

**maranatha**

# Stepping out in Faith

Contemplative Retreat  
Light out of Darkness part 1

An opportunity to learn how to experience  
God's real presence in contemplative silence



**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

The House of Bread at The Mill,  
Shipston-on-Stour CV36 5AF

This retreat, which takes place in contemplative silence with teaching and sharing sessions during the day, is led by members of the Maranatha Community - a growing movement of Christians in all the churches, who are committed to unity, renewal and healing.

## STEPPING OUT IN FAITH

Over many years the Lord has given great blessings through the Light out of Darkness courses that have been run within the Maranatha Community. Based on a book written by Sr. Kathleen O'Sullivan, God has used this course to teach Christians about deepening spirituality and contemplative prayer.

In order to make the Light out of Darkness retreat more accessible, and yet still retain the fullness of all that it has to offer, we now run it in two parts, 'Stepping out in Faith' and 'Building with the Spirit' so as to take more time to draw on its richness and to include supplementary video talks given by Sr Kathleen. Even if you have already experienced 'Light out of Darkness' this is an opportunity to revisit at a slower and deeper level.

Each retreat will take place in contemplative silence, and whilst some find this difficult at the beginning of a retreat, most find it so valuable by the end.

One retreatant wrote :- *'I wasn't sure about the silence at first. It felt a little awkward eg. at meal times. But as the week went on it became a powerful revelation. I could see how our constant chit chat and trivia is such a distraction. In the silence the group connected at a deeper level. We did not know one another but we were connected very deeply by the Spirit. We were journeying together and God met each one of us where we were at. The silence was a gift.'*

Another retreatant said "An experience that deepened my awareness of God's love for me and my love for others".

This 'Stepping out in faith' retreat will cover the first two parts of the 'Light out of Darkness' book: 'First Steps' and 'Prepare the Way'. This retreat stands as a complete retreat in itself and will be run from **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October, starting at 12 noon, until after lunch on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October. Cost £265.**

Maranatha regularly offers a 'Building with the Spirit' retreat and it is hoped that we will offer this again in 2018. This will cover the last part of the book: 'Building the Temple' and will be for those who have already enjoyed the first retreat or 'Light out of Darkness' as a complete retreat or a weekly course. Look out for details at a later date.

## BOOKING FORM

### Stepping out in Faith – Light Out of Darkness part 1

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017

(commencing at 12 noon on the Monday and finishing after lunch on Friday)  
at The House of Bread at The Mill, Shipston-on-Stour

Name.....

Address.....

.....  
Tel No.....

Email address.....

*All accommodation is in single rooms*

Please tick if you have any special dietary requirements. The Centre will then prepare specific meals for you to meet these requirements.

Vegetarian (no meat or fish)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vegetarian (will eat fish)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vegan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diabetic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Enclosed cheque (non-refundable deposit £40 / total £265) £..... payable to "The Maranatha Community". Tel 0161 748 4858 to pay by credit / debit card. (A clear 5 days notice needs to be given if you are unable to attend in an attempt to find a replacement participant).

Please return booking form to Mrs Heather Williams, 6 Riverside Drive, Urmston, Manchester M41 9FL Tel: 0161 879 4325 or 0161 748 4858  
email: heather@maranathacommunity.org.uk

### The House of Bread at The Mill

The House of Bread @ The Mill is a Christian retreat and conference centre, set in the beautiful Cotswold countryside. It is the home of a small Christian community who live in the rhythm of prayer and worship. It is set in the beauty and tranquillity of rural England, a mile and a half from the historic town of Shipston-on-Stour.



**The House of Bread at The Mill**