

EVENTS JANUARY – MARCH 2021

Compiled by **Living Spirituality Connections**
www.livingspirit.org.uk

Events are online, unless otherwise mentioned.

JANUARY

Tuesday 5 January 7-9 pm, start of a new public theology programme via Zoom “**Let Justice Well Up Like Water**” led by Dr **Johnston McMaster** over eight Tuesday evenings. Based on the insights from the prophet Amos. £50. www.drumalis.co.uk/single-post/let-justice-well-up-like-water-course-by-zoom. Drumalis is in Larne, Northern Ireland.

6 January to 7 February online **Loving Earth Project exhibition** alongside workshops, talks and environmental events. <https://riverhousebarn.co.uk/whats-on/https-thelittleboxoffice-com-riverhouse-event-view-92770/>

Friday 8 January 7.15 for 7.30, online **Loving Earth Conversations**. Join our discussion exploring different approaches to action addressing topics raised in Loving Earth Panels (above). Free. Hosted by Riverhouse Barn Arts Centre. With Riverhouse Director, **Emily Boulting**, **Lindsey Fielder Cook** (Quaker United Nations Organisation), **Laurie Michaelis** (Oxford Quaker environmentalist), **Jo Hand** (GIKI), **Sandra Buck** (Extinction Rebellion, Elmbridge), **Linda Murgatroyd** (Quaker Arts Network). Free event. Register at: <https://riverhousebarn.co.uk/whats-on/https-thelittleboxoffice-com-riverhouse-event-view-92770/>

The **Loving Earth Project** celebrates people, places, creatures and other things that we love but which are threatened by growing environmental breakdown. It offers a way in to help people engage with the issues without being overwhelmed. Climate break-down and species extinctions are happening all over the world. We hope this project will inspire people to make connections and change our habits, to live more sustainably for the sake of love. <http://lovingearth-project.uk/events/>

Sun 10th January 6.30-9pm Entering the Heart of Christ. A journey into this profound mystery. Online session with **Donna Worthington**. £20. Contact: drworthington@live.co.uk who is also running further online sessions between January and March.

Monday 11 January - Monday 1 March. 8pm. The Galilee Course - Online via Zoom. The Galilee Course is an introduction to Christianity created by the Rev Tim Yeager, an Anglican

priest, as a progressive alternative to Alpha. Originally created for use at St George's Church (CoE) in East Greenwich, it is now being offered on Zoom.

Contact: Rev Tim Yeager. Phone: 07804 614245 Email: rtyeager@gmail.com

<https://www.pcnbritain.org.uk/events>

Online Guided Prayer Mondays 5 - 5.30pm, starting **11 January**, then **18, 25 January; 1, 8, 15, 22 February; 1, 8, 15 March**. These sessions offer an opportunity to pause for 30 minutes in the day, dip into some quiet space and find time to reflect. The Guided Prayer of Examen and guided Lectio Divina are offered by St Bede's Pastoral Centre, York.

To register and pay please contact the office by email at: admin@stbedes.org.uk

£5 per session or £30 for all 10. <https://www.stbedes.org.uk/>

Tuesday 12 January 7.00 - 7.45pm. Finding Jesus in the Storm with Professor John Swinton. Hosted by St Paul's Cathedral.

When Jesus says I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full, he doesn't say that means it will be without suffering. Fullness of life speaks of joy, hope and resurrection, but life in all its fullness is not life without pain or disappointment: Jesus's own life wasn't. The pandemic has been a storm unlike anything we have experienced before. As we have faced illness, bereavement, mental health challenges and radical change, all of us have been affected by events we couldn't control.

That doesn't mean we can't, even now, live life in all its fullness. God accompanies us through a life in which we live both in the startling light of the resurrection and yet remain intensely aware of Jesus's cry from the cross 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' still resonating throughout creation, and sometimes in our own lives. Life in its fullness, he says, is not life without tears, but life with the one who dries our tears and moves us on to fresh pastures.

Drawing on many years of experience of working with people with mental health challenges, **John Swinton** will be in conversation with **Paula Gooder** about how we can all live life faithfully and to the full, and take care of our mental and spiritual health, even in the face of uncertainty, loss and change.

John Swinton is Professor of Practical Theology and Pastoral Care at the University of Aberdeen and Founding Director of Aberdeen's Centre for Spirituality, Health and Disability. Free online event hosted by St Paul's Cathedral. Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/finding-jesus-in-the-storm-tickets-127980488085?ref=elink>

Tuesdays 12 January to 9 February 3 session series on Zoom: **Holding Real Hope through the Winter Season** with **Helen Warwick**. 10 - 11.30 with a repeat from 6 - 7.30pm. Hosted by Holy Rood House, N. Yorks.

Continued...

Seasonal reflections exploring earthly connections and symbols to help us through the winter: the Epiphany Star, the ways of the Moon, and finding treasures in the darkness, with poems, creative thoughts, reflections and prayers.

Participant comment: *'I really appreciated the sensitive way you facilitated our time together, with such a welcome blend and balance of input, space, silence and shared opportunities. Thank you.'*

Booking: The suggested donation for each event is £10 - £15.

www.holyroodhouse.org.uk/events.html

Mon 18 January 2:00 pm to Thu 21 January 2:00 pm. An introduction to the nature of Spirituality in the Christian tradition from the nineteenth century to the present day. Sarum College,

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).

Karen O'Donnell is Coordinator for the Centre for Contemporary Spirituality at Sarum College.

Booking: Five places are set aside for those not enrolled on the degree programme Participation may be online or onsite in Salisbury (subject to government guidance). www.sarum.ac.uk

Thursday 21 January 10 - 12.30. On-line learning for Spiritual Directors and Clergy **'Exploring Creatively for Healing in Covid times in Spiritual Direction/Accompaniment'**.

Led by **Helen Warwick**. Hosted by Holyrood House, N. Yorks.

Helen will be leading through creative ways and discussion looking at these liminal times with coping with anxieties, vulnerabilities and finding ways through. There will be space for your own reflections.

Booking: The suggested donation is £30. www.holyroodhouse.org.uk/events.html

Friday 22 January 7-8.30. How oneness leads to goodness. The spiritual source of compassion and altruism. How can we move from a sense of separation to interconnectedness? A talk by **Steve Taylor**, chair of the Transpersonal Psychology Section of the British Psychological Society. His latest book is ***Spiritual Science. Why science needs spirituality to make sense of the world.***

An exploration on the roots of goodness in a sense of connection, and of evil in corresponding sense of separation and lack of empathy. In this talk, we will discover how best to transcend our sense of separateness and attune to our fundamental oneness – and thus develop an altruistic outlook.

Continued

By donation. **Booking:** <http://www.mysticsandscientists.org/>

This event is a collaboration between the Scientific and Medical Network, The Galileo Commission, and the Institute of Noetic Sciences.

22 January - 18 March Deepening our Commitment: Loving Earth Project. On line course with **Sue Tyldesley, Linda Murgatroyd, Maud Grainger.**

The Loving Earth Project enables you to engage with the Climate Crisis in a way that doesn't feel overwhelming. Centring on three questions we focus down on what we love, what is at risk due to climate breakdown and what we can each do about it. The Loving Earth Project is a textile-based project and this workshop will equip you to make your own panel to join our travelling exhibition ahead of, and culminating in, COP 26, the UN Climate Summit. (You are not expected to complete a panel over the duration of this workshop). Alongside the panel making, we shall be reflecting together, researching where we are guided by the Loving Earth meditation and engaging with spiritual practice to deepen our experience.

Booking: The course is offered by the Woodbrooke Centre, Birmingham, fortnightly on Mondays 19.30 – 21.00. £36.

<https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/product/deepening-our-commitment-loving-earth-project/>

The Loving Earth Project is a partnership project with Quaker Arts Network <http://lovingearth-project.uk/>

22-24 January 6-8 pm. The Way of the Hermit: A Spiritual Survival Guide for Dark Times with **Kayleen Asbo, PhD.** Three day virtual retreat offered by The Abbey of the Arts.

Throughout human history during times of upheaval and social collapse, a surge of contemplatives have been drawn to following a path of the heart where they discovered a life of inner awakening, beauty and balance despite outer confinement and austerity. Cultural historian, mythologist and spiritual director Kayleen Asbo, Ph.D will illuminate the commonalities of the “hermetic path” of wisdom traditions across the centuries that can help inspire and empower us to transform the experience of “lockdown” to “breakthrough.” We will follow the Hermetic Thread through historical examples of Pythagoras, Mary Magdalene, the Desert Fathers and Mothers, Hildegard of Bingen, Francis of Assisi and Julian of Norwich as well as feasting on mythological and film examples that can help illuminate a pathway through our dark times. Our three day retreat will feature daily presentations saturated with the art, music and photography of stunning hermetic sites followed by question and answer period, small breakout groups and contemplative practices

Booking and course fee: go to <https://abbeyofthearts.com/programs/online-classes/the-way-of-the-hermit/>

Saturday 30 January 10-3. Entering Springtime with Creation Spirituality. Online workshop led by **Diarmuid O'Murchu**

Spring 2020 marked the onset of Covid 19. Spring 2021 invites us to review the deeper meaning of this virus and the now indisputable link to our irresponsible interference in nature. While experts invest huge hope in a vaccine, people of faith also need to discern what an earth-centred spirituality would look like, and how it can enhance the well-being of person and planet alike.

Booking: £25 minimum offering.

<https://www.hollandhouse.org/product/diarmuid-omurchu-on-line-january-30th-2021/>

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 9 February 7.00 - 7.45pm Rooted in Love with Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London.

Life holds many mysteries and unanswered questions. This year more than ever, many of us have wondered where life's meaning lies. The questions the Psalmists asked thousands of years ago have become our own: How long? Why? Where are you, God?

At the beginning of the Gospel of John, the writer claims that the answer to the deepest mysteries of our lives and of the entire cosmos is not a philosophical idea or a scientific explanation, but a person. Jesus of Nazareth, the controversial rabbi who 2,000 years ago had a brief public career teaching and healing before being killed by the Roman authorities, is in himself, his life and his actions, his death and resurrection, the unveiling of the mystery at the heart of the universe. He is the life that breathes through each of us and the light that fills each day. He shows us the passionate, permanent love of God. For Christians, this is the heart of our faith.

Yet this strange revelation does not give us neat answers, but asks us into relationship with the mystery. As we begin Lent after an unprecedented year of change and uncertainty, **Sarah Mullally** and **Paula Gooder** will be in conversation about the love of Christ, what it means to be part of the body of Christ, and how we can draw closer to Christ this Lent.

Booking: Free online event hosted by St Paul's Cathedral. Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rooted-in-love-tickets-127980973537?ref=elink>

12-23 February 18:00 - 20:30 Zoom Retreat in daily life: resilience and renewal in uncertain times

How can we grow a shared resilience that heals social wounds and elevates our spirits, calling out the best in us? Join us to journey through the 4 stages of St Ethelburga's unique resilience model. With 4 taught evening sessions on zoom and prompts for solo enquiry and reflection in between. For more information contact us via our website for prices and concessions:

<https://stethelburgas.org/event/retreat-in-daily-life-resilience-and-renewal-in-uncertain-times/>

25 February - 16 July Journey of Hope 2021 Online and at our Ballycastle Centre Northern Ireland.



Journey of Hope is a **6 month community reconciliation training** for 20 emerging faith leaders to take action for a more resilient and peaceful society. Corrymeela is delighted to be a part of this innovative programme working with Reconcilers Together partners.

If 2020 has taught us anything, it's that our personal and collective response in times of crisis are crucial. As Covid-19, racial injustice, and the climate crisis continue to deeply impact our society, we are inviting you to join a community of committed peacemakers on a journey of hope: not the kind of hope that simply wishes for change optimistically, but the kind of hope that faces reality, stands in solidarity, and takes radically compassionate action.

This community will be an anchor point as we explore together how to creatively and courageously respond to conflict, cultivating a more relational and resilient society. If you believe a new, more peaceful way of being is not only possible but paramount and want to be inspired by transformative leadership and innovative practices, this training is for you.

The Journey of Hope has just 20 spaces and people from all faiths are welcome to apply. During the 6 month journey, you will spend 2 days each month reconciling some of the most sacred relationships: between yourself, the Earth, your faith, and with others. Our 6 modules (online & residential) will be hosted by our Community of Practice, which features some of the leading peace & reconciliation practitioners in the UK & Ireland from a range of backgrounds and expertise. This immersive leadership training includes dedicated time to focus on frontline community action, where you will be able to test out your learning with tailored peer & mentoring support.

Continued...

At the end of the 6 months, you will be invited to join our Community of Practice as Alumni with ongoing mentoring, action learning sets, continued professional development, seed grants and regular gatherings.

Programme partners: St. Ethelburga's, London; Holy Island, Lindisfarne; Rose Castle Foundation, Cumbria; The Blakeley Centre, Yorkshire; Coventry Cathedral; the Iona Community; Bridge Builders; Place for Hope, Scotland; The Archbishop of Canterbury's Reconciliation Ministry.

For more information contact Rebecca Brierley: 07453287925 rebecca.brierley@stethelburgas.org

Saturday 27 February 1.00 – 6.00 pm Solitude and Communion: Renewing Life in a Time of Pandemic with **Mark S. Burrows**. Online. £30/£20 concession.

<https://io-wccm.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=362>

MARCH

Mon 8 March 2:00 pm - Thu 11 March 2021 2:00 pm. Western Christian Mysticism.

This module explores the riches of Western Christian mystical tradition. It begins by looking at the foundations of the tradition and moves 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.

Karen O'Donnell is Coordinator for the Centre for Contemporary Spirituality at Sarum College Salisbury.

Five places are set aside for those not enrolled on the degree programme. Participation may be online or onsite in Salisbury (subject to government guidance).

Booking: www.sarum.ac.uk

Wednesday 10 March: Green and ethical investment with Bokani Tshitsu

This workshop will look at the rationale for ethical investment and how we can make a difference through investing responsibly for the environment. Bokani is Operation Noah's Bright Now Campaign Officer. She coordinates communication about the campaign with partners and liaises with religious organisations divesting from fossil fuels.

Register in advance for this meeting organised by <https://greenchristian.org.uk/green-christian-workshops/>. **Registration:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwscemgqT0sHdcgHHWbrs0JrV6vmoad-baD>

13 March 1:00 to 6:00 pm Mind Melds Science and Spirit. Online talk by **Revd Don MacGregor**.

Don MacGregor will give a series of short talks on the day, tying together various aspects of science and spirituality, particularly focussing on the strange thing that we all know we have, but no one knows what it is – consciousness. From both a scientific and a spiritual perspective, consciousness can give us a path to understanding more of the physical and metaphysical nature of the universe in which we live. In the first half, he will first look at what the science says about Oneness, then draw on the spiritual heritage to illustrate the convergence with scientific viewpoints. In the second half, he will look in more detail about the power of our thoughts, prayers and actions, and the implications for the significance of the life of Jesus the Christ.

Revd **Don MacGregor** is a retired Anglican Priest living in St David's, West Wales. He has also been a science teacher. His first book, '**Blue Sky God: the Evolution of Science and Christianity**', arises out of his reflections on the way forward for science and Christianity in the 21st century. He has now embarked on a series of books which seek to expand the theological framework of Christianity into the Perennial Philosophy cosmology, thus making it a more universal spirituality. £30/£20 concession. **Booking:** <https://io-wccm.org/civicrm/event/info?id=363&reset=1>

ADVANCE NOTICES

6 - 13 April Iona and the Island of Mull Pilgrimage arranged by www.journeying.co.uk

“Our purpose is to provide inspiring holidays that enable us to venture out, leave the everyday and connect with God in creation, in each other and in ourselves.”