



# The Five-Day Community for Spiritual Formation

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>–Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021 - Cliff College, Derbyshire

Worship ~ Teaching ~ Silence ~ Reflection

with

**Sr. Margaret Crinyion OSM & Rev. Dr. Malcolm Guite**

## Waiting on the Word

Through a programme of worship, teaching, silence and reflection  
based on a Benedictine monastic pattern

### The Five-Day Community for Spiritual Formation

aims to

- root spirituality in Christian faith and tradition
- provide opportunity for participation in community life
  - form people for life in a changing world

**Waiting on the Word** will be explored in daily presentations by

#### Sr. Margaret Crinyion OSM



Margaret has lived as a Servite Sister for more than 50 years including over 25 years teaching. Since studying Spiritual Direction at Heythrop College, London in 1982 she has had extensive involvement in Spiritual Accompaniment with individuals and groups. Margaret enjoys sitting, geriatric walking and gardening, and a nice cup of tea. The Servite Order has Community as its Christm along with a particular understanding of the role of Mary, Servant and Mother of the Lord. This has encouraged in Margaret a particular passion for the role of Women in Scripture, the Church and the World.

#### Rev. Dr. Malcolm Guite

Poet-Priest Malcolm Guite was Chaplain for 20 years at Girton College, Cambridge and teaches at the University there. He writes a weekly column in the Church Times and lectures widely on Theology and Literature. Malcolm's many books include an edited anthology for Advent, 'Waiting on the Word' (2015) which gives this retreat its name. He has a particular interest in the imagination as a truth-bearing faculty and continues to reflect deeply on how poetry can stimulate and re-awaken our prayer life. Amongst many other things, Malcolm is part of a rock band, Mystery Train. [www.malcolmguite.com](http://www.malcolmguite.com)



The Five-Day Community for  
Spiritual Formation

will cost £595 per person

This includes full board in single  
accommodation, daily teaching  
and full use of the facilities at  
Cliff College

Please see note below on  
bursaries. Payment in  
instalments is also an option.

#### Community for Spiritual Formation: Trustee Board:

Rev. Dr. Sheryl Anderson

Mrs. Jill Baker

Rev. James Bamber

Mr. Kenneth Boyd-Browne

Mr. Andrew Lightowler

Rev. Nicola Vidamour

## More about the theme...

**Margaret:** Advent is Mary's time, when we can learn by her example to be people who wait in patience for the revelation of God-with-us in this moment. It is a time to ponder the Word and learn again to hold it in our hearts, a time pregnant with expectation and longing. Margaret hopes to explore these notions by penetrating deeply into the infancy narrative of Matthew and Luke. With the help of visual images she hopes to lead the participants into silence and stillness so that we can renew our desire to become people of prayer who are on a mission to share the Word with others.

**Malcolm:** Advent is a season for stillness, for quiet, for discernment. It is a season of active waiting, listening attentively and being finely tuned to hear again one's deepest yearnings for the saviour. In this retreat Malcolm will look at how poetry can help us fathom the depths of Advent's many paradoxes, looking at poems from the spiritual classics to contemporary voices, and using his own poetry including the great Advent Antiphons.

**Cliff College** was, historically, a Methodist Lay Training College, which now provides theological education and training with a particular focus on mission and evangelism. Set in the Derbyshire Peak District, the college has extensive grounds amidst excellent walking country and fine views. [www.cliffcollege.ac.uk](http://www.cliffcollege.ac.uk)



### Daily programme:

7:30am	Morning prayer
8:00am	Breakfast
9:00am	Presentation 1
10:00am	Silent reflection time
11:00am	Plenary sharing
11:45am	Community time
12:30pm	Lunch & free time
2:15pm	Presentation 2
3:15pm	Silent reflection time
4:15pm	Plenary sharing
5:15pm	Holy Communion
6:00pm	Dinner
7:15pm	Listening circles
8:45pm	Transition to worship
9:00pm	Night prayer, followed by Great Silence (until 7:15am)

### Leadership team for this event:

**Sheryl Anderson:** Methodist minister,  
Chair of the Liverpool District

**Jill Baker:** Methodist lay person,  
retreat & pilgrimage leader, based in Glasgow

**James Bamber:** Methodist superintendent minister  
currently in Huntingdon, Cambs.

**Rev. Catherine Dixon:** Methodist minister  
currently in East Anglia

**Kristin Markay:** Methodist minister  
currently based in Lambeth, London

## To find out more

At present only provisional bookings are being taken; if you wish to indicate your interest please contact the registrar: Jill Baker, 11, Duthie Park Gardens, Glasgow. G13 1GB 0141 959 7951 by email [fivedaycsf@btinternet.com](mailto:fivedaycsf@btinternet.com)



**Bursaries or grants** towards this kind of Spiritual Formation experience are often available. Do consider contacting your local church or regional church body. More information about possible grant funding is available on the Community Website <https://5daycommunity.com/>

**The Five-Day Community for Spiritual Formation**  
operates as the British expression of  
**The Five-Day Academy**  
for Spiritual Formation (<https://academy.upperroom.org/>).

This is one of the programmes offered by The Upper Room which is charged to be ecumenical and international in scope. It is a subsidiary of Discipleship Ministries, a general agency of the United Methodist Church, USA.