

Reconnecting to the Divine in Nature

**with Mike Mullins and
Jonathan Herbert**

Are you feeling nature deprived? Struggling to be hopeful in the midst of the ecological crisis?

“Reconnecting to the divine in nature” is a retreat running at Hilfield Friary from 12 noon on Friday 24th to 3pm on Sunday 26th May 2024. It is geared at Christians enquiring into the place of nature, creation and eco-spirituality in their faith.

The retreat has four aims:

- To help participants develop a deeper connection to and love for the sacredness of nature as an expression of the divine
- To honestly face the environmental crisis with hope, courage and a sense of personal agency.
- Become part of a wider movement for positive, regenerative change in our society
- Learn to know, honour and protect mother earth, allowing all life to flourish.

The retreat will immerse participants in the beauty of God’s creation in the Dorset countryside – slowing us down to nature’s pace. Providing time for reflection, meditation, prayer and stillness inspired by nature. It will draw upon scripture, Christian mystics, the principles of Joanna Macy’s “Active Hope”, as well as earth sciences and evolutionary biology.

The retreat will be led by facilitators from Soul Rewilding a not-for-profit collective founded in response to the climate and ecological crisis the earth faces.

A group of like-minded Christians, Soul Rewilding believes the environmental crisis is at heart a spiritual crisis and that we need to relearn a new humility and Christian spirituality that reconnects us to the sacredness of the earth and all other than human life.



Reconnecting to the Divine in Nature

The cost per person for three days, two nights and all meals is £240 (including VAT).

To secure your booking a £100 deposit (including VAT) (non-refundable and non-transferable) is required at the time of booking.

To book a place on the retreat please contact Mike Mullins at

Email: mikemullins@soulrewilding.co.uk

Mobile: 07973 642 875

Website: <https://www.soulrewilding.co.uk>



Hilfield Friary

Set in 43 acres on the edge of the Dorset Downs and overlooking the beautiful Blackmore Vale; Hilfield Friary is a Community house of the Anglican Society of St Francis – who were founded here in the 1920s.

Since 2007, the Franciscan Brothers have been joined by lay men and women, including young people, who are sharing in the life, work and prayer of the Friary. Our particular focus is on Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation arising from our Franciscan vocation.

During this weekend you will be staying in Bernard or Juniper House, named after the early Companions of St Francis. Your accommodation is quiet and comfortable, warm and well-appointed.

Your meals will be taken either in Juniper House or the Refectory and participants are invited to help with both the preparation and washing up. It is sometimes possible to join the Community for Sunday lunch should numbers permit.

During the weekend you are welcome to share in the regular Services in the Community Chapel – although there is no requirement for you to do so.

Arriving by Train

The nearest stations are Yetminster (request stop) from Bristol; or Sherborne from London Waterloo. We can collect you from these stations if you let us know (we ask for a £6 donation to cover the cost of petrol).

Arriving by car

The best way to reach Hilfield is the following:

From Yeovil Take A37 Yeovil to Dorchester road. After approximately 8 miles turn left at Wardon Hill (Signposted Batcombe, Minterne Magna). At the T Junction turn right. Travel approximately 2.5 miles take second turn on the left. The friary is at the bottom of the lane.

From Dorchester take the A 37 Dorchester to Yeovil Road After approximately 9 miles at Wardon Hill turn right (signposted Batcombe, Minterne Magna). At the T junction turn right. Travel approximately 2.5 miles take the second turn on the left. The friary is at the bottom of the lane.



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