

SPIRITUALITY MAILING FEBRUARY 2010

If there is anything you would like featuring in a future mailing, please do feel free to send any information (a book you have just read, a good website or resource information) to me at:

fr-stephen@stjohnthebaptistparishchurch.org.uk

telephone: 01522 525621/ 0794 371 5279

address:

St John's Vicarage
Sudbrooke Drive
Lincoln LN2 2EF

Please do pass this mailing onto anyone who you feel may find it of interest. Any comments or suggestions to me please.

The next mailing will be in Lent.

Stephen Hoy

BOOKS

Anglican Religious Life 2010 – 2011 Canterbury Press 2009

This is the latest edition of the yearbook giving full information about religious orders throughout the Anglican Communion, including information about tertiaries, oblates, associates and companions. As well as giving full contact information and background for all Anglican religious communities in the Communion, it also includes a number of short articles and news items about the religious life.

Mother Teresa: Come be my light Doubleday 2007

The story of Mother Teresa is well known. What is less well known are the spiritual struggles she enduring throughout her years in working with the poorest communities in India. This book is not a biography, but a chronological collection of letters from Mother Teresa to her spiritual directors and other trusted friends covering the entire period of her life (some of which she asked to be destroyed) with some replies to those letters. They chart a spiritual life in deep conflict with itself as Mother Teresa seeks to carry out the will of God but without ever connecting with Him spiritually; she never loses her hope and trust in God, but she never feels him near. The letters are put into context with her life and the editor comments on them, helping us to see the journey in understanding that she makes over a lifetime. I think this is a remarkable book, honest and unflinching in showing what we perceive as a deeply holy person struggling to make sense of her inner life. It's a good book for spiritual directors to read, but it should also have a wide appeal to anyone interested either in the work of Mother Teresa or spirituality.

JOURNALS

Quiet spaces

The Bible Reading Foundation prayer and spirituality journal

The journal is published three times a year and aims to provide "a regular flow of inspiration for your spiritual journey that can be dipped into over and over again". Each issue is built around a theme (the current issue's theme is "Tomorrow") and includes a series of articles (some extracted from other BRF publications), poems and prayers, meditations and ideas for small group worship. The associated website www.quietspaces.org.uk will point you to other BRF resources for prayer and spirituality.

DVD

All for Christ

All for Christ – Anglican monks and nuns today, is a dvd exploring the calling, life, service and prayer of Anglican religious communities. Monks and nuns from Mirfield, Walsingham, Crawley Down and Rempstone (near Loughborough) are featured on the dvd, which seeks to open up questions such as:

What do monks and nuns do all day? Why do they live the way they do? What is the point of their life? Where do they fit into the life of the Church?

A variety of religious tell their own stories of vocation and community life on the dvd which also includes a section of visiting religious houses, being an oblate or tertiary, etc. The dvd is available for £12 (+ £1.50 p and p) from:

The Monastery of the Holy Trinity

Crawley Down

Crawley, West Sussex RH10 4LH tel: 01342 712074

PRAYER CARDS AND COLOURING BOOKS

Lindisfarne Scriptorium now publish two small sets of 13 prayer cards based on the art work of Mary Fleeson in her books "Life in Christ" and "Life Journey". The cards (business card size) offer a short meditation within the art work. You can also get colouring books from the Scriptorium with a collection of designs to colour in for relaxation, prayer, meditation, on holiday or retreat. Permission is given to display the results in church!

www.lindisfarne-scriptorium.co.uk

RETREATS AND QUIET DAYS

Quiet days at Caythorpe

There is a quiet day at Caythorpe Rectory on the first Thursday of every months beginning at 10:30am and ending at 3:00pm. The days include short addresses, a shared lunch and a simple Eucharist. These are open to anyone. More details from June Freshney stuandjane@aol.com tel: 01400 279199

Edenham www.erh.org.uk

FRIDAY 4TH MARCH – 10.00 am – 4.00pm:

'Draw near to God and he will draw near to you.'

Canon Arthur Middleton.

A traditional quiet day in preparation for Lent. Fr Arthur, author of 'Prayer in a workaday world' and many other books on Anglican Spirituality, will lead the day. Suggested contribution £12.50, includes lunch

FRIDAY 25TH MARCH 10.00am – 4.00pm.

'The word became flesh and dwelt among us'

The Revd Andrew Tyler – who is involved in training and education in volunteer ministry will lead a day exploring the mystery of the Incarnation of our Lord, on the feast day of His Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Suggested contribution £12.50, includes lunch

Edward King Centre www.bishopedwardking.org

Monday to Thursday, 21 to 24 February

Clergy Retreat

led by the Revd David McCormick

Saturday 5 March

Quiet Day before Lent - the Arts

led by the Revd Elsie Butler

Tuesday 12 April

Quiet Day before Holy Week

Breathing...Beholding...Blessing

A day of contemplative practice before Holy Week, drawing on insights from Eastern spirituality led by Canon Angela Pavey

Launde Abbey www.launde.org.uk

A Lent Retreat: Finding God in our Lives

22 to 26 February

This retreat, most appropriately at the beginning of Lent, will allow those participating to explore their journey through the lens of personality type using Myers Briggs. This will illuminate your journey helping you to understand yourself and your relationships with others and God more fully. The retreat is led by David McCormick.

Holistic Quiet Day — Open to All: Jane Franklin 19 March

These quiet reflective days will provide space for those attending to rest, relax and pray with an opportunity to explore and experience complimentary therapies within a Christian context.

Hildegard of Bingen: This will explore in particular healing and medicine with Hildegard.

Whirlow Grange, Sheffield www.whirlowgrange.org.uk

Claiming Your Belovedness: Henri Nouwen

18 February 2011

Philip Roderick makes connection with Henri's 'vulnerability, deep compassion and every day wisdom' and explores ways in which we might get past our own wounds and vulnerabilities. A time of resourcing for the next stage of the journey

Exploring God's Mercy: a Day with Psalm 107

5th March 2011

Psalm 107 invites us to explore how much God loves us through five very striking images. Through the mercy of God the lost are found; the prisoners are set free; the sick are made well; the storm-tossed are brought to safe harbour and the barren become fruitful again. The day will explore ways in which we can understand and live in these wonderful truths through engagement with the Psalm and through the Gospel of Mark.

Sacrista Prebend, Southwell www.sacristaprebend.wordpress.com

Thurs 24 February 2011

'Living the Gospel in South Africa, past and present' – leader Vincent Ashwin

Saturday 5 March 2011

'The Poetry of R S Thomas' – leader The Very Revd Dr John Moses

Tuesday 24 May 2011

'Aspects of Indian Christian Spirituality' – leader Christopher Harrison