

Spirituality Network for Gloucestershire
(A Body in Association with Gloucestershire Churches Together)

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NEWSLETTER NO. 48

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Dear Network Member,

Thank you for joining our prayers for Canon Andrew White and the Christian community in Baghdad. The situation is still critical and our concerted prayers are still needed to counter the spiritual evil behind the barbaric aggression of the Islamic State as it continues to attempt to sweep away all opposition to its perverted concept of Islam. Please encourage your group and church to engage in spiritual warfare for the sake of our brothers and sisters in Christ and indeed for our civilisation.

News from the Network

Early in the Summer we enjoyed a delightful day with Bishop John Went and his wife, Rosemary. It was lovely to see them again and to hear a little of their ministry in Latimer and the villages in Buckinghamshire where they have retired. They both looked well and full of energy, and many of the forty-plus people at the Day were able to renew their friendship in conversation.

Our next event is on Saturday 22nd November, when Adrian Plass, the well-known writer and speaker is coming to lead our Day. We shall be at Sacred Hearts Church Hall in Charlton Kings again, from 10.0am to 3.0pm. If you would like to come, please contact Revd. Paul Henstock on 01452-525244 (email: ph005a4900@blueyonder.co.uk)

The cost of the Day is £12. Please bring a packed lunch.

ATTENDANCE BY PRIOR BOOKING ONLY.

Adrian is well known for his humorous and perceptive writing. His most popular book at the moment is “When You Walk – 365 Readings for Ordinary Followers of Jesus Who sometimes Find the Going a Bit Tough.” and his latest publication is the 2014 Edition of “The Sacred Diary of Adrian Plass.” Both books will be on sale on the Day.

The last meeting of the year is our Advent Quiet Day on Thursday 4th December. Revd. Diane Daymond, a Methodist Minister and experienced Quiet Day leader will lead us in our contemplation of “The Light Shone in the Darkness and the Darkness did not Overcome it.” We shall be at the Marist Centre, Nympsfield near Stroud from 10.0am to 3.0pm as usual. If you would like to come, please contact me – Pauline Green on 01454-311936 (email: pgreen@clara.co.uk). The cost of the Day is £10. Please bring your packed lunch. Booking for the Quiet Day opens on October 1st.

For those living near Thornbury, **Elizabeth Vooght** is offering **Soul Food Days** at her home, 62 High Street, Thornbury, BS35 2AN on the following dates –

Friday 5th September – The Gift of Story

Friday 5th October – The Gift of Tears

Thursday 6th November – Dying to be Alive

Friday 12th December – Angels and the Christmas Story.

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Each day runs from 10.30am to 4.0pm. A simple lunch is served and a donation of £18 for Christian Aid is invited.

For further details and to book your place, please contact Elizabeth on 01454-414915 (email: Elizabeth@vooght.com).

I wonder if you live within striking distance of Cirencester. I have just picked up a brochure advertising their **School of Faith**. This is a programme that runs throughout the year and is both varied and interesting. Their Autumn Programme consists of two 4-week Courses. The first starts on Thursday 9th October at 2.0pm and is a Preaching Workshop. Other courses are of wider interest and if you would like to know more, please contact their Parish Office on 10285-659317. (email: enquiries@cirenparish.co.uk).

The Core Group feel it would be helpful if the Network had its own Website and so we are looking for someone with experience in this field who would be willing to be involved in setting up a website – with professional help – and then maintaining it. If you feel you could be that person, please will you get in touch with me.

I am enclosing/attaching flyers for photocopying for the Meeting with Adrian Plass and for the Advent Quiet Day. Please will you share them with your Church and group? If you can put the Adrian Plass Day in your church magazine it would be very helpful.

I hope that we may see you at one of our meetings, but even if this is not possible, we join our hands and hearts with you in the fellowship of prayer and the love of our Saviour and Lord, Jesus.

Blessings from all of us on your Core Group,

Yours in Christ,

Pauline

Coordinator

PS On Saturday 18th October there is to be a Diocesan Celebration of Healing and Wholeness at the main church in Cirencester. The Spirituality Network has been offered a table to display our work. We shall be setting up the table at 11.0am. If you could spare an hour between 10pm and 4.0pm to sit at the table, please will you contact me Ideally we would like two people at a time. This is a great opportunity to share the work we do and help people to move further in their spiritual journey. We shall have leaflets about spiritual direction and the Individually Guided Retreats, so no specialist knowledge is needed. A friendly face of someone who is a member would be a great encouragement. If you can help, please ge in touch (01454-311936).

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