

“Is the Christian life possible today? A Retreat on Life in Christ and the Meaning of Modernity”

DOWNSIDE ABBEY 15 to 17 February 2019

All services are in the Abbey Church, unless indicated otherwise. Talks and Panel Discussion are in the Weld Refectory, and Meals are in the Main Refectory.

Please approach any of the Priests at any time during the Retreat if you wish to make your Reconciliation

Friday 15 February 2019

From 8 pm Arrival at Weld Refectory, refreshments and registration. There will be a “running” buffet for supper. Settle into rooms.

9 pm Meet Fr. Leo Maidlow Davis in the Weld Refectory followed by tour of the Sacristy to see some of the medieval vestments, reliquaries and other items of interest. After this we will head to the Gallery Chapel to see the ‘Voices from the Cloister’ exhibition which showcases some of Downside’s medieval collections

10.30 pm Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament in the Crypt Chapel. Retreatants are invited to take half hour slots during the night before the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 16 February 2019

6am Vigils (Optional!)

7.10 am Lauds, followed by breakfast

8.35am Mass

9.30 am, or after Mass, refreshments in the Weld

10.15 Talk by Fr. Anselm Brumwell OSB, Sub-Prior Downside Abbey

“Life in Christ: a biblical perspective”

11.15 am Break

11.30 am **Questions and Discussion Fr. Anselm** will be available throughout the Retreat to answer questions and join in our discussions.

12.30 pm Midday Office

1 pm Lunch

2.00 pm **Talk by Sebastian Morello, formator and lecturer at the Centre for Catholic Formation, in London**

How did we get to where we are? Understanding conscience and the Good. This first talk will look at how our understanding of morality has changed down the ages to its final stage of total relativism in the modern age.

3.00 pm Break

3.15 pm **Questions and Discussion** Sebastian will be available throughout the Retreat to answer questions and join in our discussions

4.15 pm Break

4.30 pm **Talk by Sebastian Morello**

Who are we? Why we are concerned about 'British Values'. The second talk will be on how society presupposes the notion of a common good which can be shared by everyone, and how the rejection of this presupposition gives rise to pseudo goods which then must be coercively imposed.

Questions and Discussion

5.30 pm Break

6 pm Vespers

6.30 pm Supper

8pm Vigils

9 pm at the Weld Social time. Those who are interested will be able to watch a film, and discussions are ongoing as to which one this will be!

Drinks will be available at our bar. Donations welcome please!

10.30 pm Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament in the Crypt Chapel. Retreatants are invited to take half hour slots during the night before the Blessed Sacrament

SUNDAY 17 February 2019

7.30am Lauds, followed by breakfast

10 am Mass

After Mass, refreshments

11.30 am **Talk by Sebastian Morello**

What can we do? Living as a sign of contradiction in the modern age.

The third talk will be more practical, on how the culture of the West no longer lends itself to the pursuit of holiness, and what we can do to live the Christian life in a culture often hostile to this.

Panel Discussion and Questions

1 pm Lunch

3.30 pm End of Retreat