



# 2017 courses and retreats

spring - summer



## 8-12 May **A Taste of Spain**

A fun introduction to Spanish cooking, both traditional tapas and new Andalusian cuisine. It includes an exploration of food and spirituality, daily cooking workshops, a visit to a white village and a mediaeval olive oil mill, tapas in the village, and time to relax and enjoy Los Olivos and its surroundings. Led by Daniel Muñoz, executive chef at Los Olivos. €495 (DB) / €545 (IN)



## 8-12 May **Walking in the Sierra**

A walking holiday for nature lovers, exploring the Sierra Nevada National Park and the Lecrin Valley (South of Granada). It includes daily guided walks in the mountains (2-4 hours/day) with Guy Wynter, tapas in local villages, time to relax and enjoy the hacienda, and optional massages. A reasonable level of fitness is required for this week. €495 (DB) / €545 (IN)



## 15-19 May **Learning from the Birds**

Jesus told his followers that they can learn about God's love from watching birds and seeing how they are provided for. Mark Winter from Northumberland has been watching birds for over 40 years and is passionate about making connections between creation and the Creator. In this unique retreat Mark invites us both to watch birds and to discover the lessons they teach us. It includes bird-watching in the Sierra Nevada mountains (walking involved), Christian teaching, reflection and worship. €495 (DB) / €545 (IN)



## 19-23 June **Telling Tales: Unlocking your Creative Potential**

Have you always wanted to write? Do you burn to tell stories? This retreat offers a chance to unlock your potential as a writer. Through a series of practical exercises, learn what makes good writing better. Workshops will explore getting started; what makes a great plot; how to create believable characters; building good dialogue; and how to edit your own work. Enjoy some time away to focus on your writing, within the rhythm of a Christian retreat. Led by author and journalist Sarah Meyrick. €475 (DB) / €525 (IN)



## 10-14 July **Poets and the Bible**

Many contemporary poets are using biblical texts – appropriating the text according to their own imaginations. This retreat will explore poets whose work builds on religious literacy and stretches the boundaries of faith, belief, religion and prayer, including Marie Howe's writings about Mary Magdalene, Symmons Roberts' Psalmody and Alison Funk's take on the mother of the Prodigal Son, among others. Led by Pádraig Ó Tuama, leader of the Corrymeela Community in Northern Ireland. €475 (DB) / €525 (IN)



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17-23 July **Personal Retreat / Holiday (Open House Week)**  
Come and enjoy Los Olivos at your own pace or with a group of friends. Opportunities for walking in the mountains, relaxing and catching up on your book reading by the pool, having a massage, enjoying home-cooked Spanish cuisine, and exploring the local area (Granada city, the Al'hambra Palace or the Tropical Coast are all between 30-40 min drive from Los Olivos). From €55 per person per night.



28 Aug – 1 Sept **Meister Eckhart's Book of the Heart: Exploring a Vision of Wholeness in a Time of Fragmentation**  
This retreat will be an opportunity to drink deeply from the wellspring of Eckhart's vision, and allow it to shape-shift our lives into more creative and audacious forms of faithfulness. Bold, courageous, and sometimes outrageous, Eckhart's language continues to be a guiding beacon of light to those seeking to live more authentically, faithfully, freely. Led by Mark Burrow (Bochum University, Germany), co-author of a new book on Eckhart of the same name to be released in the summer of 2017. €475 (DB) / €525 (IN)



11-15 Sept **Unruly Women**  
In the 1650s when an independent London congregation decided that women really should be silent in church, one ordinary woman, Anne Harriman stopped attending and asked that the church hold a debate on the matter, 'for she could not walk where she had not libertie to speak'. Harriman is part of a long line of women struggling with the competing demands of Christianity and culture. In this retreat for men and women we will consider the quandaries and choices of our foremothers in the faith, including women from history and the Bible. Participants are encouraged to bring their own examples. Led by Erica Longfellow (New College, Oxford University). €475 (DB) / €525 (IN)



18-22 Sept **Enneagram Retreat**  
What does the Enneagram have to offer those who are committed to a growing relationship with God? This detailed and accurate description of personality can help by increasing our understanding of ourselves and the things in our personalities that get in the way. It brings clarity to our preferred way of communicating and even to our perception of who God is. This predominantly silent retreat focuses on using the wisdom of the Enneagram to encourage us and is for both beginners and those who already work with the Enneagram. Led by Liz West, an Enneagram trainer with Enneagram Worldwide. €475 (DB) / €525 (IN)



**Mark Burrows** is well-known internationally for his writings and as a lecturer and retreat leader. A published poet with a doctorate in historical theology, he has devoted his life as teacher and scholar to exploring the intersection of theology and the arts. Poetry and mysticism are his passion. Currently professor of theology and literature at the University of Applied Sciences in Bochum, Germany, he is highly sought-after as a speaker on topics related to theology, culture, and the arts. This will be his third year teaching at Los Olivos.



**Erica Longfellow** is Dean of Divinity, Chaplain and Fellow of New College, Oxford. She lectured on Shakespeare and Renaissance literature before joining New College in 2011. She has written about how English women writers found a voice after the Reformation, and is currently working on the sermons John Donne preached for his women patrons at marriages, churchings and Christenings. Erica's first retreat at Los Olivos in 2017 will explore unruly women in church history and the bible.



**Sarah Meyrick** is a writer and journalist. She is Director of Communications for the Diocese of Oxford. Alongside her day job, she runs the Bloxham Festival of Faith and Literature, a literary festival with a theological slant, which has a mission to create a thoughtful and relaxing space in which to consider works of literature and their religious themes. She regularly writes features for the Church Times. Her debut novel *Knowing Anna* was published in 2016 by Marylebone House, London.



**Daniel Muñoz**, an Anglican priest and theologian, was ordained in the Oxford Diocese in 2001, where he served as a parish priest until 2010. He is the author of *Transformed by the Beloved: a guide to spiritual formation with St. John of the Cross* (BRF, 2014), and recently completed a doctorate on Anglican ecclesiology at the University of Madrid. Daniel is the chaplain and programme director of Los Olivos, as well as associate lecturer of Church History and Ecclesiology at the Protestant Faculty of Theology of Madrid.



**Pádraig Ó Tuama** is a poet, theologian and retreat leader. He leads the Corrymeela Community, a witness to peace and reconciliation on the north coast of Ireland. His poetry and prose explores story, language and religion. His works include: *In the Shelter* (Hodder & Stoughton and Hachette Ireland, 2015), *Sorry for your Troubles* (Norwich, Canterbury Press, 2013), and *Readings from the Books of Exile* (Norwich, Canterbury Press, 2012). *Poets and the Bible* will be Pádraig's first retreat at Los Olivos.



**Liz West** has been involved in leadership development with young adults and in church planting. She is working with the Enneagram, seeing it as a tool for her own personal growth and offering this to others of all faiths and none. Her special interest is in what the Enneagram has to offer those who want to build a closer relationship with God. Liz is a trustee of Crossroads Retreats and a qualified Enneagram Worldwide coach. This will be Liz's first retreat at Los Olivos.



**Mark Winter** is a keen birdwatcher and retreat leader. He originally set up Birdwatch Northumbria as a local guided birdwatching service. In 2004 he founded *Even Sparrows*, a ministry that takes its name from the teachings of Jesus. Mark has been running weekend retreats in Northumberland, developing many of the ideas that form the basis for his new organisation. He will be joining us for the first time at Los Olivos in the Spring of 2017 to help us make connections between creation and the Creator.



**Guy Wynter** has extensive experience in the business world, particularly in the healthcare field, where he worked for 15 years at GlaxoSmithKline and GE Healthcare. He is also a musician and photographer with a special interest in Celtic spirituality. Guy is the commercial director of Los Olivos. A keen walker, he has been leading walking holidays at Los Olivos since 2010, exploring the Sierra Nevada mountains and introducing visitors to the Andalusian flora, fauna and landscape.