



THE SIBYLS

A Christian Spirituality Group for Transgender People

www.sibyls.co.uk enquiries@sibyls.co.uk

SIBYLS HILFIELD WEEKEND
FRIDAY 21nd to SUNDAY 23th SEPTEMBER 2018.

“WE ARE ALL GOD’S PEOPLE”

A weekend has been booked once more at the Hilfield Franciscan Friary for the 21-23 September 2018. The anticipated theme is “We are all God’s People”. We will be joined by the Revd. Colin Coward, former director of “Changing Attitude”. Also members of the Hilfield Franciscan Community will be invited to contribute.

Paul, in Galatians 3:28 said “There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus”. There have been many advances in the recognition and acceptance of transgender people in society and in the Church, however there have also been backlashes, which include those groups who would wish to deny children the opportunity to explore their identities and other groups who may misinterpret our personal searches for identity as the pursuit of sexual misuse or for the power over women instead.



As these public perceptions and misperceptions increase these issues become of increasing concern. This purpose of this Sibyls weekend is not to create plans or agendas in response to developments in the Christian Churches but to reflect biblically and socially on Paul’s statement in Galatians 3:28. As always the primary purpose of these weekends is to meet, build friendships, relax, hear from and support each other, so plenty of time for this is provided.

What does it mean when we say “We are all God’s people”? What does it mean to simply be able to be ourselves? The validity of Same-Sex, or Equal Marriage is a topic which is causing major dissention in the Christian Church. For transgender people there are potentially life changing issues and trauma to be overcome, for both partners, when one person in a marriage transitions. In the present climate the focus is almost entirely on lesbian, gay and bisexual concerns. The challenges which transgender people face are largely ignored. We will be addressing these issues from a transgender point of view during the weekend.

As the previous years which seemed to work well, we will be self-catering for breakfast and the evening meal, and joining the Brothers for lunch

This weekend is intended for Sibyls Members only.

PLEASE APPLY TO JOIN THE SIBYLS IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND.

If you wish to join the Sibyls, please email enquiries@sibyls.co.uk or write to: The Sibyls. 10, Ffordd Las, Rhyl, LL18 2DY

A BOOKING FORM, DRAFT PROGRAMME, AND FURTHER DETAILS ARE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES

For more information on the programme, contact pauline.fleck@btinternet.com T 0113 259 0878

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HILFIELD DRAFT PROGRAMME: 21 – 23 SEPTEMBER 2018.

Friday

- 17.15 (Evening Prayer, (followed by prayer time) with Franciscans)
- 18.00: Bring and Share Supper and Introduction
- 19.30: First Session "We Are All God's People": A Franciscan perspective. Colin Coward and a Franciscan Brother
- 21.00: (Night Prayer with Franciscans)
Chores for Everyone, washing up etc. - if not already completed!

Saturday

- 07.00 (Silent Prayer in Chapel with Franciscans)
- 07.30 (Morning Prayer with Franciscans)
- 08.15 Breakfast: Self Catering
- 10:00 Colin Coward: "We are all God's people"
- 11.00 Coffee
- 11:15 Plenary Discussion:
- 12.00 Midday Prayer and Eucharist with Franciscans
- 13:00 Lunch with Franciscans
- 14.00 Free time
- 16.30 Afternoon tea
- 17.15 Evening Prayer, (followed by prayer time) with Franciscans
- 18.30 Dinner: Self Catering
- 19:30 Social time/Entertainment
- 20:45 (Night Prayer with Franciscans)
- 22:00 Chores for Everyone, washing up etc. - if not already completed!
- 22:30 Sibyls Compline
Late Silence Together (*very optional*)

Sunday

- 07.30 (Morning Prayer followed by silent prayer with Franciscans)
- 08.30 Breakfast / (Sung Eucharist with Franciscans)
- 09.30 Sibyls Together
- 11:00 Communion Service (Diana Johnson?)
- 12:00 Group photo and Coffee
- 12:15 Informal discussion "We Are All God's People"
- 12:30 (Midday prayer with the Franciscans- for those who would like to go)
- 13:00 Lunch with Franciscans
- 14:00 Independent Discussion: "Where now in the church? (SEE NOTE)
- 16.00 Disperse

NOTE: The theme of the weekend is to reflect biblically and socially on Paul's statement in Galatians 3:28. It is NOT to consider action or responses to developments in the Christian Churches.

However these are issues that some people will want to discuss. This optional Sunday Afternoon session which is separate from the rest of the proceedings will allow that to happen.

Items in brackets are part of the normal Friary programme

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SIBYLS HILFIELD WEEKEND:
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST – SUNDAY 23TH SEPTEMBER 2018.
“WE ARE ALL GODS PEOPLE”

BOOKING FORM

I/ we wish to attend the Sibyls Hilfield weekend from Friday September 21st to Sunday 23 September 2018.

I enclose a cheque for £ _____ *

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are able to gift-aid please enclose two cheques. One of which is a cheque for £30 made payable to Mr P.A. Raftery-The Sibyls. The second cheque, which is the remaining balance of the donation should be made payable to “The Community of St Francis”. A gift-aid form for this payment and information is provided at the end of this document. If you cannot gift-aid please enclose a single cheque for the total amount made payable to Mr P.A. Raftery-The Sibyls

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Tel: _____

Email: _____

I/ we will be staying for the Whole Weekend / Friday / Saturday/ Sunday / (Delete as applicable)

Are you a member of the Sibyls: Yes/ No

Any special dietary or access requirements/: _____

Most rooms are single but it may be necessary to share a room.

Are you willing to share? Yes / No

If yes: Anyone or Name: _____

* The Friary asks for donations. The suggested rate for donations is from £80 to £120 per person for the whole weekend (pro-rata if you only attend for part of the time). Please make cheques payable to Mr P. A. Raftery – The Sibyls. Please post this booking form to Pauline Fleck, 1 Newlathes Gardens, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 4JU or email it to pauline.fleck@btinternet.com

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PLEASE NOTE: This weekend is partly self-catering. You will be asked to bring something for the Bring- and-Share buffet on the Friday evening and pudding/cheese/biscuits etc. for the Saturday evening meal. Basics for breakfast will be provided but if you want a particular cereal bring your own! So that everyone does not bring the same thing, specific requests will be given to you at a later date.

WRITE: The Friary, Hilfield Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 7BE
EMAIL: hilfieldssf@franciscans.org.uk
CALL: Main Office: 01300 341345
 Guest Booking: 01300 341741

Transport Advice

Note from the Friary: We are happy to collect guests from local railway stations or Bus stops at mutually convenient times and ask for a £5 donation towards costs. In comparison the taxi fare from Sherborne is £20. We also have a car park at the friary and if possible we ask guests to car share to lower their carbon footprint.

If coming by train, most travellers should type in Sherborne Station to discover train times. For some it may be cheaper to come to Yetminster station on the Bristol – Weymouth line. For a very few travellers, Dorchester South Station, although the furthest of our 3 stations, it may be the best option. The friary can meet you by arrangement in advance at all 3 stations.

If you are willing and able to come closer to the friary by public transport, try Chetnole station on the Bristol Weymouth line. Google maps will give you the 4 mile walking route to us. Cyclists, there is usually room to put your bike on this train without reservation. A few people even cycle the 9 miles from Sherborne Station. There are usually unreserved bike places on off peak trains from London.

The X11 bus runs approx. every 2 hours between Sherborne Station and Dorchester South Station. Type in Minterne Magna, a village 2 ½ miles SE of the friary as the nearest bus stop on this route. We can meet you there if arranged in advance. The bus stops by the church. If you want to walk the last 2 miles over the hill, ask the driver if he can let you alight ½ m north of Minterne Magna at the Evershot sign – it is not an official stop.

There are few convenient coaches, but we do recommend Berries Buses which runs from Hammersmith in London to Yeovil Bus Station where we can meet you by arrangement in advance. www.berryscoaches.co.uk

There are also taxis at Sherborne and Dorchester South Stations and Yeovil bus station. Beaver Cabs at Sherborne 01935816620.

The last half mile to the friary from the South is a steep, narrow hill. The Google Map does not tell you there is a sign saying that it is not suitable for large vehicles. Minibuses are absolutely fine but please take note if you are bringing a large group in a 40 seater coach.

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GIFT AID

Please note that at the moment you cannot Gift Aid to the Sibyls (we are working on that). However you can Gift Aid directly to the Community of St Francis.

If you can Gift-Aid, we therefore recommend is that you split your contribution into two parts

- 1) As cheque/contribution of £30 made directly to the Sibyls (Gift-Aid cannot be claimed on this)
- 2) A cheque representing the remaining balance of your payment, made payable directly to the Community of St Francis. (Gift-Aid for the Community can be claimed on this provided you complete and return the Gift-Aid form attached).

Any surplus remaining in the Sibyls Contribution, over and above that which is needed by the Sibyls, will be donated by the Sibyls to the community of St Francis.

So, for example, if you decide to donate £110 pounds, a cheque/payment for £30 should be made payable to Mr P.A. Raftery –The Sibyls, and a cheque/payment for £80 should be made payable to the Community of St Francis.

If you cannot Gift-Aid your total payment of £110 should be made payable to Mr P.A. Raftery – The Sibyls

A Gift-Aid form follows:



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GIFT-AID FORM FOR THE COMMUNITY OF SAINT FRANCIS

I am a UK taxpayer and want The Community of Saint Francis Charity number (286615) to reclaim the tax on this donation, any donations I have made in the past 4 years and all future donations.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify.

I agree to the above statement.

Legal Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self- Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code. Please notify the Community of St Francis if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income or capital gains.

CONTACT DETAILS: hilfieldssf@franciscans.org.uk Tel: 01300 341345

PLEASE RETURN THIS GIFT-AID FORM TO WITH YOUR GIFT-AID DONATION (CHEQUE MADE PAYABLE TO THE COMMUNITY OF SAINT FRANCIS),

TOGETHER WITH THE BOOKING FORM FOR THE EVENT PLUS THE SEPARATE PAYMENT OF £30 TO THE SIBYLS, (CHEQUE MADE PAYABLE TO MR P.A. RAFTERY –THE SIBYLS)

TO

Pauline Fleck, 1 Newlaithes Gardens, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 4JU

We will forward your donation to the Community of St Francis together with the Gift-Aid form directly to the Community of St Francis

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