

INSPIRE

AUGUST 28, 29, 30

A FESTIVAL OF FAITH AND HOPE



We all need time and space to reflect on the pandemic and we all need hope as we look forward. Over the bank holiday weekend we will be offering space to think, pray and talk. There will be speakers, music, café conversation spaces, craft and activities.

Here is the overview of our events:

Saturday 28th

- 6:00pm **"Art in an Emergency: the power of art to resist and repair"**
An interactive talk by Rev. Suzanne Nockels, President of the Congregational Federation.
- 7:00pm-10:00pm **"Taste and See"** Come and join us for a relaxed evening.
There will be a licensed bar (you will be able to pay by card or with cash), music and some sneak previews of the day ahead.

Sunday 29th

- Worship** - open to everyone!
If you ever wanted to try a church service this is a great chance to come and see what we do.
- 8:00am Holy Communion (a shorter, said service)
- 9:30am Parish Eucharist (our main Sunday service of Holy Communion with hymns)
- 11:30am Forest Church (informal worship outdoors in the Churchyard)
- 12:30pm-1:30pm **Bring your own Picnic.** Come and join us at Church, bring your lunch and enjoy the atmosphere.
- 2:00pm-2:30pm **"Love & Rabbits" - the one woman version!**
This show has been performed at festivals and theatres by The Underground Clown Club. Katie Overstall has kindly agreed to perform a one woman version of the show with fabulously silly poetry to delight and entertain you.
- 3:00pm **"What - if anything - should the Church do about the Climate & Ecological Emergency?"**
Dr. Joanna Laynesmith, historian, mother and clergy wife, regularly blogs and gives talks about the Church and the environment in Oxford Diocese.
- 4:00pm **"Words of Hope"** - Panel Talk
A chance to listen to words that have inspired and encouraged the panelists and hear why they are special to them. It might be poetry, scripture, a speech or a letter - anything that brings hope.
- 5:00pm **"Monastic Spiritual Wisdom for a Busy Age"**
Rev'd Dr. Mark Laynesmith, Chaplain at Reading University.
A chance to reflect on the patterns and prayers of monastic life and the wisdom that we can take from them for our own lives.
- 6:00pm **"Songs of Praise: a service of hymns and readings"**
We have all missed singing hymns during the pandemic so come and enjoy a service of worship packed full of your favourite hymns!
- 7:00pm-10:00pm **An informal evening of music and conversation.**
There will be a licensed bar, you will be able to pay by card or with cash.

Monday 30th

- 10:00am-2:00pm Our Coffee Shop, "The Spire" will be open and there will still be lots going on around Church.

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Inspire Music Programme:

Saturday 28th

7:00pm-10:00pm **"Taste and See"** There will be a licensed bar (you will be able to pay by card or with cash)
Come and join us for a relaxed evening including:

7:00pm A selection of contributions giving you a taste of the day ahead.

8:00pm **Barn Rat Band** a ceilidh band based around the Milton Keynes area, playing a mixture of English, Irish, Scottish and American dance tunes.

8:45pm Classical bonbons with piano and clarinets from Claire Vogli and Roy Howat.

Sunday 29th

7:00pm-10:00pm There will be a licensed bar, you will be able to pay by card or with cash.

7:00pm- 8:30pm A selection of contributions including folk and classical music, piano and a wind quintet.

8:30pm **Chasm** - an Acoustic/Folk Covers Band

9:00pm **Ouzel Valley Ranters** - Barndance & Folk Band

Inspire "Let's Talk" Programme:

Sunday 29th

In between the music and the talks we will be offering space to talk about some current topics. Each of these topics will be the starting space for a conversation and everyone is welcome. There will be the chance to let us know if you want to carry on the conversations on these or other topics beyond the weekend.

1:30pm - 2:00pm **Let's talk about technology...**
Interested in the impact of technology on the lives we lead? How social media impacts our lives? What will future tech be like? Come and share your hopes and fears for the place of tech in our lives.

2:30pm - 3:00pm **Let's talk about identity ...**
Identity can be given by many things.
We're thinking particularly about the ways in which age, gender and sexuality shape our lives.

3:30pm - 4:00pm **Let's talk about covid...**
We will all have our own stories to share about the pandemic.
How do we think that Covid has changed our society? What kind of losses have we suffered?
Have there been any gains? What might we want to keep out of the experience of pandemic?

4:30pm - 5:00pm **Let's talk about the environment ...**
What is our relationship with the environment? Does faith make any difference to our choices?
How can we respond to issues that can seem so overwhelming?