

# St Mary's Weekend Away - Extra Information sheet

## When & Where?

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September – Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2025

High Leigh Christian Conference Centre – Hertfordshire

Located just north of London, High Leigh is seven miles from junction 25 of M25.

*High Leigh is set in stunning grounds. With 40 acres of lawns, parkland and woodland, the tranquil surroundings provide the perfect space to relax, equip and connect.*

## Why go on a church weekend away?

It will be an amazing time together. Those who have experienced New Wine or other church weekends away, will agree that a weekend away enables:

- the opportunity to experience a real sense of Christian community
- the opportunity to listen, learn and grow in our faith as a church family, receive teaching from visiting speakers, enjoy worship and fellowship together
- the time and opportunity to meet new people from our congregation who either go to a different service, or you just don't get a chance to speak to during normal Sunday services
- the time and opportunity to deepen existing friendships
- time to relax, enjoy meals and have fun together taking part in the activities

## What will we be doing?

There will be lots planned, but no pressure. Teaching sessions will be led by guest speakers together with additional workshops. We will worship together as a church, including some all age sessions. We will have some fun afternoon and evening activities to join in as you wish.

All of this will take place in a beautiful building with plenty of outside space with a football pitch, space to stretch your legs, and hopefully enjoy the sunshine! In addition, there is the beautiful estate to wander around and enjoy, use of the gym or games room, lovely lounges to rest in or the chance to visit local attractions if you fancy a trip off site.

## I don't know many people / I'll be coming on my own / my partner doesn't attend church?

We really hope that everyone will feel welcomed and included. We will endeavour to meet needs for lift shares and allocate bedrooms, so you don't wander far to find a familiar face. This is where you will make new friends, and there is no pressure to do anything you don't feel comfortable with. If your partner doesn't attend church but would like to join us for the weekend, then they are very welcome.

## **What are the sleeping arrangements?**

At High Leigh, there is a great selection of rooms with a high standard of décor and furnishings. The centre has bedrooms to sleep between one and five people in single, double, twin, and family suite configurations. Children aged 16 years and under must be accompanied by an adult and will share bedroom accommodation with their parents or guardians. All the rooms feature en-suites. We have a limited number of single rooms and these will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Once these have been allocated, we will have twin rooms to share. There are also bedrooms designed to meet the needs of those with limited mobility and the centre is well equipped with lifts serving the main house first floor meeting rooms and the sleeping accommodation. The centre has slopes for wheelchair users and blue badge parking bays close to reception and accommodation units.

## **Is the weekend away more suitable for a specific age group?**

This is a weekend away for the entire church family, from youngest to oldest! And we hope to have given everyone consideration:

- dedicated outdoor space for running around, or taking in the beautiful surroundings on a leisurely walk
- comfortable areas and quiet spaces to sit and chat, enjoy a drink together
- the joy of all ages mixing together and having fun
- dedicated rooms and spaces for children and youth
- fantastic programme to keep children and young people engaged, learning and growing in their faith, and having lots of fun
- allowing parents to fully engage in teaching, worship and fellowship, as well as no food preparation or tidying up!

## **I'm interested, what do I need to do?**

To book, please complete the online booking form, you will be emailed a link to this on Sunday 22nd September. After this, it will be available via St Mary's website:

<https://stmaryswesthorsley.co.uk>

If you don't have internet access then there will be paper forms available after both services or from the Church Office.

Once you have booked your place, please make payment – all the details are on the booking form.

We have a limited number of places, and they will be allocated on a first come first served basis. If you have any questions, then do please ask.

*Church Weekends Away don't happen every year. We really hope you will join us. Something very special happens when we spend time together with God and each other.*