

URC South Western Synod  
**Spring Retreat**

You are warmly invited to come on a Retreat open to Ministers and Lay People

From 15<sup>th</sup> – 17th March 2019  
at the Monastery of Our Lady and St Bernard  
Brownshill (near Stroud), GL6 8AL

The Monastery of Our Lady and St Bernard is the home of a community of eight Bernardine Cistercian Nuns who follow the Rule of St Benedict and are part of the Cistercian family. Situated in the hills of the south Cotswolds, the Cotswold valleys and hills enhance the peace of the monastery which is conducive to the life of prayer.



The Retreat will be led by Revd Angela Steele  
Her theme is 'Walking in the wilderness'. She Writes:

*...Two roads diverged in a wood and I –  
I took the one less travelled by  
And that has made all the difference.* Robert Frost

This weekend in Lent we will journey along the road less travelled. We will perhaps ask questions of ourselves. Why do we find ourselves walking in the wilderness when we didn't set out to go there? In times of spiritual dryness why do we find ourselves in the desert, of all places? There will be time to reflect on our journeys in the wilderness. What did we learn from the desert places? Where did we hear God's voice? What new thing has been created in our lives? Through Scripture, poetry and prose we shall look at wilderness places, deserts that bloom and roads less travelled by and perhaps:

*...we discover that the road we didn't choose,  
didn't want to travel,  
is a highway that leads unerringly towards the light.* Frances Copsey.

The cost will be £90 and a deposit of £30 is requested with your booking. Please complete the booking form and return to Dinah at the URC SW Synod Office (URC SW Synod, The Manse, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, TA2 6RU), email: [secretary@urcsouthwest.org.uk](mailto:secretary@urcsouthwest.org.uk). Tel: 01823 275470. Cheques payable to URC SW Synod. BACS details available on request.

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**BOOKING FORM: RETREAT 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at the Monastery of Our Lady and St Bernard, Brownshill, Stroud, GL6 8AL. Please return form to URC SW Synod Office as detailed above with £40 deposit payment by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019.**

Please book me a place on the above Retreat:

Name..... Email .....

Address & Phone No

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Dietary Requirements.....