

High Street Monasteries

Demonstrating how the Celtic Model of Monasticism has dynamic value for daily living
as well as being
a practical model for parish life and ministry

St. Deiniols Library, 2- 6 November 2009
With Ray Simpson

Monday 2 November

- 16.00 Introducing the theme and ourselves
19.30 A Personal Story

Tuesday 3 November

- 10.00 Five Waves of New Monasticism
16.00 Early Irish Peoples Monasteries
19.30 Fresh Expressions.

Wednesday 4 November

- 10.00 Rules of Life
16.00 Finding a rhythm: not being driven.
19.30 Values of 'the universal monk' in us.

Thursday 5 November

- 10.00 Martin, Ninian and villages of God today
16.00 Aidan, Hilda and churches with a Way of Life/
19.30 Questions and discussion.

Friday 6 November

- 09.30 'What I take away'
Morning Prayer and Sharing



Participants will take part in the regular chapel services and extra ones in the Celtic tradition as advised on arrival.

Leader: Ray Simpson

Ray Simpson planted a fresh expression of church at Bowthorpe, Norwich, which was grounded in twice daily public prayer, and a vision of this new neighbourhood becoming a village of God, in which prayer and work were linked, as in the Craft Workshops that adjoin the church. A chapter in his book *Church of the Isles: the emerging church in Britain and Ireland - an inspired strategy for renewal* describes this. In 1994 he became the founding guardian of the dispersed International Community of Aidan and Hilda, which calls people to live a Way of Life, accompanied by a soul friend, which includes their making a life-giving personal Way of Life. The Community envisages the emergence of linked houses and churches which, rather than being driven, adopt a rhythm of prayer, work and re-creation. He now lives on Lindisfarne, near to the Community's Celtic Christian Studies Library, office and Open Gate Retreat House, to which church leaders who engage with new monasticism come to be resourced. The Community runs an e-studies course and sponsored a Durham summer school on new monasticism. His latest book *High Street Monasteries: fresh expressions of committed Christianity* surveys five waves of new monasticism and includes examples of little experiments gleaned from his travels to members in Australasia, North America and Norway. It sets out a way in which churches may adopt some monastic principles, and how 'villages of God' may emerge in our cities.

St. Deiniols is Britain's largest residential library and was endowed by the former Prime Minister William Gladstone. It is situated in Hawarden, Flintshire, CH5 3DF Wales (half way between Chester and Wrexham), is easily accessible from the M6 and M56, offers reasonable rates and excellent food and facilities.

BOOKING

Please book direct enquiries@st-deiniols.org Tel: 441 244 532350