

From the National Chair

We are Easter people.

When I taught in primary school in the 1990's one of my favourite times was teaching the children songs. Easter Expressions by Kevin Bates sm, was always preferred in this season.

Hear the sounds of death turned inside out.
Hear dark days carry hope.
Hear the sound of new creation.
Hear the Easter people dance about.

Praise to our God who raised up Jesus.
Praise to our God who raised up his world
Praise to God whose gift is faithful
Jesus hope of all the world.

It was he for whom the prophets waited.
In a stable born.
Tells a message most surprising.
Love will be my Spirit's only law.

And love will make you poor in spirit,
full of mercy. Hearts becoming free.
Joy you'll bring to broken moments.
Suffer gladly on my tree.



Image :
'Mary and Cleopas of Emmaus' by Dina Cormick.
www.creativewomanartist.com

Pope Francis in his homily at the Easter Vigil said

"Each of us knows the place of his or her interior resurrection, that beginning and foundation, the place where things changed."

May we as spiritual directors, continue to be called to be Easter people. To sit, to listen, to be with, to contemplate, to ponder – to sit with love, full of mercy – hearts becoming free, journeying with one another, finding the sound of new creation.

With every blessing on your ministry.

Rita Malavisi rsj
National Chair

CSD Australia News

Membership

Membership renewals will be due at the end of June. Renewal notices will be sent at the end of May. Certificates will only be issued once payment and renewal forms have been returned and approved.



Hospitality Team

In our recent correspondence an invitation was extended for anyone interested in volunteering, with members gathering on the 2nd March. The conversation was rich, full of energy with many ideas and ways to help within our CSD community.

One initiative presented was to develop a Hospitality team which has now been formed. Belonging to a virtual community that is spread all over Australia, at times it can feel other members are distant. To help aid this, our hospitality team will carefully connect two of our members together, connecting our active members with both new members, who have recently joined our community, and with Honorary members, who are no longer active in providing Spiritual Direction, yet are still a part of our CSD community.

By simply making a phone call the invitation for connection can be a one off engagement or a regular conversation, whatever our members wish to have. More information will be coming to your inbox, for now if you are interested in this initiative please email our [communication coordinator](#).



Social Media

In April 2022, CSD relaunched its presence on Social Media - Facebook and Instagram.

The response has been uplifting to bring together our CSD community online connecting between other opportunities to gather.

There is a post three times a week.

If you would like to contribute to any of these, please contact our [communications coordinator](#).

<p>Members Mondays: Profiles of our Members</p>	<p>Wednesday Wonderings: Inspiring words from one of our spiritual writers</p>	<p>Freebie Fridays: Showcasing a range of free apps, emails, newsletters or retreats</p>

Like and Follow our [Facebook Page](#)

Follow us on [Instagram](#)

CSD Australia Members

Voices of New Members

Jaclyn Gatbalite

Mabuhay from the Philippines! I joined CSD Australia to be part of a community of Spiritual Companions and co-pilgrims. I trust that this community will be a space where I can grow and hone my call to accompany others through the Spiritual Exercises and through Spiritual accompaniment.



Nicole Winter

Last year I completed the Siloam Program at Heart of Life, Melbourne. I look forward to being a part of the CSD Australia community and welcome support and learning in holding the hearts of others in ministry.



Helen Glen

Joining CSD is part of my commitment to my ongoing growth. I want to live a contemplative life and to do this I find I must be intentional about how I spend my time and resources. I want to be part of a wider contemplative community where I can give to others and they can give to me.



Ha Tran

As a newly graduated spiritual director I would like to be part of a larger body for support and to learn from those who have been in this ministry before me. Being part of CSD Australia will help me with continuing professional development as well as to meet other spiritual directors, both are important for my ministry.

**A warm welcome to all our new members including
Leslie Hanger, Benita Tait and Lawrence Yuen.**

Profile of a Member

Helen Kennedy

Recently I relocated from Brisbane to Stanmore in Sydney. As a teenager my close association with Fr. Henry Wilkins SJ set me on the path of Ignatian Spirituality. I was privileged to later train at CRD Boston under Bill Connolly SJ and his team. This training and my subsequent experience as a Spiritual Director open a way for Directees to be more honest and franker about themselves and to trust that their unique experience of God's activity in their lives is authentic. St. Francis's graciousness and respect for all is an attitude I strive to have as my own. My qualification as a Home Economics teacher has been my second wing, both in Ghana, West Africa, and the N.T remote communities. In both places training in discernment was eagerly requested. My years as Assistant Director at Campion Retreat House, Kew, included the Ministry of "Recovery Church" helping Heroin addicts in their connection with their Higher Power. My great love in Alice Springs was to be at CAAAPU, a Recovery Centre for Alcoholics, where I attended to their spiritual needs.



Favourite Scripture: Jn. 16: 21-22

Favourite Book: Etty Hillesum. *An Interrupted Life* THE DIARIES, 1941-1943 and *Letters from Westerbork*.

Favourite Movie: Guess who's coming to dinner

Memorable Moment: Driving alone for a good part of the day in the N.T. Outback, being each moment alert to the ever-changing road conditions with the overwhelming Peace of God's presence - this is an experience of Prayer that I have continued to have every day! An added bonus came when I stopped to rest and listen to the wind whistling in the bush... *"The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit"* Jn.3:8

Irene Alexander

I am a spiritual director and spiritual direction formater in Brisbane and the Philippines. Stillpoint Art of Spiritual Direction is our course in Brisbane. In Manila there is a team of us who teach Spiritual Companionship at the Asian Theological Seminary. I so appreciate being able to teach spiritual direction in both these contexts as I learn differently from each one. I have a background in missions, counselling and tertiary education and each of these has contributed to my journey. I love how being a spiritual companion brings us alongside others, listening for their soul journey and making space for them to hear the inner voice of love.



Favourite Scripture: Psalm 84, Song of Songs, John 1, Philippians 2

Favourite Book: Love poems from God by Daniel Ladinsky

Favourite Movie: "The Chosen" series

Memorable Moment: On along silent retreat even the wild animals felt safe (see photo)



Jill Dance

I am a Sister of St Joseph and belong to the Victoria - Tasmania region. My background is in secondary education. I spent 25 years in Josephite schools in Tasmania after which time I did my spiritual direction training at Heart of Life through the Siloam Program in 1987. I was engaged in Pastoral Planning and adult faith formation in the Archdiocese of Hobart for 16 years. At present, I am involved in ministry at the Josephite Mission and History Centre at New Town in southern Tasmania where we offer programs on the history and charism to adults and students.

The Centre is also home to our spirituality ministry including spiritual direction. Since the late 80s, I have 'sat with' many people on their spiritual journey and I continue to experience a sense of wonder and reverence as I see God's action in the lives of those whom I am privileged to companion.



Favourite Scripture: Deuteronomy 1:31 and John 10:10

Favourite Book: A Light Between Oceans - one of many!

Favourite Movie: Of Gods and Men

Memorable Moment: Witnessing the wonder experienced by my two-year-old niece when she saw her first star.

Jennifer Sanders

I am a Josephite sister born in Dover, England, close to the famous 'White Cliffs'.

For the first part of my life I was a Primary School Teacher and later Principal. I loved teaching. What a joy to be part of the process of 'learning to read', and to listen to the exploration and wonder about God and the whole of Creation. Later I followed a call to the Ministry of Spiritual Direction and Retreat Giving. I trained at St Beunos in North Wales and then as a Giver of the Spiritual Exercises in Melbourne. I value the richness of Ignatian Spirituality and my foundations there. It's such a privilege and joy now to journey with people in Spiritual Direction and Retreats, to explore their relationship with God and creation, to listen with them as they discern God's call in their life. This ministry is such a rich blessing and brings me much joy and new life.



Favourite Scripture: John 10:10

Favourite Book: The Dictionary of Lost Words - Pip Williams

Favourite Movie: "The Chosen" - Series 1, Episode 8 - I am He

Memorable Moment: Seeing and Praying with the Sculpture of the Woman at the Well at Chester Cathedral.



CSD Australia Professional Development

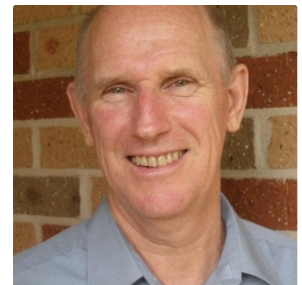
You are welcome to join all or any of the monthly sessions planned for 2023. There is no cost or need for members to book. A zoom link will be sent to all members in the preceding week. If you would like a friend to join, who is a non member - please see the trybooking link below.

Barriers to Contemplative Listening: Enneagram Perspective with Malcolm Drake

Saturday June 17th 9.30am - 11.00am (AEDT)

Barriers to contemplative listening. Enneagram perspective will use Janet Ruffing's chapter in 'Beyond the beginnings' to identify and explore barriers present when holding an Enneagram perspective.

Rev. Malcolm Drake 'Retired' United Church minister connected to Adamstown UCA Newcastle NSW. Trained under Sr. Eleanor Dawson Rsj in Armidale, a founding member of CRD which became CSD, in Armidale and under Sr. Pauline Ferguson Rsj SCRCD at Mary MacKillop Centre, Sydney.



Non members are welcome to join and book through [trybooking](#). Cost is \$20 for non members.

March Professional Development Feedback

Here are some reflective questions from participants from the last professional development.

Counseling or Spiritual Direction: Making the Right Call with Rev. David Songy

During the session David gave the opportunity to answer any questions from participants. These questions could be presentations in their own rights. We share below for further individual reflection.




- Relationship with God - How important is the image of God in Spiritual Direction?
- When a Directee appears to be stuck and unable to move beyond their fear, how best can the Spiritual Director assist and support them?
- With awareness of more clinical social work and psychology acknowledges a holistic response to a person, which includes the spiritual, does this collapse the difference between spiritual direction and counselling?
- How can the evaluation be more contemplative rather than clinical?

Retreat Review

Wisdom from the Pandemic: Hazel Bradley on Julian of Norwich



 I recommend this retreat- I did it in February this year.

Hazel is a life-long member of L'Arche and a great natural student of Julian, deeply immersed in her spirituality. Hazel's love of Julian flows out of her and she is a delight to listen to, oozing the joy, and deep spirituality of Julian - a saint for our times. You need no knowledge of L'Arche to enjoy Hazel's rich history of Julian and her relevance today.

Gerard Bennett

Julian of Norwich is an English mystic who lived in the 14th century, at a time when the Black Death killed over half of the population of Europe. Yet, her writings are filled with love, trust, delight and joy. Her wisdom survived through centuries and has much to teach us today. Thomas Merton wrote of her: *“Julian is without doubt one of the most wonderful of all Christian voices. She gets greater and greater in my eyes as I grow older”*.

This special voice is the inspiration for our upcoming Online Retreat.

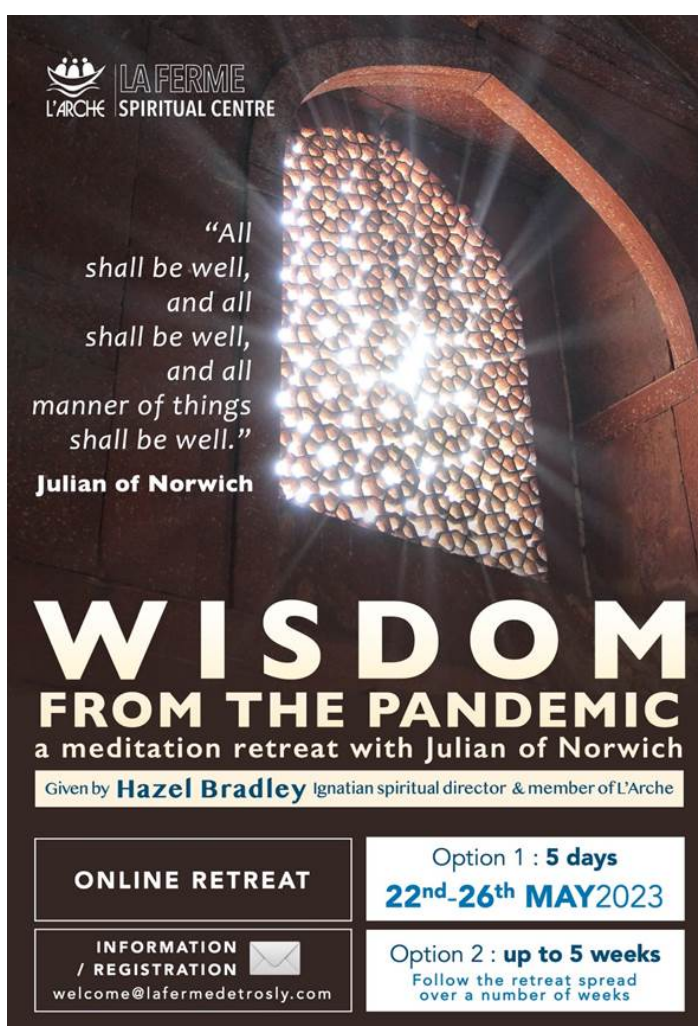
This online retreat will be led by Hazel Bradley. Hazel is a British woman who has been in L'Arche for over 40 years. Is an Ignatian spiritual director who loves telling stories and knows Julian of Norwich as if she was her sister.

This online retreat will take place Monday 22nd to Friday 26th May 2023 or follow the retreat spread over a number of weeks.

It will comprise five inspirational talks by Hazel Bradley by video link (sent in advance), one for each day of the retreat.

Extra resource sheets will be provided to help you prepare your times of meditation and to live the retreat well.

[For more information](#)




LA FERME
L'ARCHE SPIRITUAL CENTRE

“All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.”
Julian of Norwich

WISDOM FROM THE PANDEMIC
a meditation retreat with Julian of Norwich

Given by **Hazel Bradley** Ignatian spiritual director & member of L'Arche

ONLINE RETREAT	Option 1 : 5 days 22nd-26th MAY 2023
INFORMATION / REGISTRATION  welcome@lafermedetrosly.com	Option 2 : up to 5 weeks Follow the retreat spread over a number of weeks

Other News

Professional Development for Supervisors: Emmaus+1

4 x Tuesday 2, 9, 16 & 23 May, 10.00a.m - 5.00p.m

OR 4 days Intensive,

Wednesday 23rd August to Saturday 26th August, 10.00a.m - 5.00p.m

We are pleased to announce Emmaus+1: Supervision of Spiritual Directors - a professional development opportunity focusing on the supervision of spiritual directors.

Emmaus+1 provides a framework for contemplative supervision with a focus on supporting discernment, spiritual growth patterns, healing, and fostering interior freedom.

Building on Maureen Conroy's work, *Looking into the Well: Supervision of Spiritual Directors*, the conversation Jesus has with a woman at a well in Samaria is explored as a model for supervision of spiritual directors. It is designed

for graduates of *Emmaus* and other supervision training programs, and those supervising the formation of spiritual directors. The program will explore the unique holding space of supervising spiritual directors, which is grounded in a fundamental assumption that within and beyond the workplace, God is present. Running as an additional seminar of Heart of Life's Emmaus Supervision Program, *Emmaus+1* continues the archetypal journey of discovery of the encounter of the two disciples with Jesus on the road to Emmaus.



This program will be in-person with the option of online via Zoom for remote participants.

[For more information](#)

Grace upon Grace: 8 day at Home Retreat

Friday - Saturday, October 6 - 14th, 2023

Kardia is offering you an invitation to join us in forming a community of prayer during an eight-day retreat while you are at home. The retreat will be drawn from the book *Grace Upon Grace* by Marlene Marburg. You can make this a silent retreat or a retreat in daily life. You can choose to pray with one or more readings from the daily suggested readings.

Each day we will meet for group sharing on Zoom (no more than five people) with a spiritual director. Upon registration, we will give you some simple instructions on how to access and use Zoom.

The retreat will begin at 9am on Friday 6th October 2023 and end with a group session at 9am on Saturday 14th October 2023.

[For more information](#)



Contemplatio: Spiritual Direction in the Light of Contemplation

Tuesday - Wednesday, August 22 - 23rd, 2023

This course will be offered face to face and online as an intensive over two days. Each day will consist of:

- Three teaching sessions of 90 minutes where, drawing on the original mystical texts within their respective contexts, Kerrie will guide a meditation and offer a teaching, explaining these texts in relation to their wisdom and praxis for spiritual directors as well as for deepening in the mystical life.
- Morning, afternoon and evening guided meditation developing and practicing ways of prayer that are an expression of this wisdom.
- Opportunity for small group sharing in confidential, trustworthy, sacred spaciousness where participants are safe to explore the depths of the Spirit's drawing.
- Two follow up zoom sessions to enable the integration and stabilising of the learnings. Dates for these session will be announced shortly



This year we are offering the course face to face and online. In person gathering at [Santa Casa Retreat Centre, Queenscliff, Victoria.](#)

[For more information](#)

Celtic Pilgrimage facilitated by Hilary Musgrave and Monica Brown

10 Days : Monday - Thursday, August 21st -31st, 2023

Breath in the mystery of Ireland: experience its depths, touch its sacredness, smell its beauty, stand in its richness and solitude and know within yourself the call to fullness of life.

Be present, mindful, open, attentive...

Walk in the footsteps of the Celtic mystics and saints and allow their spirit of courage and trust bring you strength and healing. Hear the stories that shaped their lives and journeys.

Journey through Ireland's Ancient East and visit St Kevin's Monastic ruins in Glendalough, the High Crosses and Dolmen of Carlow, the megalithic tomb at Newgrange, The Hill of Slane where Patrick lit the first Easter fire, Jerpoint Abbey, St Brigid's Centre and healing well in Kildare and the medieval city of Kilkenny.



[For more information](#)