"Journeying with God" A Guided Holiday Retreat on Lake Como, Italy led by Bishop Michael Colclough

at the Church of the Ascension, Cadenabbia 11-16th October, 2020



Church of the Ascension

This lakeside church serves a large community of summer visitors and a small community of full-time residents and holiday home-owners. Although part of the Church of England, those who attend are from all over the world and the priest, the Revd. Roger Williams, is from Australia.

Why are we hosting a retreat?

Lake Como is a beautiful setting and we wanted to share with visitors some of its hidden gems, which have inspired pilgrimage and reflection for centuries. Our recent 125th anniversary prompted us to look to the future and the need to both fundraise to conserve our beautiful building and to build our community. We ran our first retreat in 2018 and welcomed some 30 guests from all over the world for a wonderful week. We hope the 2020 retreat will provide visitors and church members alike another chance to be still and reflect about our lives in these very special surroundings.

Theme and Retreat leader: Bishop Michael Colclough

"Journeying with God", recalls the 6th century Irish monk St. Brendan's plea, "Help me to journey beyond the familiar and into the unknown". Michael was ordained in 1971 to serve in his home city of Stoke-on-Trent. In 1975 he moved to London where he served in a variety of parishes as Curate, Vicar and Team Rector. He was appointed Archdeacon in 1992 and Bishop of Kensington in 1996; in 2008 he was invited to become Canon Pastor of St Paul's Cathedral. His ministry has always emphasized the importance of pastoral care and spiritual direction: accompanying people on their walk with God. This widened into conducting retreats and leading pilgrimages. On retirement he was appointed an Honorary Assistant Bishop in the Dioceses of London and Europe and Bishop in Residence at St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge His wife Cynthia will join the retreat.

Accommodation

A number of rooms with half-board, have been reserved at the lakeside 4-star Grand Hotel Cadenabbia. If you have local friends or wish to make your own arrangements, you may join as a day visitor. The last two nights will be spent at Piona Abbey, a 12th-century Cistercian Monastery with its own guest house (simple rooms but with private facilities) in a tranquil and panoramic setting.

(www.grandhotelcadenabbia.it/ www.abbaziadipiona.it/). Lunches are also included.





Draft Programme (minor alterations may occur)

Cost 895 Euros which covers all accommodation, full board and material for all sessions

To book and obtain more information E-mail Jeannie Willan on jeanniewillan@gmail.com