Lent Retreat on Tresco, Isles of Scilly 16th-21st March 2026 led by Venerable Dr Mark Butchers



Planting, watering, growing: reflections on spiritual growth drawing on biblical images from the natural world

On the island of Tresco, Isles of Scilly Monday 16th - Saturday 21st March







The retreat will be led by Ven Dr Mark Butchers; and will offer reflections and plenty of time and space on the beautiful island of Tresco. The retreat is full board with accommodation in a charming Tresco cottage.

VEN DR MARK BUTCHERS - A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

Born and brought up in London, Mark became a Christian in his teens. Whilst studying Classics at Cambridge University, he felt a calling to ordained ministry and explored that by working as a Pastoral Assistant for a church in Notting Dale in West London. He trained at Chichester Theological College, was ordained in 1987 and served curacies in Chelsea and Mitcham in London before moving to Devon in 1993 to become Rector of four rural parishes: North Tawton, Sampford Courtenay, Bondleigh and Honeychurch. In 1999 he was appointed Chaplain and Director of Studies in Theology at Keble College, Oxford, and then in 2005 Vicar of Wolvercote in North Oxford. He returned to Devon to serve as Archdeacon of Barnstaple from 2015-20 and then as Principal of the South West Ministry Training Course from 2020-23. He took slightly early retirement in 2023 in order to be able to research and write on his PhD topic, the Theology of Resurrection. He has been married to Hilary for over 40 years and they have two children and four young grandchildren. He very much enjoys being a grandfather, alongside reading, walking and swimming, learning Italian and visiting Italy!

Reflections

The reflections will encourage further personal reflection with plenty of time and space for silence, walking, drawing and reading.

Services

Each day the Eucharist will be offered, and the Daily Offices said.

One to Ones & Confession

One to ones and confession will be available with Mark or the Chaplain of the Isles of Scilly, The Rev'd Elizabeth Burke.

Accommodation

Private bedroom in a beautifully furnished cottage. Each cottage has their own kitchen with tea and coffee making facilities, lounge and dining areas. Free entry to Tresco Gardens and the Spa Resort.

Meals and Refreshments

The retreat is full board consisting of continental buffet breakfast, light lunch and evening meal. Light refreshments will be available throughout your stay.

Special Requirements

When booking please mention any accessibility needs, and any dietary requirements including allergies and any food intolerances.

Arrival Day - Monday 16th March

You will be picked up from the quay or helicopter port on Tresco and taken to your accommodation. You will then have plenty of time to relax and explore. Light refreshments will be available from arrival. Our first gathering together will be for an introduction and evening meal.



Pilgrimage to the island of St Agnes (Optional)

On Fri 20th March there is an optional pilgrimage to the island of St Agnes. Mid morning we walk to the quay for the 20 minute boat trip to St Agnes. During the day we will visit the Holy Well of Santa Warna and the labyrinth, with the Eucharist offered in the church of St Agnes. *NOTE: Involves walking on uneven and often muddy ground with several stiles without hand rails*.

Day of Departure - Saturday 21st

After breakfast you will be picked up from your accommodation for your return journey.



HOW TO BOOK IN THREE STEPS

Price (does not include travel to and from Tresco)

5 nights - single occupancy \sim £750

5 nights - double/twin occupancy ~ £1,200

Includes full board, light refreshments & accommodation in shared cottages. It may be possible to stay in the hotel for an additional charge, please ask when checking availability.

Option to extend over the weekend, possibly to Wednesday 25th March Room only £25 per person per night.

STEP ONE ~ CHECK AVAILABILITY

Contact Revd Elizabeth Burke to check room availability on; 07990 978485 or elizabethmaburke@icloud.com

STEP TWO ~ PAY 50% DEPOSIT OR IN FULL BY BACS

Lloyds Bank PLC

Account Name; PCC of the Isles of Scilly

Sort Code; 30-96-56

Account Number; 00856460

Please give your name in the reference box.

Then email elizabethmaburke@icloud.com stating the date and amount paid and the details of those staying as per Step Three.

or

BY CHEQUE

Payable to; 'PCC of the Isles of Scilly'. Post to The Rev'd Elizabeth Burke at The Chaplaincy, Church Road, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, TR21 0NA, with the following details;

STEP THREE ~ INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS (BY EMAIL OR LETTER)

- 1. Title, Christian name & surname of all occupants
- 2. Contact address inc postcode or email
- 3. Mobile and landline number
- 4. Your room preference single, twin or double (where possible room allocation will take into account your preferences)
- 5. List any dietary requirements including intolerances & allergies
- 6. Any medical or ability requirements
- 7. NOK name and contact details

The balance is due by 1st February 2026