.uk>.

**Booking details** will be available in January 2019. If you want to be sent further details please email [petragriffiths@livingspirit.org.uk](mailto:petragriffiths@livingspirit.org.uk).

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## 14-15 June 2019 International Symposium: Music, Spirituality, Wellbeing and Theology



You are invited to attend the Tavener Centre in association with The Spirituality and Music Education Conference at Winchester Cathedral.

Whilst we live in a culture filled with music, many of the former certainties of traditional religions have slipped away. However, there remains a search for the spiritual, exemplified in the music of Sir John Tavener.

Diverse approaches to the spiritual are situated within the great faiths, how can this diversity inform our understanding of the role of music in various spiritualities and wellbeing?

**Booking:** <https://store.winchester.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/tavener-centre/events/the-tavener-centre-international-symposium>