



Online Summer Event 2024

Draft Programme

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| 9.45am | Zoom room opens |
| 10.00am | Welcome & opening reflections: Cameron Butland & Alison MacTier |
| 10.15am | Guest speaker: Abbot Christopher Jamison OSB 'Finding the Language of Grace – Rediscovering Transcendence' |
| 11.15am | Coffee Break |
| 11.45am | Reflecting on the talk in groups |
| 12.30pm | Lunch (with the opportunity to chat online with others) |
| 1.30pm | Questions to the speaker facilitated by Revd Graham Sparkes |
| 2.30pm | Update on Retreat Association Activities – Alison MacTier |
| 2.45pm | Closing Reflections |
| 3.00pm | Close |

Abbot Christopher Jamison OSB Christopher Jamison is a Benedictine monk and currently serves as Abbot President of the English Benedictine Congregation. He is known for two BBC TV series *The Monastery* (2005) and *The Big Silence* (2010), and now helps manage a media production company specialising in religious and ethical content. In 2020 he led a team that created AloneTogether.org.uk to help people cope with lockdown. His books include *Finding Sanctuary* (2006) and *Finding Happiness* (2010 republished 2020) and his latest book is *Finding the Language of Grace* (2022).

Christopher is an active patron and has participated in a number of Retreat Association conferences and Summer Events.

Revd Graham Sparkes is a Baptist minister who served in local ministry for a number of years before taking on responsibility for the denomination's Faith and Unity Department. In 2011 he became President of Luther King House Educational Trust in Manchester, an ecumenical partnership for theological education, where he teaches Christian spirituality. Graham's current involvements include regularly leading retreats, being involved in the life and work of Manchester Cathedral and serving as Moderator of the Trustees for Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI). He has co-authored *God and the Art of Seeing: visual resources for a journey of faith*, Smyth & Helwys 2003.

Graham became a Retreat Association Patron in 2013 and has played a key role in Retreat Association conferences since 2012 and Summer Events since they began in 2014.